

FINAL MINUTES

BOARD OF SELETCMEN MEETING

MINUTES

October 18, 2010

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairwoman Gilman convened the Board at 7:00pm in the Nowak room of the Town Office Building. Other members of the Board present were: Mr. William Campbell, Mr. Bobby Aldrich, Mr. Matt Quandt, and Mr. Don Clement.

2. Public Comment

Jim Knight asked the Board to reconsider the hiring of the staff accountant and suggested that the Board re-vote since there was no second on the vote at the Selectmen's meeting 2 weeks ago.

Deb Johnson voiced her concerns on the train station project in Town. She spoke about the \$1000 that was put into the account that was used to gain the \$282,000 grant and the plans to develop the train station. She was concerned that the plan would add additional costs for residents. She was also concerned about the Plan NH redesign being disruptive to the surrounding neighborhood and possibly reducing property values. She said that business owners in the area should be notified and that she feels the Town should have a good business plan. She also expressed her concern on the C&J Downeaster bus that will be discontinued. Ms. Gilman stated that Plan NH is not set in stone. There is no eminent domain and all that is being asked is for people's input and ideas. All property owners in the neighborhood have been notified and there has been no negative feedback about the project. Ms. Gilman said that the C&J supplemental bus was temporary and that the funding has now ended. Mr. Clement also added that there are only discussions going on about the train station just to get ideas.

3. Minutes and Proclamations

a. Regular Session: October 4, 2010

Mr. Clement said that it was not recorded that he abstained from the payroll vote.

Mr. Aldrich moved to approve the October 4, 2010 minutes as amended. Mr. Campbell seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

b. Regular Session: October 12, 2010

Mr. Campbell moved to approve the October 12, 2010 minutes as presented. Mr. Clement seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Mr. Aldrich and Mr. Quandt abstained.

4. Appointments - none

5. Department Reports – IT, Police

IT Director, Andy Swanson, gave the IT report. All employees have been switched over to the new email system except for the Selectmen. There have been many virus issues happening lately and he believes that this will be fixed soon. The server upgrade will start in a week and will be finished about 2 weeks after the start date. Andy has been working with the Police Department on communication change overs.

Police Chief Kane gave the Police Department report. The Town and the Department participated in the National Drug Take Back. There were 44 people who came with their expired prescriptions. This event

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was well received and he hopes to be able to offer this more frequently if the DA is willing to do so. The Department also participated in the Student Driver Education Night by McFarland's. The amount of unregistered dogs was down to 0 after 55 summons. There are now 57 new unregistered dogs added by the Town Clerk. If your dog is unregistered, Chief Kane urges you to do so now. The winter parking ban begins December 1st. There has been more patrol and education for people with their dogs at Swasey Parkway as recommended by Mr. Clement.

6. Discussion/Action Items

a. New Business

i. Review Calendar for 2011 Town Meeting

Mr. Aldrich stated that once the Budget Committee has had their final meetings there will be a public hearing January 17. The Board chose the date of the deliberative session to be on February 5. March 8 will be voting day. January 19-28 is the filing period for candidates. Mr. Clement noted that these dates will be posted on the Town website.

ii. Lower Level Town Hall ATM Lease/Space Discussion

The Provident Bank would like to continue to lease space for the ATM at the Town Hall. There have been different interests for leasing the lower level of the Town Hall. Mr. Aldrich stated that he would like to find out if the Town Office is going to use the space or not before entertaining other offers to lease. Ms. Gilman will look into the other interests of leases and get back to the Board.

Mr. Aldrich moved to authorize the Town Manger to negotiate the extension of the current lease until the end of the year for the Provident Bank ATM. Mr. Quandt seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

b. Old Business

i. Municipal Offices Security Policy

Ms. Gilman noted a change under 4.5.

Mr. Campbell moved to accept the Municipal Offices Security Policy as amended. Mr. Aldrich seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Aldrich moved to open discussion and reconsider the position and hiring of the staff accountant in the fiscal year 2010. No second. Motion failed.

Mr. Aldrich gave a summary of the Town Valuation MS-1. There was a net loss of approximately 4% of valuation across Town. This equates to an approximate impact of .30 cents on the tax rate. The expected Town portion of the tax rate is to be up between .85 cents and \$1.00. The value of land total is \$485,602,198. The value of buildings is \$1,078,102,224. The exemptions total is \$41,526,488. The total Veteran's tax credits are \$369,500. The net value used to set the tax rate is \$1,545,663,334. The Board signed the original copy of the MS-1.

7. Regular Business

a. Bid Openings - none

b. A/P and Payroll Manifests

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Mr. Clement moved to approve the payroll week ending 10/10/10 in the amount of \$149,142.24. Mr. Campbell seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Clement moved to approve the accounts payable for checks dated 10/15/10 in the amount of \$124,628.83. Mr. Aldrich seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

c. Budget Updates

Mr. Aldrich noted that health insurance only increased 4% for Blue Cross Blue Shield. Mathew Thornton increased 1.1%. The Library employee's insurance, JWJY, is very expensive which is not fair across the board. Mr. Aldrich recommended getting all employees on either of the 2 plans offered.

d. Tax Abatements & Exemptions – none

e. Water/Sewer - none

f. Permits

1. Request for permit or the Fire Fighter Toy Bank to use the Town Hall Main Floor for a wrapping party December 21, 2010 from 8:00am – 9:00pm.
2. Request for permit for the DPW to use the Town Hall Main Floor for a pre proposal meeting on October 28, 2010 from 7:00am – 1:00pm.

Mr. Aldrich moved to approve the permits as presented with fee waived. Mr. Campbell seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

3. Request for permit for Exeter Democrats to use the Town Hall Main Floor for an election canvas staging location on October 30 & 31, 2010 and November 1 & 2, 2010 from 4:00am – 2:00am.

Mr. Aldrich moved to table this permit request for one week to look into the times of use. Mr. Clement seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Mr. Quandt abstained.

4. Request for permit for the Ioka for structures on sidewalk for entertainment on October 20 – 22, 2010.

Mr. Aldrich moved to approve the permit as presented. Mr. Campbell seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Clement moved to request that the Town Planner and the Exeter Sportsmen's Club begin the process of reviewing the site plan and work completed as stated in the lease. Mr. Aldrich seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

g. Town Manager's Report - none

h. Legislative Update

Mr. Quandt reported that at the October 13th meeting the vetos were sustained.

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i. Selectmen's Committee Reports

Mr. Quandt – The River Committee meets Thursday at 9:00am.

Mr. Campbell – The Planning Board met last Thursday.

Ms. Gilman – The Economic Development Commission met last week and will be meeting every other week. There will be a HDC meeting Thursday. Don't forget to get your ideas in for the Train Station redesign. The Transfer Station will be extending its hours from October 15 through December 15. It will be opening at 8:00am on Saturdays and noon to 4:00pm on Sundays. Maintenance work will be taking place Tuesday October 19 at the Front St. railroad crossing. The railroad will be closed for one day. The Water/Sewer Department will be flushing hydrants during the next month for routine maintenance.

Mr. Aldrich – The Conservation Commission met last week. The Art Committee meets this week. The Personnel and Policy Committee meets tomorrow.

Mr. Clement -

The Heritage Committee met 2 weeks ago. There was an RPC meeting last week.

j. Correspondence

1. Letter of Thanks from the Richie MacFarland Children's Center, Seacoast Hospice, and Families First.
2. Letter of concern about the C&J Downeaster bus service.

Mr. Aldrich moved to authorize Ms. Gilman to send a letter of support on behalf of the Board of Selectmen for concerns on the C&J Downeaster bus service being discontinued. Mr. Campbell seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

8. Review Board Calendar

The next Board of Selectmen meeting will be on October 25, 2010

9. Non Public Session

At 8:30pm, Mr. Campbell moved to go into a non public session under RSA 91:a3II (b) and (c). Mr. Clement called the roll: Mr. Quandt – aye; Mr. Campbell – aye; Ms. Gilman – aye; Mr. Aldrich – aye; Mr. Clement – aye.

The board emerged from non public session at 8:58pm.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Aldrich made a motion to adjourn at 8:58pm. Mr. Campbell seconded. Vote Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Aimee Caruso
Recording Secretary