

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
January 9, 2017**

PRESENT: SEAN P. MURPHY, CHAIRMAN: CHAD R. BENNETT, PRISCILLA R. LINDQUIST, SELECTMAN: SALLY THERIAULT, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Visitors: D. Gorrow, J. Lessard, S. Marsh, K. True, C. Trahan, C. Kimball, D. Raposa, G. Mullane, L. Hunsaker, B. Gallant, S. Raposa, J. Casey, P. Godfrey, C. Hess, P. Hess, D. DeSimone, P. Stoltz, and P. Williams (Tri Towne News).

Public Announcements

- First day to file for elected office is Wednesday, January 25th and the final day is Friday, February 3rd.
- 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

Paula Stoltz- 255 Kent Farm Road

P. Stoltz along with a room full of residents were present tonight to discuss the proposed cell tower currently before the Planning Board, that is to be located on town land at the Kent Farm Transfer Station. She asked if the town was looking for a cell tower to be located in town, or were they approached by the company. Chairman Murphy explained the process that occurred. He stated that they were approached by a cell tower company and were told that the coverage in town was subpar and had gaps in coverage. This was echoed by the Police and Fire Departments, that there were gaps in their ability to communicate throughout the town. The company offered to help the town work through the process such as being available for questions at the meetings and deliberative session to help get the zoning change to allow cell towers on town land. There was a Request for Proposal (RFP) that went out and there were several companies interviewed.

Throughout the process there were two sites that were always under consideration as the potential sites for the cell towers and they were the Kent Farm Transfer Station and Little's Lane behind the Central Fire Station.

P. Stoltz requested that the Selectmen have an economic impact study done and noted that putting in the cell tower may be more costly to the town after residents file for abatements, than they would get in any revenue. She noted that it was their constitutional right to protect their property and they are appealing to the Selectmen to stop the process. She stated that it was not clear in the article where the towers were being proposed. Chairman Murphy explained that the process was followed and there were public hearings for the people to have a say and the locations for Kent Farm Transfer Station and Little's Lane were always part of the discussion. The abutters only need to be notified when it goes before the Planning Board. He also stated that in working with the cell tower company, they always told the Selectmen that they could make the tower look like other things than just a tall pole. P. Stoltz responded that the Town was not legally bound to notify the abutters otherwise and they will need to consider getting council to get a case against the town, and also stated that bad stuff happened that should not have and wondered what else happened that they aren't

aware of. Chairman Murphy reiterated that it went through the RFP process, had a public hearing on the articles and the proposal. The town voted on the article 2 to 1. One of the residents shouted out that the schools can reach all the students right away and that the town should be able to send out notices the same way. Mrs. Theriault stated that when she spoke with the residents heading up the concerns of the area, she gave them the parameters of the Selectmen's meeting and that they were limited to 5 minutes under visitors comments and that they agreed on stating their concern and to be specific and limit it to the 5 minutes. She asked that they stay on subject and that the school had no place in this discussion. The person in the audience stated that there are ways to improve communications.

P. Stoltz said the any tower should be part of what the town looks like and that the aesthetics are important. She asked if the Conservation Commission had done any evaluation of the site whereas there are wetlands on the site. She also asked for an impact study to be done and that from here forward, the town should be able to evaluate and have a say in what sites are to be used and how. The current zoning doesn't stop another cell tower company from coming in and asked if the RFP could be canceled. Chairman Murphy responded that the zoning was passed to improve the coverage and as revenue to the town. It was chosen to be at the transfer station because it wasn't seen as adversely affecting the area as much as it would be if in the center of town and that this was taken into account. P. Stoltz asked the Selectmen if they had read their mission statement and when it was last updated. Mrs. Theriault responded that the Board of Selectmen does not have a Mission Statement. P. Stoltz kept referring to one on the website and it was thought that she was referring to the Master Plan. P. Stoltz asked what happened at the Planning Board meeting with the vote on the approval. Selectman Bennett stated that the Planning Board took jurisdiction of the application as complete and it starts the clock. P. Stoltz stated that this was the first notification that the abutters had to the plan and that was on December 18th. That did not give them enough time to get a substantive impact to the residents done.

Cheryl Hess- 263 Kent Farm Road

C. Hess thanked Mrs. Theriault for giving them the information on speaking with the Selectmen and the Selectmen for allowing them to speak and bring forward their concerns. She began her discussion by stating that they are probably looking at her and saying why now. She is aware that they followed the regulations and that this has been ongoing for two years but a lot of people are just hearing about it now. If they knew two years ago, they would have voiced their concerns then. She noted that it reminded her that she needs to pay attention and be an informed voter. She went on to explain that her primary concern with the Cell Tower is the health concerns. She explained that here family doesn't always believe in the FDA regulations regarding what is safe and has the same concern with the regulations and reports of what is safe in Radio Frequency Emissions (RF). She noted that she has learned that you can't always believe what the government tells you is safe. She understands that the current project is grandfathered if they were to come in with a petition article to stop cell towers. This was a huge concern for those abutters that are going to have to look a cell tower all the time. She went on to say that while the notifications that went out are in compliance, at this point there is nothing the abutters can do about the project because the Selectmen have already signed a lease agreement. She noted that the abutters should have been made aware of at least the balloon test and that the process is frustrating. She went on to state the residents in Granite Village weren't notified whereas they aren't the landowner. She reported that she knew this because she went through the neighborhoods and asked if the residents were aware of the proposed cell tower. She pointed out that it may be legal, but not right. If there was a lack of cell service there is newer technology that could be used such as the mini towers and that these are also revenue generating. She also went on to

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state that people are busy in their lives and there needs to be a way to help them be informed of what goes on around them. Every citizen should pay attention to meetings and warrants, etc. She also said that they will continue to go to the Planning Board meetings to see what they can do there.

P. Stoltz asked the Selectmen if they had any input. Chairman Murphy responded that he didn't know what other options they had at this point.

Department Heads

There were none present

New Business

Open Elected Positions-Chairman Murphy read the list of elected positions that are up for election on the town ballot. The first day of sign up is Wednesday, January 25th and the last day is Friday, February 3, 2017. The office closes at noon on Friday, February 3rd but will re-open from 3 pm to 5 pm for the sole purpose of sign ups.

Selectmen- one, 3 year term

Town Clerk-Tax Collector- one, 3 year term

Treasurer- one, 3 year term

Planning Board – two, 3 year terms

Budget Committee- one, one year term

Budget Committee- two, three year term

Trustee of the Cemeteries- one, three year term

Library Trustee- one, three year term

Trustee of the Trust Funds- one, three year term

Default Budget-Mrs. Theriault gave the Selectmen the default budget and asked for them to review it prior to the Public hearing on the budget scheduled for Wednesday January 11th. She noted that the difference between the proposed 2017 budget and the default is about \$28,000, which a portion of the amount is for the proposed streetlight budget increase for the LED lights.

Old Business

There was none

Liaison Reports

There were no updates from the Selectmen

AA Report:

Meeting room window treatment

The valances and blinds have been ordered. It is expected that the window treatments will be installed within the next few weeks.

Census data

At the request of the Federal Government, census data concerning revenue and expenditures for the year ending December, 2015, has been supplied.

EAP (Emergency Action Plan)

Hampstead received the Plan back from the Dam Bureau with a recommendation on changes and updates to the Plan. This is the first time that the Bureau has responded to the information that was provided to them. The update to the Plan and the actual test has to be done every five years. The Plan has been forwarded to the Road Agent for his review and modification.

Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for December 12th and December 20th, 2016 have been signed by a majority of the BOS.

Selectman Lindquist motioned to approve the minutes of December 12th and December 20th as amended. Selectman Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Activity Log

It was noted that it is expected that the MS4 Permit is effective 1/19/17.

Mrs. Theriault contacted the Recreation Department to discuss the proposal for mowing the Depot Road fields along with the other fields. It was stated that the proposal could go out asking for two bids, one for the Depot Road fields and a second for the rest of the fields. Selectman Lindquist asked what would Buildings and grounds do if they weren't mowing the fields. Chairman Murphy responded that there are buildings that need attention.

The other items on the agenda will continue with their scheduled dates for review.

Re- Appointments/Appointments

Call for candidates:

- o Budget Committee- one opening until March election-monthly meeting
- o Ordway Park, full members and alternates – monthly meeting
- o Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee – monthly meeting
- o Recreation Commission, alternate member – monthly meetings
- o Trustees of the Trust Funds, alternate members – meetings as needed
- o Zoning Board of Adjustment, alternate member – monthly meeting

Correspondence

Savers Plaistow Store- They announced that they again will be working with Community Caregivers in the 2nd annual event for the time frame of 2/11/17 until 2/14/17. Any items brought into the Plaistow Savers Store will have funds donated to Community Caregivers. The residents should state that they are from Hampstead so that it is noted for Community Caregivers. They will receive 5 cents per pound for hard goods and 20 cents per pound for soft goods (clothing etc.)

Selectman Lindquist noted that they have a drive thru you can pull up to and the people working will unload your car for you.

Visitors Comments

There were none

Selectman Lindquist motioned to go into nonpublic session under RSA 91-A III, 2 (c) litigation at 7:45 p.m.

Selectman Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Diane Gorrow- Soule, Leslie- Town Counsel

Joe Lessard and Scott Marsh, Municipal Resources, Inc. stayed for the nonpublic.

The purpose of the non-public was to discuss the legal case against Fairpoint and the assessed values. Attorney Gorrow updated the Selectmen as to the status of the case which is currently looking at the assessed values for the year 2011. She explained that it still looks like a few years before it actually gets to court. She reported that there are some small communities that are working out settlements with Fairpoint and asked the Selectmen for their input. Mr. Lessard updated the Selectmen on the assessed values and how the numbers were arrived at and where they stand now. After some discussion, the Selectmen gave direction to initiate negotiations with Fairpoint and get a starting point.

Mr. Lessard and Mr. Marsh left at 8:17 p.m.

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The Selectmen talked with Attorney Gorrow regarding the lease on the new loader and what the options were regarding financing it. Attorney Gorrow gave them a few options.

Selectman Lindquist motioned to come out of nonpublic session at 8:50 p.m. Selectman Bennett seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Lindquist motioned to adjourn at 8:50 pm. Selectman Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A True Record:

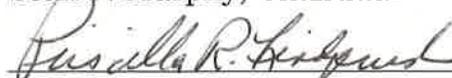


Tina Harrington, Reporting Secretary

Approved By:



Sean P. Murphy, Chairman



Priscilla R. Lindquist, Selectman



Chad R. Bennett, Selectman