

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

June 4, 2014

Executive Board Attending: David Upton, Susan Hansel, Maury Collins, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others Attending: Russ Thomas, Ethan Tolman, Barbara Roland, Sandy MacKenzie, Laurie Smith, Dennis Dellagrecia, Bob Jones, Susan Kingsbury, Bud French, Jason Walter, Dean Huber, Jack Bradshaw, Gwen Griffin, Anne Ames, Mike Tarr

The meeting was opened by Chair David Upton at 3:00 PM.

Ethan Tolman visited with the Board and passed around a picture of the last class to graduate from the Old Brick Schoolhouse. (1946) Ethan offered to blow up the picture, add a caption, and frame for hanging in the Town Office.

David read from a presentation note provided by Ethan.

The offer met with unanimous approval from the Board.

Russ Thomas presented updates on the Town Buildings projects.

The Library lower level is finished and progress is moving along on the foundation work at the Town Hall.

There was a brief discussion regarding the cost of excavation & pipe installation between the Town Hall and the Old Brick Schoolhouse. Further information is pending.

The Monadnock Folklore Society visited the site and is planning for a new light bar and speakers. There will be further discussion of the details at the Town Buildings Committee meeting with the Select Board on June 11, 2014.

A sound Board and storage credenza for chairs is being considered for the area just left of the stage.

There was unanimous agreement to limit the architect's visits to as needed.

Susan has been monitoring the temperature and humidity of the archives room and reports that both are holding constant within a proper range.

A dedicated key to open just the library lower level has been requested by Kris Finnegan.

The locksmith will be contacted to produce a sub-master for that door.

Sandy Mackenzie, Laurie Smith, and Susan Kingsbury came before the Board to clarify the jurisdiction and control of the new meeting space in the library lower level.

Laurie Smith reviewed the history of a grant that was awarded when the library was built as supporting evidence that the new lower level is in fact part of the Library and therefore falls under the full control of the Library Trustees.

David noted that RSA 41:11 places responsibility of Town Buildings with the Governing Body (Selectmen). The question here is would this space be considered primarily Library Function or Town Function space.

There was a back and forth discussion of how the policy will be set. David suggested working together.

Sandy MacKenzie encouraged the Board's attendance at the next meeting of the Library Trustees but held firm that final decisions and control would remain with Library Trustees.

Mike Tarr and Anne Ames came forward to discuss the status of the Bailey Brook Bridge and possible options.

Mike noted that the State requires that an engineer review the project and make recommendations regarding repair or replacement options.

Anne Ames voiced concern over the possibility that the road could be closed. She also advised that there is a process that must take place in order to close a road.

A traffic study was suggested to determine the amount of use for this section of Old Stoddard Road.

Warren Stevens, an engineer out of Walpole is scheduled to visit the site with Mike Tarr and Maury Collins.

All options will require State approvals including DES wetlands application.

Anne Ames stated that she wants to be involved in the planning process.

She was then invited to attend the meeting with Maury, Mike Tarr and the engineer at the bridge site on Friday.

Mike has been researching pricing on new box culverts. The prices vary depending on the options and nothing is in the form of a confirmed proposal at this time as the project is still in the planning stages.

Susan reported that an electric fence was put up along a property boundary line at Granite Lake that has generated some concern. A resident has asked that the Planning Board discuss a possible ordinance regarding the use of electric fences.

Mark Bean was recently referred to the ZBA for a variance to replace a screen house on his property located on Granite Lake. (Non-conforming lot/Non-Conforming Structure)

A variance was granted and now Mark has informed the Town Office and the ZBA clerk of a change in the plans originally submitted for the variance.

The Board agreed that more information is needed from Mark to determine if further action is required by the ZBA. Mark and the ZBA clerk will be contacted.

David made a motion to approve both the Public and Non-Public minutes for May 21, 2014.

Susan seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

After a review of a request for payment from Keene Commercial Construction, David made a motion to approve the final payment in the amount of \$40,665 to Keene Commercial Construction.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Susan reported that Jane Kirk, John & Ann Bunce, The Bennetts and Bert Wingerson will be overseeing a committee to organize the Sestercentennial.

Linda's Closet has request a permit for their annual Road Race for charity.

David made a motion to approve a permit for Linda's Closet to conduct their annual Road Race.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

The Board reviewed a purchase request from the Highway Department for culverts.

David made a motion to approve the purchase request for culverts for approximately \$600.00

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0. PR # 14641

Susan reported that the manifests were complete and moved approval as presented for May 28, 2014 and June 4, 2014.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

David made a motion to approve a "Doomage Letter" to a landowner who has failed to send in his report of Timber cut.

Susan seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

David offered Congratulations and Thanks to the Fire Department for their time and hard work. He also thanked the Town for supporting the Fire Department's efforts.

Bud French opened the discussion regarding the critical need to repair the pump on Engine #1.

Jason Walter reported that the officers reviewed their budget and realize there will be several deficiencies if the pumper is repaired as the cost could run as high as \$13,000.

Maury asked if the expected cost is firm or still an unknown. (A. Still unknown)

David asked if Stoddard could be notified in the event of a Fire or emergency requiring the pumper. (A. yes)

Bud suggested that using the capital reserve could be an option with a special Town Meeting.

Another option suggested was to lower the December 1st budget reserve from the 20% that was voted by the Board.

After further discussion, Maury suggested reducing the December 1st reserve to 15% and proceeded to make the motion to reduce the December 1st budget reserve to 15%.

Susan seconded the motion.

The motion then carried.

It was noted that even with this vote cuts will need to be made to carry the budget to the end of the fiscal year.

Susan gave a few words of praise to the Firefighters for their hard work and success.

The Fire Department presented a proposal for the garage door openers at the Granite Lake Fire Station and reported that installation will soon be complete and an invoice will follow.

Bob Jones offered to mow the Ball Field this year for free (including gas).

Maury made a motion to accept the offer from Bob Jones to mow the Ball Field this year at no cost to the Town.

David seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

After a review of a request for payment from Ingram Construction, David made a motion to approve this second payment in the amount of \$46,284 to Ingram Construction.

Susan seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

After a brief review, David made a motion to approve change order #4 from Ingram Construction concerning replacement of poor soil conditions.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

During the preparation of the first Tax Warrant for 2014 a review of all Tax exempt property was conducted. It was discovered that in 2007 when the Town sold the "Old Library" the tax exempt status was not removed.

The property is now under private ownership and does not qualify for tax exemption.

A tax bill was issued and now the landowner has sent a letter of objection to the Board.

The Board agreed to invite the owners in to discuss the matter.

Susan made a motion to appoint Bud French as Fire Chief.

Maury seconded the motion.

After a brief discussion, Maury made a motion to table the matter at this time.

David seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 2-1

A purchase request from the Fire Department was reviewed. This request is for pump repairs on Engine #1 which could cost as much as \$13,000.

David made a motion to approve the request as presented.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0. PR # 14642

With nothing further, David made a motion to adjourn.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM.

June 4, 2014

David Upton, Chair

Maury Collins

Susan Hansel