

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Sept.28, 2015**

PRESENT: SEAN P. MURPHY, CHAIRMAN, PRISCILLA R. LINDQUIST, SELECTMAN; CHAD BENNETT, SELECTMAN

Visitors: P. Williams (Tri Town News), Chief Carrier, J. Worthen, J. Forbes, J. Guthrie, R. Morris, Ch. Hastings and S. Pearsell

Public Announcements

- The Hampstead Fire Department will be holding a blood drive on Friday, October 16th at the Central Fire Station from 1 pm to 6 pm.
- The Hampstead Fire Department will be having an Open House on Saturday, October 17th from 10 am to 2 pm.
- Saturday, October 24th from 9 am to noon, at the Hampstead Middle School - Household Hazardous Waste Day.
- Halloween is scheduled for Saturday, October 31st from 6 pm until 8 pm
- Compost bins are available at the Town Offices. The cost for each bin is \$50 each.
- Waste Oil, car batteries and thermostats are collected at the Town Garage on the first and third Saturdays of the month 8 am to 1 pm. Books may be dropped off anytime.

Visitors Comment

Julia Forbes - Ordway Park fence update

Mrs. Forbes reported that the fence issue has been resolved and that the structure has been updated to meet the code requirements to make it structurally sound. It has been inspected and everything is good. She did note that the processes need to be resolved so that two items that came up recently wouldn't be an issue. She explained that twice she was working at the park and twice there were people working in the area (State DOT working on a culvert and Depot Development paving their parking lot) parked their vehicles in the parking lot blocking the ability for any other vehicles to access the area. She noted that if she were having some items delivered to the park she would have had an issue. She didn't understand why she wasn't notified of the use of the parking area. Selectman Lindquist responded that it is a public park and can be used by the public. Mrs. Forbes stated that if they knew the area was to be used, a facility agreement should be taken out. She stated that she was happy to be co-operative but wanted to be informed.

Chairman Murphy stated that he understood her concerns but that they aren't generally noted on things such as that. Mrs. Forbes said that the DOT stated the office was noticed. Chairman Murphy responded that sometimes they get generic letters stating that culvert work will be done on Route 121 with no further information. Road Agent, J. Worthen stated that he was told by the State that they would be doing the work, but stated that the State DOT would have moved the truck if there was a request to do so. He noted the same on the paving that the trucks could have moved if it was needed.

Mrs. Forbes said that she was told by the State DOT people she spoke with that down the road there will be work in the intersection at Route 121 and Depot Road. She would like to make sure the town is aware of it and that there is a catch basin diagonally across from the intersection to Ordway Park that has drainage from the West Side diverted to Ordway Park rather than allowing it to follow the original flow. She said there is a 8" culvert out of the catch basin that would be easy to add while the state is there working that will help relieve some of the water pressure at the park when it is full. The park currently gets the easterly flow and the westerly flow. That creates a lot of water which causes erosion and that it shouldn't be the town's responsibility to repair. This could be avoided by talking to the state.

Department Heads

Jon Worthen – winter maintenance contracts

Mr. Worthen gave the Selectmen a copy of the current plow contract and a copy of the current sanding contract (one with workers' compensation included and one without). He stated that the Selectmen asked last year to review the contracts prior to the next season. Mr. Worthen noted that there were recent updates to the insurance information. He asked the Selectmen to review and Chairman Murphy said that they will discuss it at the next meeting.

Eagle Road project- Mr. Worthen said that he is looking to spend about \$5,000 to \$6,000 to have some trees taken down along the Eagle Road area and grind the stumps along with jack hammering some of the rocks this year. Selectman Lindquist asked if this was along the plowing right of way and was told that it was close to the side and that Mr. Worthen was trying to make room and that some of the trees are right along the pavement. He also reported that he has permission from the landowners.

Mr. Worthen reported that the prices of the 2016 Chevy trucks are not in yet and that he has been calling every other week. He is hoping that it will be in so that it could be included in the budget.

New Business

7:15 PM Public Hearing – Old Police Station, whether to preserve it in whole or in part as a historic building or to raze the building.

There was a public hearing scheduled for this evening to go over what people would like to see done with the old police station. Chip Hastings, a member of the Historic Commission and former Fire Chief, asked to speak as an individual resident regarding his thoughts on the building. He stated that the building has no historic significance other than being the first fire station. The building was built with second hand supplies. He said that it has been shown that there are serious issues with the building and they need to be looked at before they consider recycling it into another purpose. He stated that the taxpayers don't need the burden of a building for minimum use and that we already have two like that. The front of the building no longer looks like the original fire station. The building is not ADA compliant. The wood floor is on top of concrete and not wheelchair compliant. He spoke with the Buildings and Grounds people and there are electrical issues, termite issues, and an old heating system. He would rather see it taken down and bathrooms built with a cement floor with a floor drain. Nothing has changed in the building since it was considered condemned two years ago. Selectman Lindquist thanked him for speaking and thanked R. Morris for suggesting the public hearing concept on the building.

There were no other comments and the Selectmen closed the public hearing at 7:22 pm. It was noted that there were no emails, phone calls or letters regarding the station.

Old Business

Accept and sign Vachon, Clukay & Co. 2014 representation letter

The auditors need the representation letter signed by the Chairman of the Selectmen. The letter states that all was disclosed and that the information required to process the 2014 audit was provided along with other standard information.

Selectmen Lindquist motioned to authorize Chairman Murphy to sign the letter. The motion was seconded by Selectmen Bennett. The motion passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

Chairman Murphy

School Board- Chairman Murphy said he attended the recent school board meeting and that the school board is looking to move forward with the access road for 2016. Mr. Worthen asked which direction they were looking at. The response was the access through St. Anne's parking lot. Chairman Murphy reported that the conditional approval had lapsed and they need to go through the process again and that the school board gave permission to Mike Hall to begin the process.

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Sept. 28, 2015

Page 3 of 5

Selectman Lindquist

There were no updates

Selectman Bennett

There were no updates

AA Report:

COLA

The cost of living for social security for the upcoming year is projected to be zero. Based on that and the Town's policy for calculating COLA (five year averaging divided by 10), the wage matrix is expected to increase by less than a percentage point, and would be .85% for 2016. Department Heads have been advised of this for budgeting purposes. The official announcement usually comes mid-October. The Selectmen were okay with moving forward with the .85% for budgeting.

Day after Thanksgiving

In years past, the Selectmen have always closed the offices to the public the day after Thanksgiving. Employees were allowed to either take PTO or work on that day. Mrs. Theriault asked the Selectmen if it is alright to announce that the offices will be closed on the Friday following Thanksgiving.

Previously, the BOS has closed the Town offices at noon on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. This year both holidays will be on a Friday, which is a half-day for the Town Offices. She asked if the Board of Selectmen were agreeable to closing the Town Offices early on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. The Selectmen agreed with the day after Thanksgiving and were okay with closing at noon on December 24th and December 31st.

Workshop

The office staff (Mrs. Harrington and Mrs. Theriault), are heading to an all-day training tomorrow regarding updates on healthcare.

The updates in rate changes usually happen in mid-October as well. Should the rates changes be available at that time she will advise both the BOS and Department Heads.

Setting of the tax rate

When Mrs. Theriault asked DRA about the process for setting the tax rate they asked if she had gone to the training yet, she responded that her training is scheduled for October 6th. Having said that DRA said that the BOS will be using the web portal to calculate and submit its tax rate, which will then be approved by DRA. DRA will not be present nor available that day. The Selectmen can meet and do the process on the computer. Once that is put on, that creates the rate and the verification will follow as usual.

Activity Log

The only update is that the public hearing on the police station was held. The Selectmen discussed their options on the station. It was reported that the estimate to raze the building was about \$10,500. Selectman Lindquist asked for firm numbers. Mr. Worthen stated that the number was about a year old. They discussed that it would take a warrant article to build something new there. Selectman Bennett suggested taking down the building now so that there is no cost to heat the building. Chairman Murphy said that there isn't much input into what to do with the old station and that the school was not interested. The museum is not a popular idea and it seems that more people are interested in bathrooms (comfort station). It was agreed that it was better to tear down the building and prepare to build a bathroom (comfort station). Selectman Lindquist said a warrant article would allow the residents to decide what they want there. They suggested knocking it down if there are funds in the current budget. If not do it in 2016. Selectman Bennett agreed to get rid of the building first and then start fresh.

Chairman Murphy motioned to look into demolishing the current building (old Police station) and start a new building and to pull together the information needed. Selectman Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Re- Appointments/Appointments

Call for candidates:

- o Ordway Park, full members and alternates – monthly meetings
- o Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee – monthly meetings
- o Trustees of the Trust Funds, alternate members – meetings as needed
- o Recreation Commission, alternate member – monthly meetings

Correspondence

Accept resignation of Dan Brickett – EMD

The Selectmen moved to accept the resignation of Dan Brickett as the Emergency Management Director effective immediately. The motion was made by Selectman Lindquist with a second by Selectman Bennett. The motion passed unanimously.

They discussed filling the position sooner rather than later. There was a suggestion to ask someone but that person stated they had no interest. Mrs. Theriault asked the Selectmen what direction they wanted to go in. They discussed putting it out to the public and see if there was anyone interested. Chief Carrier said that he was willing to take the position of Interim EMD if the Selectmen were interested. He said that he could do it within the scope of his current hours and that most communities have the Fire Chief as the EMD. He also stated that he knew of someone interested, and that was the current Shelter Manager (Sabrina Londrigan). Selectman Lindquist motioned to appoint Mike Carrier as the Interim EMD and to open it to anyone interested to send a letter of interest to the office. Selectman Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Letter re: Police Officers- There was a letter received by the Selectmen thanking Officer Scott Randell and Officer David Cianfrini for the conduct and work on a recent situation from the homeowner. The Selectmen stated that it was nice to hear of nice things regarding the work of the police officers.

Hold Harmless Keating Fence- There was a hold harmless drawn up by Attorney Gorrow for the fence sitting on Estes Road. The Selectmen signed the agreement and it will be forwarded to Mr. Keating.

Visitors Comments

There was none

Nonpublic Session

#1

Selectman Bennett motioned to enter into a nonpublic session at 7:45 pm under RSA 91A: 3 II (a) employee matters. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lindquist.

Roll Call Vote: Selectman Bennett- yes, Selectman Lindquist - yes and Chairman Murphy- yes.

Selectman Lindquist motioned to come out of nonpublic session at 8:30 pm under RSA 91A: 3 II (a) employee matters. The motion was seconded by Selectman Bennett.

Roll Call Vote: Selectman Bennett- yes, Selectman Lindquist - yes and Chairman Murphy- yes.

#2

Selectman Bennett motioned to enter into a nonpublic session at 8:30 pm under RSA 91A: 3 II (c) reputation. The motion was seconded by Selectman Lindquist.

Roll Call Vote: Selectman Bennett- yes, Selectman Lindquist - yes and Chairman Murphy- yes

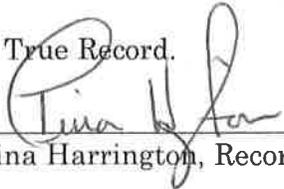
Selectman Lindquist motioned to come out of nonpublic session at 8:47 pm under RSA 91A: 3 II (c) reputation. The motion was seconded by Selectman Bennett.

Roll Call Vote: Selectman Bennett- yes, Selectman Lindquist - yes and Chairman Murphy- yes.

Selectman Lindquist motioned to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session. Selectman Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

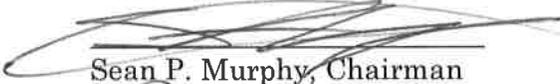
Selectman Lindquist motioned to adjourn at 8:47 pm. Selectman Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A True Record.

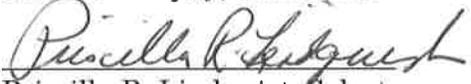


Tina Harrington, Recording Secretary

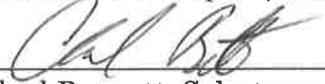
Approved By:



Sean P. Murphy, Chairman



Priscilla R. Lindquist, Selectman



Chad Bennett, Selectman