

Final Minutes

**Exeter Board of Selectman**

January 17, 2017

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman Dan Chartrand called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Offices building. Other members present were Vice Chair Julie Gilman, Selectman Don Clement, Selectwoman and Clerk Nancy Belanger and Selectwoman Anne Surman. Town Manager Russell Dean was also present.

**2. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**3. Minutes and Proclamations**

There were no proclamations.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

There are four sets of minutes, but the December 19<sup>th</sup> minutes will be delayed because they were not included in the packet.

**December 27, 2016:**

**MOTION:** Selectman Clement moved to accept the minutes as presented, Selectwoman Gilman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**January 3, 2017:** Selectwoman Surman explained that under section 7, page 2, insert public before meetings to make "public meeting" and a few lines down add "nonpublic". On page 3, in second line "what really bothers him" just add "Town Manager" here so it is clear who is being spoken about.

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Gilman moved to accept the minutes as amended, Selectwoman Belanger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**January 10, 2017:** Selectwoman Surman did not attend this meeting, but she had a few questions. She wondered where the insurance percentage ended up, and it was confirmed at 13%. This number would be added to the minutes.

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Gilman moved to approve the minutes as amended, Selectwoman Belanger seconded. The motion passed 3-0-2 abstentions.

**5. Appointments**

There were no appointments.

**6. Discussion/Action Items**

**a. CDBG Hearing: Avesta Housing/Meeting Place Phase IV**

Informational packets on the CDBG related public hearings were available.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to open the public hearing on Proposed Meeting Place IV Affordable Housing Project CDBG Application, Selectman Clement seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Development Block Grant funds are available to municipalities through the NH Community Development Finance Authority. Up to \$500,000 annually is available on a competitive basis for public facility and housing projects, up to \$500,000 for economic development projects and up to \$350,000 for emergency activities. All projects must directly benefit low and moderate income persons. Up to \$12,000 per study is available for Planning Grants.

This is a proposed application to the Community Development Finance Authority for up to \$500,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds. The Town will subgrant the funds, retaining funds for administrative expenses, to Avesta Housing, or a subsidiary, for the construction of 43 units of affordable housing, Meeting Place IV, at 3 Meeting Place Drive in Exeter. The CDBG funds will finance acquisition costs.

This project conforms with Exeter's Housing and Community Development Plan.

Plan's Goal of: Promote a varied stock of safe, sanitary, decent and affordable housing for persons of all ages and income groups. (Short-term and Long-term goal).

This will bring the number of units to all of the meeting place to 140. Currently there are 71 family units. This will add an additional 43 family units, and 26 senior units. The public was asked for public comment, but there were no public comments.

**MOTION:** Belanger moved to close the hearing on the proposed meeting place, CDBG application; Selectwoman Gilman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Belanger moved to open the second public hearing, Selectwoman Gilman seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Although this project does not involve any displacement or relocation of persons (or businesses), if the Town were to undertake a CDBG project which involved displacement or relocation they would follow this plan. The plan outlines the measures they would take to find comparable, suitable housing for persons (or businesses) displaced or relocated. The public was asked for public comment, and there were no public comments.

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Belanger moved to close the public hearing, Selectwoman Gilman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Belanger moved to adopt the residential anti displacement and relocation assistant plan, Selectwoman Gilman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Belanger moved to approve the submittal of the application, and vote to authorize the Town Manager to sign and submit the application, and upon approval of the CDBG application, authorize the Town Manager to execute any documents which may be necessary to

effectuate the CDBG contract and any amendments thereto. Selectwoman Gilman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**b. Kingston Road Shoulder Widening Project Update**

Mr. Dean explained this project was approved in 2015, and it was a \$750,000 project. \$600,000 came from a department of transportation grant. The DPW that there were three alternative plans, Jennifer Perry was here to discuss the problems they ran into. The estimates came in higher than the amount on hand for the project, so all the alternatives will require additional funding. Ms. Perry explained this is a large series of hurdles to jump, it is not surprising the costs came in higher than anticipated. They are very interested in getting sidewalks, as it was mentioned in the warrant article. The numbers were never changed in the grant application to add sidewalks just so that is clear. Ms. Perry said they have talked to the DOT about acquiring additional funds, and there are more funds available but they must continue to make their 20% match obligation. Ms. Perry then went through the options via a PowerPoint presentation. For alternative 2, the sidewalk would only be on one side, in addition to 2.2 miles of shoulder widening. The total estimate for this is \$970,000. The third option total cost was \$1,000,055.

Ms. Perry also wanted to talk about a warrant article that would include a time extension, and if any additional monies would want to be pursued.

Laura Woodbury, 15 Tamarind Lane: Questioned what would happen if the time was not extended, what would happen to the TAP funding. It was confirmed that they would need to then finish by December 2017 or lose the additional money. Ms. Woodbury requested that they place alternative 3, on the March 2017 ballot and they respectfully suggest warrant article 16 to include the additional amount necessary. When the alternatives were proposed to the town there was a consensus among the attending residents that alternative 3 would meet the needs of the residents and the TAP grant. Ms. Woodbury explained that only widening the roadway will not leave an adequate and separate walkway for walkers. She had fears that just widening the road would result in faster drivers and more speeding in this location. There are over 140 households that would be connected in this project as well as the Riverwoods Retirement community. If alternative 1 is chosen, she would like them to perform an official traffic study by the state or a private company. She is concerned about pedestrian safety if this option is chosen.

Gerry Hamel, Little Pine Lane: The shoulder widening of 5 feet, is that going to be 5 feet from existing shoulder or will it be 5 feet from the tar. Ms. Perry said the 5 feet width would be the final width. Gerry also questioned about at Little River, what will happen there. There is nothing there other than bridge. Ms. Perry said there would be no changes to the bridge. Ms. Perry also wanted to say that taking the sidewalks to Tamarind Lane, the Riverwoods community can still get connected to sidewalks, it would be a back way to get there but they could meet up.

Selectman Chartrand brought the conversation back to the Selectboard for discussion. Selectman Clement thanked Ms. Perry for the presentation and Ms. Woodbury for her comments. He attended the public discussion on this matter, to begin with he is lukewarm to the shoulder widening project because he felt there were other priorities they should do besides just widening shoulders. The fact that they were going to be getting \$600,000 made it attractive. He is upset that they missed the mark on the estimate by almost 18%, and it concerns him on all other projects moving forward. Selectman Clement said that because they already proposed a price, and to go back to the voters now for additional up to \$180,000 of tax money to do this concerns him. He has thought long and hard about this, even with the

significant cost he thinks the sidewalks are the most important facet to this project. He will probably be very much in favor of putting forward to the warrant article, option 3. Selectman Clement does not want to throw away the grant money, and given all of this he will want to move forward with option 3 but he is concerned about missing targets on cost estimates. He wants them to do a better job of hitting the targets in the future. Selectwoman Gilman agrees with Selectman Clement on option 3. She is also concerned about the cost adjustments but it is a project that needs to be done. Selectwoman Belanger had a question for Ms. Perry on alternative 2 there would only be a sidewalk on the park side of the road, which is the same for option 3 which was confirmed. She also asked about crosswalk intended locations, Jason Bodet, Consultant with CMA explained that the crosswalk is Riverwoods to White Oak Road. They would build a fully ADA compliant crosswalk at this location. Selectwoman Belanger is concerned about Ernest Ave residents being cut off.

Bill Strubbs from CMA engineers, wanted to know about installing the midblock cross walk because these types of crosswalks need to be signed properly because they are not anticipated. The other locations do not have enough traffic to warrant a crosswalk. Selectwoman Surman asked if Ms. Perry could confirm if this would stay within budget if this was approved. Ms. Perry said that it was difficult developing estimates, and they would work within the new budget. It has been two years since the original estimate was completed. The reality is that it has been a very favorable climate for construction, all projects are coming in higher than 2 years ago, and they are coming right onto prices for 2017. Ms. Perry said without the engineering studies it is very difficult to gauge the prices. Selectman Chartrand is also in favor of alternative 3

**MOTION:** Selectman Chartrand moved to recommend implementing alternative 3, Selectwoman Belanger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Clement said they also need to add this to the warrant later just to make it clear this is not adding it to the warrant.

#### **c. NHDOT Tap Grant: Sidewalks**

This is a formal announcement of the Grant program that they were successful in receiving. David Sharples, Planning Director was instrumental in securing this. They just received notice of this in the past week. Mr. Dean said he is grateful for Mr. Sharples work and the DPW. Mr. Sharples said it is the west side of Epping Road, and the planning board required a sidewalk be put on the frontage of 80 Epping Road. This grant will put a sidewalk up past 80 Epping Road. This will also add a sidewalk to Winter Street where it just ends. Also on Spring Street there are two sections of sidewalks that are missing and this will connect everything. Selectwoman Gilman thanked Mr. Sharples for the work, and asked about the safe routes to school and if those were being funded anymore. Mr. Sharples explained that before TAP came along that existed it has now been melded into one program. Mr. Dean said this is an 80/20 grant, so 80% state and 20% town contribution. Selectman Clement asked if we were sure this would be enough money, because he does not want to get to a point a year from now in order to complete this that they need more money. Mr. Sharples said you are taking unit prices of today and who knows what the future will be, the TAP grants are not quick and every step of the way you need notices to proceed. This project is looking at construction in 2019, but they are trying their best because they will not allow contingencies but they do hold some fund in anticipation that these will take a few years.

#### **d. Public Hearing: FY17 Bonds**

**MOTION:** Selectman Clement moved to open the public hearing on Public Hearing FY17 Bonds, Selectwoman Gilman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dean explained that there are three bond requests on the warrant. The first is Lincoln Street Phase 2 Improvements, the total on this is 2,802,000. General Fund (1.7 mil), Sewer Fund (932K), Water Fund (168k). Selectman Clement said this is another project and said the work for Daniel Street should have been part of phase 1 but due to cost estimates it was not completed then. After reading through the CIP, Selectman Clement said some of the general fund money is for storm water and storm drainage work. They have had some problems with storm water drainage in this area. People are seeing storm water issues, will this be resolved when this work is completed? Ms. Perry explained that the Lincoln Street watershed is the most impervious watershed the town has. There is very little non-developed area in this location. They have started conceptual design process for this storm water piece because conventional piped solutions will not work here. In a developed sub-watershed this will be very challenging, the question has to be asked what storm are they designing for. Exeter typically designs for the 10-year storm. She felt that no, they would not fix all the problems in this location. Selectman Chartrand asked if this was because the entire area is essentially paved and Ms. Perry explained the locations included in the watershed. Selectman Clement understood this, but he is concerned they are not preparing themselves for the future. He knows this is a challenge but if they don't try to address this in 10-15 years will they be back here with a larger problem. He does not want to miss an opportunity, and do this project right and think ahead 20-30 years. Ms. Perry said they are using the latest approved rainfall estimates and they are working to find novel ways of dealing with this. Mr. Dean commented that if this passes they will be bonding this for a period of 15 years.

Recommending Project: 5-0 recommendation.

The second bond is Total tri-halo Methane Remediation (TTHM) \$1,500,000 from water fund. The town must get into compliance with this regulation. There were no public comments on this item. Selectwoman Surman wondered how do we know that spending all of this money they will in fact mitigate the problem. Ms. Perry explained that one of the aspects of this project that they have to be diligent on is the testing. They are looking at several alternatives and they are working with NH DES closely on this. The DES is asking that they look at another ion exchange process and what they could possibly do to investigate this. Any of these alternatives would be under the \$1,500,000, this number is so high because of the constrained site at the surface water plant. To do the aeration they will need to do a lot of piping to fit the area, this is why they are also looking into alternatives. Selectwoman Gilman is in favor of this one because they have discussed this forever. Selectman Clement said that town government provides a lot of services to citizens, one of the key obligations is to make sure the citizens of this town have good, clean, safe drinking water. This is a real necessity and an obligation. Selectman Chartrand echoed Selectman Clement, providing drinking water is one of the obligations of town government. He also urges the town to vote to pass this along with Selectman Clement.

Recommending Project: 5-0 vote to recommend.

Court Street Culvert Replacement Bridge Construction, \$1,381,000. General Fund (\$1,336,000) and Water Fund (\$45,000). The project details are online, and the construction would begin this summer. They are looking at low cost alternatives, and the cheapest would be to close the road, and divert traffic. It is not going to get any cheaper now is the time to do these projects before interest rates rise. There were no public comments on this project. Selectman Clement commented that they all remember

Linden Street and it was very well done and good project and is anticipating the same being done over here at Court Street. This is part of infrastructure and necessary to be completed. The bridge is on the red list and he is hoping that the project can go as smoothly as Linden Street bridge crossing went. Mr. Dean commented for location purposes, this is the crossing adjacent to Bell Avenue.

Recommending Project: 5-0 vote to recommend.

**MOTION:** Selectman Clement moved to close the Bond Hearing, Selectwoman Gilman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Moved to open the Public Hearing on the General Fund, Water and Sewer Budget, Selectwoman Gilman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dean captured the highlights of the operating budget process and the dates while presenting a PowerPoint presentation. FYI for people watching, January 1<sup>st</sup> was the start of the Fiscal Year. The budget proposal this year is 3.8% increase over FY16 approved budget for \$18,247,317 total. The FY17 health insurance budget is increasing 9.7% which is \$137,476. This budget includes work related to dam removal, library budget increase of \$75,113 for an additional position and funding all human services was included in a line item.

Selectman Chartrand asked that given they received a TAP grant is it a case they should remove a sidewalk money because this is now in a separate warrant article. Mr. Dean said what is in here is the \$120,000 budgeted for sidewalk funding, it is still in the budget. Corey Stevens, Chair of the Budget Committee said the intent of the budget recommendation committee was to use one or the other, use the grant match and remove the \$120,000. Selectman Clement said he was an advocate for putting the \$120,000 as a warrant article but the will of the Board felt it should stay in the budget. He asked the Board to consider instead of taking this out of the budget but they leave around \$15,000 in to have seed money to do any potential repairs that may come in. Selectwoman Surman agreed with Mr. Clement because previously they did away with sidewalks maintenance in the budget and supports it remaining in. Selectwoman Gilman and Belanger supported this as well.

There were no public comments on the operating budget.

**MOTION:** Selectman Clement moved to change 6027505 line item to \$15,000, Selectwoman Surman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Clement under the fire budget, there was a back and forth on adding personnel and in the budget committee meetings there was a motion to move forward with one additional person but in conjunction with that was to reduce some over time money. The Board of Selectmen decided to move forward with not adding another position. Selectman Clement would like to then go back and increase line item 05031300 from 111,431 and he would like to increase it to \$116,431. Selectman Chartrand would support this as well.

**MOTION:** Selectman Clement moved to change line item 05031300 \$116,431, Selectman Chartrand seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Chartrand commented that he felt this was fair since the Board chose to wait a year to add personnel to this department.

Solid Waste 6041200 line item reduced by \$9,256, which affects the taxes as well so there are some savings there.

The New default number for the operating budget is \$17,908,273

Recommendation: 18,137,426 and a default of 17,908,273. 3-2 recommendation Clement and Surman in the nay.

Article 10 Water Budget:

FY17 Proposed Budget \$3,308,733 which is an increase of \$11.2%. There were no public comments on this article.

Recommendation: 5-0 recommendation.

Article 11, Sewer Budget:

This is down \$16,000 over last year, resulting in a decrease of .70%. This is temporary because of the upcoming new Wastewater facility. There were no public comments on this article.

Recommendation: Passed with a 5-0 recommendation.

**MOTION:** Selectman Clement moved to close the hearing, Selectman Surman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **e. 2017 Town Warrant Review**

Selectwoman Surman had a warrant article she wanted to add but didn't feel it should be at the end, so she wanted to discuss this with the Board. Selectwoman Surman handed out her proposed warrant article. Selectman Chartrand felt that counsel should be involved in this, as he has concerns about legality of this. Selectman Clement addressed legality of this, the selectman's authority is to present to town meeting a budget and warrant article. So if this voted and moved to the warrant so this can be discussed and voted on for whether it is added to the warrant. Selectwoman Surman wanted to give background on this which involves the town managers contract. It has nothing to do with our Town Manager. This has to do with Article 44 which passed in 2010 overwhelmingly. This article states that citizens have to vote on multiyear contracts, she wants them to have the opportunity to say yes or no to this contract. The next step for full transparency is for the voters of this town to weigh in, since the Selectman have already approved this by a 3-2 vote. If it passes the will of 2010 will go through, if it fails then it stays the way it is. That is the intent, it is completely neutral.

Selectwoman Belanger, does not have the attorney memo or her notes however she would like town counsel to look at this. This is because in the attorney memo the 2010 citizen petition language lacked specific language regarding compensation. Also, ultimately that if we did this it could rescind a contract they already voted on. She would prefer legal opinion on any potential complications this could cause. Selectman Chartrand the attorney opinion stated it had no binding effect, and the effort to rescind a valid contract which is the only contract they have with the town manager. This could terminate the Town Manager without cause. Selectwoman Surman felt this was incorrect, Selectman Chartrand felt this was the effect of the article. Selectwoman Gilman needs to mull on this for a bit. Selectman Clement said there would always be a question whether counsel or law would make any town warrant article binding. He does not feel this is a rash decision and would like the Board not to attack members for this.

Selectman Clement said the public is dismayed about the contract process and the terms. This is just an opportunity to allow the town people a chance to have their opinions heard. Selectwoman Surman, Mr. Mitchell's opinion is just that an opinion. Which is fine in a court of law, and the whole notion of this has nothing to do with binding a contract. It is going back to transparency and doing what they said they would do for the voters. Selectwoman Surman felt if they believed in the will of the voters the Board would give them this opportunity. This has nothing to do with terminating the town manager. The voters cared about this one, and came to the meeting with comments. Selectman Chartrand felt that ignoring counsel advice was treading dangerous territory. There is no place to go if this contract is overturned, the old contract is gone. In effect this will terminate the Town Manager without cause and give him the option for the severance payout. Selectman Chartrand will vote against this. Selectwoman Gilman understands the intent but it is troubling her that the last line about reopening what they have now is a different topic. This seems to be a second part that is not part of the intent of the 2010 warrant article.

Paul Royal 3 Pumpkin Circle, what is troubling him now is that let's assume the people in town can make a good decision on the contract what troubles him is that the Selectman have acted in good faith but the horse is out of the barn now. He is afraid that this warrant article if it appears will not be treated as it should be. He feels people will vote for it because they felt that their will was not achieved. The net effect of putting this out there, if it's out there and there is anger about it the warrant wouldn't be a referendum on what is happening now. It would be whether they were taken seriously in 2010, he doesn't feel the warrant stands on its own. He is afraid if this appears people will vote for it just to say I told you so. He feels they are taking a risk on this because the net effect of today is not being taken into account.

Selectwoman Gilman addressed Paul Royal, she wanted to be clear on what he was saying. Did he feel this would be a personal warrant item. Mr. Royal problem here is that the majority of people in this town are busy working and life items to be aware of all the intricateness at play here. He feels they may vote to reaffirm their feelings of 2010, rather than appreciate the underlying article at play. Selectwoman Surman felt this was being taken out of context, everyone is making assumptions on what the next effect will be. There is no axe to grind, this is simply following the 2010 article. Mr. Royal said it is also the citizenry to be well informed, and Selectwoman Surman is extremely well informed so she sees this differently. The general population does not know what is involved and how intricate this is. HE does not want to belittle the voters but he said there is a risk this winds up being a referendum on something happened in 2010 without fully considering the net effect. Selectman Chartrand felt that the reality was that every professional manager or administrative serving around the state all serve under a multi-year contract, if he has to go before town meeting to have his contract approved they would be the only town in the state that requires this. He feels this would create instability and no capable manager would agree to a one year deal and they would have a difficult time recruiting a new manager if required. This contract was entered into in good faith for an exceptional town manager and the majority of this Board feel he continues to do an exceptional job.

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Surman moved to put article 12 on the warrant as written Shall the Town reaffirm the 2010 Citizens Petition, Article 44 which passed 1044 to 678 and established that any multi-year compensation contract with the Town Manager of Exeter shall require the approval of a majority of voters at the Annual Town Meeting, Selectman Clement seconded. The motion failed 2-3, with Chartrand, Gilman and Belanger voting nay.



Mr. Dean then proceeded with the warrant articles presentation.

Article 1: Election of Town Officers

Article 2-4: Zoning Amendments Recommended by the Planning Board.

Article 5-7: Discussed earlier in the meeting and were recommended.

Article 8: Choose Officers

Article 9-11: discussed earlier in the meeting and was recommended.

Article 12: SEIU Agreement which is part of the collective bargaining agreement for current staffing levels. Selectwoman Surman had a few questions on the agreement, what was the stand by program and do other contracts have the sick day provisions of over 8 days. Mr. Dean said they have a call list in public works where there is not a requirement that they respond, and they are not paid to stand by. The department does feel they need 2 people to stand by and they felt to meet the requirements they would need to be compensated for being on call. They have had times where people have not responded, they feel this may be aided by compensation. The sick days portion is in other contracts but it is the first time it's been here in Exeter.

Laura Woodbury, 15 Tamarind Lane: Wanted to know what SEIU stood for, Service Employee International Union and this would be added to the article.

Selectman Clement wanted to know why the general fund portion of the agreement tripled due to this contract but not for the water and sewer fund. This was confirmed that it is because of the on-call piece of the contract. Mr. Dean explained these are roll up costs.

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

Article 13: Exeter NEPBA Agreement. This is a six-month extension with police.

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

Article 14-Epping Road, Spring Street, Winter Street Sidewalks

Mr. Dean felt to be safe this should be extended to 2020. Selectman Clement asked if the TAP grants would allow this, Mr. Staples confirmed this would be acceptable because there are many slowdowns in the process and the best-case scenario is 2019.

**MOTION:** Selectman Chartrand moved to amended 2019 to 2020, Selectwoman Belanger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Charlie Knott, 15 Tamarind Way: The wording in the article states until the project is completed or 2019 whichever is later. He felt like it didn't lapse anyway. It was confirmed he was correct.

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

Article 15: Extend Kingston Road Shoulder Project Deadline

This is to extend from December 31, 2017 to December 31, 2020, Mr. Dean also said they could also not put a date and just say by this “date or project completion, whichever is later”. Selectman Clement said they are required to do this per RSA 32:7.

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

#### Article 16: Additional Funds Kingston Road Shoulders

This is to raise and appropriate an additional \$305,000 with \$185,000 to be raised by taxation and \$120,000 by NHDOT approved grant funds.

Laura Woodbury, 15 Tamarind Lane: Asked if the last statement about needing article 15 to pass as well, was required. It was confirmed it needed to stay. Selectman Clement said if article 15 fails for whatever reason could they still get all the Kingston work done by the end of 2017. Ms. Perry confirmed it could not be.

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

#### Article 17: Town Hall Improvements

Mr. Dean said this was asked about at the previous meeting, and is for code compliant fire rated staircases, etc. Selectman Clement thought it was determined that the \$100,000 was not going to be enough money. Ms. Perry said this was correct, because prior estimates indicated \$130-135,000 needed for this project. They did receive an updated cost estimate in December from one contractor and that was \$131,597. The department would recommend \$130,000.

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Belanger moved to amend Article 17 from 100,000 to 130,000, Selectwoman Gilman seconded. The motion passed 4-1 (Selectwoman Surman in the nay)

**DISCUSSION:** Selectwoman Gilman asked why this was reduced to \$100,000 and Mr. Dean explained they were hoping to use in house labor to reduce costs rather than get it done in one shot by contractor. But they now have a cost estimate of out of house costs and in house estimates and it is still \$130,000. Selectman Clement referred to the CIP, and wanted confirmation that the bathroom was removed from this and it was confirmed that yes it was. Ms. Perry wanted to clarify this had not been before the voters in the past, it has never been taken to a warrant article.

Recommendation: 3-2 vote to recommend, Selectman Clement and Selectwoman Surman voting nay.

#### Article 18 Washington Street Water Line

This is Water line replacement from Front Street to Brentwood Road. This will design the project, and they will be back for appropriation of funds in 2018.

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

#### Article 19

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

#### Article 20 Snow and Ice

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

#### Article 21 Highway Department Dump Truck Lease/Purchase

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

#### Article 22 Highway Department Backhoe Lease/Purchase

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

#### Article 23 Name Board of Selectman as Cemetery Trustees Pursuant to RSA 289:6

Selectwoman Gilman said they have small plots around town that nobody is aware of or take care of. This will allow them to put money aside to do this.

Recommendation: 5-0 vote to recommend.

#### Article 24 Citizens Petition

Mr. Dean said there was one citizen this year from Mr. Royal, he is seeking to have the winter parking ordinance changed to be different then current regulations.

Paul Royal 3 Pumpkin Circle appeared before the Board, and read a statement on this article. He is asking to eliminate the blanket winter barking ban because it was probably implemented prior to the internet and the other ways to communicate that people should not be parking on the street. Snow Emergencies are declared effectively in other locations, such as Portsmouth. He has had a very positive response to his article while seeking resident signatures. Instead of going along with what other towns do, he submits that Exeter can lead the way and use a more thoughtful and modern approach. He purposely constructed his article to not be overly constrictive. So that perhaps the Selectboard, Police, Fire and DPW may have the time and options to implementing a snow emergency policy. Ms. Perry said she knows this a very unpopular situation and she can almost guarantee that he will get a lot of support. The challenge is that a town like Exeter with old narrow streets, the equipment can't pass easily. It isn't always a snow plow situation; it is salt or sand as well. This can become a safety hazard for the town. The other problem is they also use the larger trucks to do this job and this could require an overhaul of the equipment used. This would also result in parking only being allowed on one side of the street. There would be an increase in damages caused by town vehicles. It is also hard to judge the weather forecast as they can be incorrect, the snow emergency would have to be called earlier in the day and an evening storm can change at the last minute. She understands this is an inconvenience, but she feels this best serves the town.

Chief Police: Appreciates Mr. Royal's comments and concerns on this. His department has the ugly job of enforcing this. There are officers that see Mr. Royal's side of this but they must make sure the highway department can do their job without obstructions. It is hard to use discretion and also maintain consistency so people don't have to be left guessing.

This article is a petition with no money attached so the Board will not be offering a recommendation on this.

This goes to deliberative session on February 4<sup>th</sup> at 9AM.

## **7. Regular Business**

### **a. Tax, Water/Sewer Abatements & Exemptions**

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Belanger moved to grant map 68/lot 6/unit 428, 68/6/735, 73/49/46 52/105 68/6/113, 72/175. 80/1, 73/49/50, 104/84 all in the amount of \$500, Selectman Clement Seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOITON:** Selectwoman Belanger moved to grant 95/64/388 in the amount of \$2000, Selectman Clement seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Belanger moved to grant 52/104 in the amount of \$2000 Selectman Clement seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Selectwoman Belanger moved to grant 65/89 in the amount of \$1000, Selectman Clement seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **b. Permits & Approvals**

There were none

### **c. Town Managers Report**

Will be held off onto the next meeting.

### **d. Select Board Committee Reports**

Selectwoman Gilman said they went over the LCHIP grant for cemetery at the Heritage Committee meeting. There will be an interview committee for the proposals on this project. They also talked about the area survey of Park Street area.

Selectwoman Gilman is on the Municipal County Government Committee and they have 80 bills to go through between now and the end of March. She would like to publish in the packet or here for the public when all the committees are meeting. Mr. Dean said Exeter is fortunate that Selectwoman Gilman is part of this committee and would be amendable to adding this information to the packet.

Selectman Clement said the planning board met last week and they moved forward the zoning articles. The E911 committee met and it was organizational and there is a lot moving forward here.

Selectwoman Surman said the Conservation Commission met last week, and a representative from C-Rise was there who will also appear before this Board to provide more information. They spent most of the meeting getting ready for the land use board meeting. Ginny Raub did a fabulous job. The Snowshoe at the Raynes Farm Property will be on February 10<sup>th</sup>. They are trying to do a signup due to parking issues. They were also involved with a lot line adjustment with Stratham.

Selectwoman Gilman forgot to mention the All Boards meeting that was last week. There was a reworking of the Master Plan, they broke into small groups to discuss this. From that was the first real

public discussion on the master plan. They sent out questionnaire to every Board and Commission to get the conversation going. Looking forward to the January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting on this.

#### **e. Correspondence**

Letter from the Court Appointed Special Advocate thanking for human services donation.

Letter to Jennifer Perry – this is the wetlands permit for the Waste Water Facility from the Department of Environmental Services.

#### **8. Board Interviews: Historic District Commission**

Nicholas Gray, 4 Moore Lane is applying for multiple commissions and Boards. He recently completed school in California, his long-term goal is to find more local work and remain living in Exeter. He is working in East Hartford and not afraid of commuting. He will be in Exeter 4-5 Nights a week. He is looking for a Historic District Commission, alternative spot on planning Board. Selectwoman Gilman thanked him for his interest but these two land use Boards and he cannot serve on both. Selectwoman Belanger is impressed that he is so interested in three Boards and thanked him for stepping forward. Selectwoman Surman said this was an ambitious undertaking and was glad to have him aboard. Selectman Clement stated that the planning board meets twice a month and the HDC meets once a month in case it plays into his aggressive work schedule. Selectman Clement said he would provide insight and a new perspective and would well serve. Mr. Gray said it is his pleasure to do this, and he hopes to inspire other young people to join as well. Selectman Chartrand thanked Mr. Gray for his application.

#### **9. Review Board Calendar**

Selectman Chartrand said there is a Master Plan Input Session from 6:30-8:30PM at the high school.

Board Meeting Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM

Deliberative Session, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 9AM.

#### **10. Non Public Session**

There was no nonpublic session.

#### **11. Adjournment**

Selectwoman Belanger motioned to adjourn, seconded by Selectwoman Gilman. The Board stood adjourned at 10:10PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Dionne, Recording Secretary