

Final Minutes

Exeter Board of Selectmen Meeting

July 1, 2013

1. Non-Public Session

Chairman Clement called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Wheelwright Room of the Town Offices. A motion was made to enter a non public session under RSA 91:A:3 exception II c for a hardship fee waiver. Selectman Ferraro spoke about the non public session and gave his reasons for not supporting the motion. After deliberation a roll call vote was taken to enter and results were Ferraro nay, Gilman nay, Chartrand aye, Quandt aye, and Clement aye.

2. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Don Clement called the business meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Offices building. Other members present were Vice Chairman Dan Chartrand, Selectman Frank Ferraro, Selectwoman Julie Gilman, and Selectman Matt Quandt. Town Manager Russell Dean was also present.

3. Public Comment

NH Senator Prescott spoke, talking about the state budget. He said the vote was 24-0 on the budget. He spoke about education being a priority and said he wants to make sure people are still attending college in the state. He said they are going to restore monies to secondary education and the hospital situation. The budget also appropriates \$300,000,000 more for full funding for the developmentally disabled waitlist. He said L-Chip fees in NH were a discussion topic and they want to make sure it is used as it is supposed to be used. Overall, Senator Prescott said there has been a growth in the economy and they are working to try to keep tax increases at a minimum. He also told the Board he hopes they know how to get a hold of him if needed and said he would exchange telephone numbers, etc. so he can be contacted.

Vice Chair Chartrand congratulated the Senator on the budget outcome and told him they are doing wonderful things.

Mr. Griset had some issues with the clarity of the agenda. He said there was no packet available online the day of the meeting. He said the Board was not in compliance with the law, saying they did not follow their original agenda therefore violating 91-A. Chairman Clement said the Board took a vote to go into a non-public session. Selectman Quandt mentioned it is up to the Chairman to declare where the non-public meetings are held. Mr. Griset asked the Board why they left the Nowak Room for their non-public meeting. Chairman Clement answered that they are always held in the Wheelwright Room.

Gail Ferraro spoke agreeing with Mr. Griset and said Friday's agenda said the July 1 meeting was at 7:00 in the Nowak Room and there was supposed to be an announcement that they Board was going into a non-public session. She went on to say she felt there were some "shenanigans" going on.

Brandon Stauber spoke saying he printed off the agenda and hour and a half prior to the meeting and agreed that the Board violated 91-A.

4. Minutes & Proclamations

a. Regular Meeting: June 17, 2013

Selectwoman Gilman had an amendment, changing "Chairman Gilman" to "Selectwoman Gilman" on page 4, paragraph 6.

Selectman Ferraro had an amendment, changing page 4, paragraph 2, sentence 2, to read "The first being, on the first bullet, he wanted to specify getting the Board's views known as well as getting others views.

Selectman Ferraro had an amendment the wording under "Permits", paragraph 2, adding "...insurance for extra seating and requiring the placement and maintenance of a trash receptacle...". Also, amending the Motion to read "A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectman Quandt to approve an additional 8 seats for Orange Leaf seating on the sidewalk provided they provide a certificate of insurance and require the placement and maintenance of a trash can."

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Gilman to accept the minutes of the June 17, 2013 Board of Selectman meeting, as amended by Selectwoman Gilman and Selectman Ferraro. Motion carried – all in favor.

5. Appointments

No appointments.

6. Discussion/Action Items

a. New Business

I. Discussion: Town Hall Repairs

Chairman Clement said they are working with the insurer on the Town Hall repair project. Russ Dean said they have broken the recovery period up saying the first goal was getting finance back into the building. The second thing was getting the

scope of services for repair. They have to get the scope approved by the insurer first. The town also had lead and asbestos tests done, of which the results have not come back yet. Mr. Dean went on to say Primex has the preliminary estimate from the contractor. He said it will take approximately 90 days to complete work once it starts. Mr. Dean was unsure about when the start would be.

Vice Chair Chartrand said he had to move a scheduled event in May to the Middle School and said how fortunate the town is to have a place like the Town Hall. He went on to say it is unfortunate to not have it now but it has turned into appreciation for the building and getting it up and running again.

Mr. Dean said the work includes putting in new second floor hard wood flooring and some work on the stairs. He said safety is their number one priority in the repairs.

Selectman Ferraro thanked the groups and organizations that have allowed rescheduled events to be held at their place and the town is working together to make sure community events and meeting are still happening.

Chairman Clement said he is disappointed as to where the progress is today. He asked Mr. Dean to push as hard as he can to get this work done.

Mr. Griset spoke, asking what the actual damage was and what was the cause of the excessive damage.

Chairman Clement explained what happened, saying there was a fire in the back room upstairs on the second floor. The sprinkler system went off and put the fire out but the fire fighters still had to come in with their hoses which cause excessive water damage as it went through the floors and down the stairwell. Mr. Dean added saying there is a lot of electrical work that needs to be done too.

II. COAST: Route Changes/Updates

Jeremy Larose, manager at COAST, spoke about the new routes the bus company provides. He started by telling about the service, saying it is a public agency that provides public transportation. He said this is an affordable alternative to driving if you have to travel to a different surrounding town for work, etc. He went on to say that after conducting surveys the past couple years, the company learned that people wanted to add a new route to the schedule which started earlier in the morning and traveled farther then it did before. So the company started new routes in April and Mr. Larose said it is becoming more successful. He went on to talk about where the new routes traveled and said they now have an

earlier route that goes to Portsmouth. Mr. Larose said this route had its strongest month ever in June.

Selectwoman Gilman thanked Jeremy for his update and said she appreciates the work they have done.

The Supervisor at COAST spoke next, saying the company has grown tremendously over the past 10 years. He said that one part that is growing but has not had much support in terms of budget is the ADA program which provides people with disabilities transportation. He said they need a huge increase on budget for 2014 as he expects to see huge growths in this area in the future. He said he would be more than happy to come back and give a detailed presentation to break down the complicated process and explain why this type of transportation is so much more expensive. Vice Chair Chartrand asked how many rides they give annually under the ADA program and the supervisor answered around 14,000, which he said is very few but the cost is very high.

Selectwoman Gilman and Selectman Quandt said they would like to see a presentation. Chairman Clement asked how long the presentation would be and the supervisor answered around 30 minutes. Selectman Ferraro said he would also like to see the presentation and mentioned inviting the budget committee and transportation committee to join. Chairman Clement agreed and thanked COAST for the update.

III. Franklin Street Survey Grant - DHR

Selectwoman Gilman said the Heritage Commission got the grant to do the mapping project. Franklin Street was recommended to do an area survey. The grant was approved at \$14,400 for this survey. She is looking for a motion to accept proposed funding. Selectman Quandt asked how it will benefit Franklin Street. Selectwoman Gilman answered it benefits the town and the town's heritage and it may be useful information to obtain. Chairman Clement said it's not just Franklin Street but the surrounding streets as well.

A Motion was made by Selectman Ferraro and seconded by Selectman Quandt to approve the Certificate of Municipalities and the accompanying exhibits A, B, and C to name Selectwoman Gilman as administrator with the authority to sign all associated documents. Motion carried – all in favor, with the exception of Selectwoman Gilman's abstention.

IV. Discussion: RSA 79-E

Mr. Dean talked about a June EDC meeting where RSA 79-E was discussed. He told the Board about the statute, explaining it is the Community Revitalization

Tex Relief Incentive statute. Exeter has not yet adopted this statute. Mr. Dean said RSA 79-E has been adopted by other communities around the State. He said Newmarket Mills recently asked for relief for a three year period and the law was instrumental in making the project a reality. Mr. Dean went on to say this can be passed by the Town Meeting, but it would need a majority vote.

Vice Chair Chartrand asked if 79-E would be only for existing buildings. Mr. Dean answered yes, for rehabilitation. Selectman Quandt said he would like for the EDC to look more at this statute and report back. Selectman Ferraro would like to ask the EDC to evaluate 79-E and make some recommendations.

Don Woodward asked if 79-E would help the train station. Chairman Clement said it would not.

Selectwoman Gilman would like to look more into 79-E:4, saying downtown is a historic area and doing work would alter that. Vice Chair Chartrand said he would carry this information back to the EDC. Chairman Clement said they would get more from the EDC about this statute.

iv. Discussion: Social Media Policy

Chairman Clement wants to look and make sure there are good social media rules. He wants to look at the rules and boundaries and make sure the town employees follow the guidelines. He went on to say there is a lot of good to social media. A lot of residents look on the town website, facebook, etc for information. He wants to make sure there is a policy in place to ensure it is being done properly. He is not looking for a policy tonight.

Vice Chair Chartrand said having a policy is fine, but this is not in response to a problem. Since there is no current issue with any social media, he does not think they should be overly restrictive.

Selectman Ferraro thinks it should fall on the department head to make sure their site is done properly. He went on to say he thinks the Chairman should be held responsible for the committee's sites.

Mr. Dean wanted to encourage people to "like" all the facebook pages. He said there is no question that social media is getting information out rapidly. People are appreciative and social media is used to get information out into the community. Since the town has been successful at keeping the information relevant, Mr. Dean would advocate that the policy be as light as possible. Mr. Dean talked about the town of Rindge's policy, saying it is a good policy to duplicate. Selectman Quandt said he is comfortable with the content of the Rindge policy.

Brandon Stauber spoke, saying he attended a meeting the prior week where social media was largely talked about and he retained a lot of good information and offered it to the Board.

Chairman Clement asked Mr. Dean to come up with a policy and bring it to the next meeting.

b. Old Business

I. Public Drinking Ordinance

In looking at the different policies for NH communities, Mr. Dean said he managed to find quite a few communities that are doing this. He read a memo that he provided to the Board, which gave examples of multiple towns/cities in NH and their public drinking policies.

Chairman Clement reminded the Board that Selectman Quandt would like the Board to be involved in the waiver process.

Vice Chair Chartrand said he does not think there is a problem and thinks the Board is spending time on something that is not an issue. He is confident in the town officials who permit this.

Selectman Ferraro thinks the Board should be involved in the chain of approval.

Chairman Clement would like to limit it to certain areas of town.

Gerry Hamel, trustee of Swasey Parkway, spoke about the topic. He said the trustees like limiting what can be done. He thinks the Powderkeg Festival was a success and good for the town, but if the town starts opening the floodgates so every event can have this there might be a problem. Mr. Hamel says the trustees do not want everything turning into a party.

Selectman Quandt would like to see a rough draft of a new policy. Selectman Ferraro made the some suggestions for a new policy, adding the BOS in the waiver process.

6. Regular Business

a. Bid Openings /Surplus Declarations

Mr. Dean said there was a request from the IT department to declare 7 pc's surplus for purposes of disposal.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectman Quandt to declare 7 pc's surplus for the purpose of disposal. Motion carried – Selectwoman Gilman and Selectman Quandt in favor, Selectman Ferraro opposed.

Bid Openings for a 2001 pick-up truck from the Parks and Rec dept.:

BC Kenerson Construction, LLC \$2,002

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Gilman and seconded by Selectman Ferraro to accept the bid. Motion carried – all in favor.

Bid Openings for the Swasey park bench stone pad installation:

Rye Beach Landscaping \$25,480 or \$728 per bench

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectman Quandt to refer this bid to the Swasey Parkway trustees. Motion carried – all in favor.

b. A/P and Payroll Manifests

A Motion was made Selectwoman Gilman and seconded by Vice Chair Chartrand to approve payroll disbursements for checks dated June 26, 2013 in the amount of \$171,686.04. Motion carried – all in favor.

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Gilman and seconded by Vice Chair Chartrand to approve payroll disbursement checks dated June 19, 2013 in the amount of \$164,987.26. Motion carried – all in favor.

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Gilman and seconded by Vice Chair Chartrand to approve accounts warrant for checks dated July 1, 2013 in the amount of \$2,824,957. Motion carried – all in favor.

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Gilman and seconded by Vice Chair Chartrand to approve accounts payable warrant from the capital funds in the amount of \$46,169.55. Motion carried – all in favor.

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Gilman and seconded by Vice Chair Chartrand to approve account payable warrant for checks dated June 21, 2013 in the amount of \$355,812.20. Motion carried – all in favor.

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Gilman and seconded by Vice Chair Chartrand to approve account payable warrant for checks dated June 28, 2013 in the amount of \$352,394.62. Motion carried – all in favor.

c. Tax, Water/Sewer Abatements and Exemptions

None.

d. Permits

None.

e. Town Manager's Report

Mr. Dean had nothing to report.

f. Legislative Update

Mr. Dean said there is a meeting on July 16 for the Wastewater Grant Program Reinstatement.

g. Selectmen's Committee Reports

Selectman Ferraro attended the Safety Committee meeting. They talked about fire evacuation plans and fire drills. He said it was a good meeting. He also said Planning Board met and said the Lamperts presented their plans. He is looking forward to further meetings with them. He said River Study Committee met. There was a good presentation, but there is still work to be done.

Vice Chairman Chartrand had nothing to report.

Selectwoman Gilman said 375th shirts are in, but not for sale yet. She said the Heritage Demolition Commission met about demo of a porch.

Selectman Quandt recognized Mr. Joseph McCarthy who recently passed and was a member of the Town's Cable Advisory Committee. Mr. McCarthy's nephew gave the town his uncle's flag to hang in his honor as he was a veteran.

Chairman Clement said there was an RPC session at the high school. He also went to the Dam Study meeting last week.

j. Correspondence

Chairman Clement talked about the following correspondence:

- National Joint Powers Alliance about bid requirements
- Legislative Bulletin
- A Webinar July 17 about Right to Know Law
- A Letter from Wendy Parker
- BSR Ordered Return of 2010 Surplus
- An update about HB630

7. Review Board Calendar

Chairman Clement said the next meeting is July 15. They are going to use that meeting to consider deeding properties that are liened, so the agenda will be kept light. Selectman Ferraro would like to have someone from Mitchell Law Firm come speak. Mr. Dean said he will check their availability

A Motion was made by Selectman Quandt and seconded by Selectwoman Gilman to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 pm. Motion carried – all in favor.

Respectively submitted,

Nicole McCormack
Recording Secretary