

**Exeter Board of Selectmen Meeting
Monday, March 9th, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
Nowak Room, Town Office Building
10 Front Street, Exeter, NH**

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Bid Openings/Awards
3. Public Comment
4. Minutes & Proclamations
 - a. Proclamations/Recognitions
 - b. Regular Meetings: February 23rd, 2015
 - c. Special Meetings: February 18th, 2015
5. Appointments
6. Discussion/Action Items
 - a. New Business
 - i. Update: WISE (Watershed Integration Exeter Squamscott)
 - ii. Set 2015 Goals Meeting Date
 - iii. Committee Appointment List
 - b. Old Business-
 - i. TBD
7. Regular Business
 - a. Tax, Water/Sewer Abatements & Exemptions
 - b. Permits & Approvals
 - c. Town Manager's Report
 - d. Selectmen's Committee Reports
 - e. Correspondence
8. Review Board Calendar
9. Non Public Session
10. Adjournment

Julie Gilman, Chairwoman
Exeter Selectboard

Posted: 03/06/15 Town Office, Town Website

Persons may request an accommodation for a disabling condition in order to attend this meeting. It is asked that such requests be made with 72 hours notice. If you do not make such a request, you may do so with the Town Manager prior to the start of the meeting. No requests will be considered once the meeting has begun.

AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Draft Minutes

Exeter Board of Selectmen

February 23, 2015

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairwoman Julie Gilman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Offices building. Other members present were Vice Chair Dan Chartrand, Selectwoman Nancy Belanger, Selectwoman Anne Surman, and Selectman Don Clement. Town Manager Russell Dean was also present.

2. Board Interview – EDC, River Study Committee

The Board conducted interviews in the Wheelwright Room at 6:45 pm.

Chairwoman Gilman moved right to Proclamations/Recognitions, recognizing Don Briselden as a great Exeter volunteer. The 2014 Annual Report was dedicated to Don Briselden. Mr. Briselden thanked the Board. The Report tells of great history and heritage in Exeter. He read a quote from the Report, which was about being a volunteer in Exeter. He shared his dedication with all the volunteers for the town.

3. Bid Openings/Awards

None.

4. Public Comment

Chairwoman Gilman said they would be talking about the TIF later in the meeting. The public hearing is on the TIF district plan. She suggested any zoning ordinance comments be talked about in Public Comment and not when the TIF comes up in the agenda.

Beth Dupell thanked everyone for Articles 12 and 13, which pertain to the sidewalks. She told everyone how this is a safety issue, not for beautification. It is important that the sidewalks get fixed. Mr. Briselden seconded these comments. He said that the EDC has endorsed both articles and particularly the brick enhancement.

5. Minutes and Proclamations

a. Proclamations/Recognitions

See above.

b. Regular Meeting: February 9, 2015

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to accept the minutes of the February 9, 2015 BOS meeting, as respectfully submitted by Nicole Piper, recording secretary. Motion carried – all in favor.

6. Appointments – ZBA, River Study Committee

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to appoint David Mirsky as an alternate member to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Motion carried – all in favor.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to appoint Ian Smith to the Exeter Economic Development Commission. Motion carried – all in favor.

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Surman and seconded by Selectman Clement to appoint Frank Ferraro to the River Study Committee. Motion carried with a 3-1 vote, and Belanger abstaining.

7. Discussion/Action Items

a. New Business

i) Epping Road TIF: Continued Public Hearing

Chairwoman Gilman said they are continuing the meeting hearing from two weeks ago.

A friend of Kathy Corson read a letter from Ms. Corson about her feelings on this TIF district. She said she supports the idea of a TIF, but she does not support the TIF on this year's ballot. She said it is imperative to plan properly. They need to start by defining economic development. She said two of the largest parcels in this TIF district do not have water/sewer and will have many residential properties. She has fears of relinquishing commercial property to residential. There needs to be a clear and precise plan. She thinks if they waited a year on this, there could be more jobs. She urged residents to vote no on all the articles pertaining to the TIF.

Bob Prior spoke, and said he doesn't believe commercial property should have been converted into residential. He said as Chair of the ZBA, he personally voted against this variance and argued against it. He is in favor of economic development but not in favor of this situation.

Gerry Hamel said he agrees with Ms. Corson about converting to residential. He said whether they approve the TIF or not, these things can still happen. He said in 2013 he presented the Board with 200 acres on Epping Road and nothing has happened. He said things aren't moving quickly here as people think. He said they have waited too long for this infrastructure. He is in favor of this TIF and hopes people will go out and vote for it. He said it is time to get this done.

Selectman Clement said the TIF with water/sewer will bring in many more developers that will actually compete with residential. He said without the TIF, residential could happen here anyways.

Kris Vaughan said when the cost of the road is added up it seems kind of speculative. She said payoff was mentioned as 20 years, so we realize tax relief after this is paid off. She said they need to look at when the benefits will happen. She said things feel incomplete to her. She does not think this looks like a positive for taxpayers right now.

Mr. Dean said the breakeven point is \$23 million of the assessed value. He said the assessed value does not exist right now. They have put a \$132 million estimate on the work Mr. Winham has done. He said if development occurs, the town will tax and revenue is brought in.

Karen Prior urged voters to separate the article pertaining to TIF. She said they all work together, but are different.

Harry Thayer said the industrial park on Epping Road has been successful and brought in revenue. He supports all three articles about TIF.

Dave Wilson, Exeter resident, asked how many studies were done on the overpass. He wondered if there has been a study done on Brentwood Road, the funeral home, and the schools. He is concerned about traffic and all the anticipated traffic the TIF will cause. He thinks with the traffic, all the residential talk will be a big mistake. He said traffic will be backed up. He thinks they should take a year on the TIF. He talked about his experience with this, and said he lives in the area of the TIF and already sits in traffic as it is. Selectman Clement said very often when a large project like this comes before the Planning Board, they require a traffic study to be done. Mr. Wilson said there should have been a study done when the area was switched from industrial to commercial. He said he likes the idea of the TIF, but said they have waited long enough and they could wait another year. Selectman Clement said traffic is always an issue, and it is an issue that can be overcome.

Mr. Winham said he has been saying the same thing all the time. He said residential will be ZBA's call. He said the TIF is a tool to cultivate economic development. He said folks need to

look at the positive here. He said they are proposing to use this tool for the building of the infrastructure, water and sewer. He said they are doing this to develop smart, sustainable parcels. Mr. Dean wanted to remind everyone that the road, water and sewer improvements are not paid for by the taxpayers.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to close the public hearing. Motion carried - all in favor.

Selectwoman Surman said she has heard a lot about delaying this from the public. She reminded everyone that the process will still be the process. Each development will be looked at in terms of traffic and other specifics. She supports the TIF. The Board is who urged Mr. Winham to do this TIF work. The TIF will provide jobs. This TIF will provide the infrastructure to get developers in there.

Vice Chair Chartrand said this is a great discussion. He does not think this TIF is something that is being pushed too far too fast. He said that every Selectboard member he has ever worked with all agree that this is the right thing to do. He said they do need to develop their tax base. He said there are a lot of great points about how this will not work, but they are in a great position to embrace this and get what is wanted. He thinks the TIF is going to be a huge success.

Selectman Clement wanted to reiterate his support for the TIF. He said this is not just about bringing in tax revenue (which he said is important), but also about bringing job opportunities which will bring in younger families. He thinks delaying this for a year will bring them to next year delaying it again and missed opportunities.

Chairwoman Gilman agreed with the Board. She also supports the TIF. She wanted to reiterate what Selectwoman Surman said about the process. She said there is a plan. Concerns will be brought up in each process. She said issues need to be brought up at the Planning Board as well. She gave her endorsement for these articles.

ii) Quarterly Financial Report

Doreen Ravell presented the Quarterly Report, saying this report would consist of review of year end 2014. She said in the General Fund, the property tax revenue is up 1.8% over 2013. She said motor vehicle permit fees are up 12% or \$255,000. Building permits and fees are up 17%. Other permits and fees are up \$19,000 over the previous year. Meals and Rooms is up 9%. She said there is more money in the Highway Block Grant. Income from departments is up 4.5%. Interest income is down \$759. There was a sale of a deeded property on Exeter Road for \$56,000. The HealthTrust refunds are at \$208,000 versus \$328,000 last year.

Ms. Ravell went on to the General Fund expenses. General Government had a slight increase of \$2600. Legal had a \$22,000 decrease. Finance had a decrease in assessing of \$8200, but overall is up 1.6%. Planning and Building had a 10% increase, but she said it will go down in 2015. Economic Development had an increase of \$46,000. Police and Fire are up, as the extra payroll week was factored in. In Public Works, snow removal went over in 2014. The ending fund balance was \$3.2 million. Mr. Dean said overall 2014 was a tight year budget wise with a small surplus.

Ms. Ravell went on to the Water Fund. Overall, there was a 2% or \$38,000 increase in revenues over last year. Expenses are about 15% higher than last year. The ending fund balance is \$1.1 million.

Next, Ms. Ravell went on the Sewer Fund. The fund got a grant, adding an additional \$6000. There was an 8% increase in revenue over last year. The ending fund balance was \$1.49 million. There was discussion about over spending in the sewer fund. Money had come out of reserves to retire debt issues.

In the Recreation Revolving Fund, there was a slight decrease over last year. There was \$489,000 in total revenue. The ending fund balance was \$81,442. Mr. Dean said the pool resurfacing will take place this spring. In the Cable TV Revolving Fund, there was a surplus of \$41,480. The ending fund balance was \$160,167. Next, was the Ambulance Revolving Fund. The revenues in this fund decreased by \$52,000 in 2014. The ending fund balance was \$105,581. The net income decreased 27%.

Ms. Ravell next talked about the Property Tax/Liens Receivable. She said that as of 12/31/14, 97% of the 2014 property taxes billed of \$40 million were paid. On Water/Sewer Receivables, Selectman Clement asked if they are collecting on that one outstanding sewer bill. Mr. Dean said yes and he is working on something to bring to the Board in regards to this.

b. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

8. Regular Business

a. Tax, Water/Sewer Abatements & Exemptions

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Surman and seconded by Selectman Clement to approve the following Veteran's Credits, both for \$500.00, for the following map/lot/units: 68/6/632 and 87/8/A-12. Motion carried - all in favor.

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Surman and seconded by Vice Chair Chartrand to approve the denial of an Elderly Exemption for map 28, lot 20. Motion carried - all in favor.

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Surman and seconded by Selectman Clement to approve an Elderly Exemption for map 64, lot 105, unit 6, in the amount of \$152,251. Motion carried - all in favor.

b. Permits & Approvals

There were no permits or approvals.

c. Town Manager's Report

Mr. Dean waived his Town Manager's Report.

d. Committee Reports

Selectwoman Belanger had nothing to report.

Vice Chair Chartrand reported an EDC meeting on March 3.

Selectwoman Surman had a Swasey Trustees meeting on February 4.

Selectman Clement had a Planning Board meeting and a Rockingham Planning Committee meeting.

Chairwoman Gilman reported no meetings. She reminded everyone of a meeting about the dam removal on the 24th at 6:30pm at the Exeter Historic Society.

e. Correspondence

The following correspondence were included in the packet:

- A letter from the American Independence Museum
- A letter from the REDC announcing a series of informative public visioning workshops coming in March.
- A letter to Paul Scarponi from Doug Eastman regarding a Waiver Request from Section 701.5 of the Exeter Town Ordinance.

9. Review Board Calendar

The next BOS meeting will be March 9, 2015.

11. Adjournment

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to adjourn the meeting at 9:11pm. Motion carried - all in favor.

Respectively submitted,

Nicole Piper
Recording Secretary

Draft Minutes

Exeter Board of Selectmen

February 18, 2015

Call Meeting to Order

Chairwoman Julie Gilman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Offices building. Other members present were Vice Chair Dan Chartrand, Selectwoman Nancy Belanger, Selectwoman Anne Surman, and Selectman Don Clement. Town Manager Russell Dean was also present.

Chairwoman Gilman called for Public Comment, of which there was none.

1. Dumpster Agreement

Chairwoman Gilman explained who the agreement is between. Mr. Dean said everything is in order. He said Section 2 has been tweaked to reflect a 90 day notice to terminate to the licensee instead of 30 days. The agreement has been vetted by town counsel. The lease will run from April 1 through March 31.

Chairwoman Gilman wondered about future businesses. She said the lease now is for current lessees. Mr. Dean said this will come up every year so if there are new lessees they can be discussed then.

Chairwoman Gilman asked about the emptying of containers and wanted to make sure it was in the lease that the town was not responsible. Mr. Dean asked if they wanted it in there that the lease is subject to a waste contract.

Selectwoman Surman asked how many parking spaces would be lost for the trash cans to go there. Darren Winham said three. Selectwoman Surman said she would need to see a vendor agreement with Waste Management or whoever will be dumping. She said it is tied to this. She said using town property to help specific businesses may lead to other businesses requesting town property. She said it is muddy waters mixing town with private businesses. She is not in favor of parking being taken away. Vice Chair Chartrand said he agrees about the parking but thinks this is a good use for those spots. He said it will clean up that end of town which has many restaurants. Selectman Clement said he is hesitant giving up three parking spots. He asked if the town should be compensated for the parking spaces. He also thinks it should be in the contract about a waste vendor. He wondered if paragraph one where "public dumpster" is referenced should be clarified so the general public doesn't think they can dump there. He asked if the licensee will be responsible for construction, and if there is only one licensee or multiple licensees. Chairwoman Gilman said that was discussed the last time this topic was discussed and said if there are more licensees there will need to be more pickups.

Vice Chair Chartrand said they are counting on the licensee to make sure this works. If it does not, the agreement can be terminated. Selectwoman Belanger asked who is responsible for repairs if the gate is damaged. She asked for clarity in the agreement. She said she is in favor of working with the community to get stuff done. She and Chairwoman Gilman agreed that they are trying to enhance the downtown. Parking may be lost, but if the area is not cleaned up then the restaurants may lose patrons.

Mr. Winham said he too is concerned with parking in town. He said this is an incredibly good use for parking space loss. Jeff Turner will be responsible for the construction of the gate. The location for this is good. He said the dumpsters currently on Water Street are not in the best location. Mr. Turner's insurance will be responsible for any damage, this language is in Section 4 A and B. He said they will be happy to show any new customers. This can also help businesses save money. Jeff Turner agreed with Mr. Winham and added that he thinks other businesses will get on board with this.

Frank Ferraro said it is a good idea to have it in a centralized location. He said just to make sure everything is in writing. He had a suggestion for parking. He said the town owns the old Getty station land. He wondered if the dumpsters could go there and conserve the three parking spots.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger that the Board of Selectmen approve the License Agreement subject to the Highway Superintendent's final approval of plans for the trash enclosure and the attachment of a waste removal agreement with the licensee. Selectman Clement and Selectwoman Surman said they would prefer to see a written agreement before approving anything. Selectman Clement asked if the abutter has been spoke to. Mr. Dean said he thinks the property is for sale. Mr. Winham said no, they did not go to any individuals. Mr. Dean said he heard the term "lease" and said that is the Board's call, but will be more complex. He said this is a year to year license. He suggested making things known the Board wants known within the license. Vice Chair Chartrand urged the Board not to turn this into a revenue stream, as it was discussed if the town should be compensated for the parking spaces. With a Motion on the table, the Board voted 2-3, Chartrand and Belanger voting aye, and Gilman, Surman and Clement voting nay. Motion fails.

2. Water Agreement Proposal: Town of Stratham

Chairwoman Gilman said the point of this agreement is to supply Stratham with water. Stratham will be supplying their own infrastructure.

Selectwoman Surman had a few questions. In Section 3 she wondered what new businesses who wanted to link in would pay. In Section 1 she said there is no kind of penalty charge for overage. She read a proposed section she came up with including a penalty clause.

Chairwoman Gilman said there needs to be language protecting Exeter if Exeter's system fails to operate.

Selectman Clement agrees with Selectwoman Surman about the overage. He talked about the BOS being more involved than Public Works. Chairwoman Gilman said Public Works is authorized because they can act more quickly than the BOS. Selectman Clement asked about what the cost will be to set up the connection from the Exeter to Stratham. He wondered about additional costs. He said he would like to get a translation of the potential 125,000 gallons per day into dollars in terms of Tier 2 or Tier 3. He also wondered why #8 was in there.

Bob Kelly, Chair of the Water/Sewer Advisory Committee said they decided it would make sense to partner with Stratham. It is a good revenue stream. He said they spent the last year coming up with a negotiated draft agreement. He said the 125,000 gallons per day was Stratham's request. He said they have been going back and forth internally if this number is an average. He said the questions about overage are reasonable. He recommended not penalizing Stratham for overage. In regards to the rate, he said they went back and forth and felt they would do better off if they sell the utility with new facilities they have coming. He said in regards to Section 3, it is based on what is reasonable. Stratham understands it is reasonable. The 40% was almost pulled out of the air and everyone agrees it is a good number. If there is any new customer, a new updated fee would come into place. He said the current impact fees are outdated. Selectwoman Surman said she would want language in there. Mr. Kelly said Stratham is a metered customer. Selectwoman Surman said any new businesses that tie in should pay an impact fee. Vice Chair Chartrand said he would not be in favor of charging an impact fee to future customers. Mr. Kelly said Exeter is getting a lot of assistance from their new customer – Stratham.

Mr. Dean said the annual revenue for 125,000 gallons per day is \$279,000-\$300,000 a year using current rates. Selectman Clement said this makes a good reference. Mr. Kelly said the rates will go up over the next several years. Water rates will be going up. He said this is a good way to get things done.

Mr. Kelly said #8 is in there for the future. Stratham thought it was important enough so it was put in there. He said Exeter is not inclined right now, but things may change.

Mr. Kelly said this agreement names the draft points as the basis for negotiations with Stratham. He said Stratham has indicated they want an agreement. Stratham wanted some sort of indication that Exeter is on board before their March meeting.

Selectwoman Belanger asked if there is a connection point designated. Mr. Kelly said south of 101, in that general area.

Vice Chair Chartrand thinks it is in the interest of the rate payers to move forward on this. He thinks the 40% "buy-in" is great. He is in favor of this framework.

Selectman Clement said this is a good revenue source. He thinks it is good for the taxpayers. He said Stratham has to be able to make some money back too, so who knows what they will charge their users. He likes where things are so far. He would like to see a more detailed contract. He likes the concept of a buy-in fee.

Brian Griset is in opposition of this. He asked if Exeter is giving up the TIF capacity to Stratham. He asked what volume of water will be needed for the TIF. He asked if they will have the capacity to go up to the high school. He asked where the water will even come from. He asked for a study saying that Exeter alone will have enough water.

Next, Mr. Griset talked about the 10% surcharge. He wondered why the surcharge is not included in the agreement.

In regards to paragraph 3, Mr. Griset said not to take the fact that impact fees haven't been updated as an excuse for pulling the 40% (\$2 million) out of the air. He said this needs to be prioritized.

Mr. Dean and the Board asked Mr. Griset to put all his concerns in writing and to submit them to the Board so they don't miss anything. Mr. Griset said he would do that.

Next, Mr. Griset said some things need to be added, i.e. an expiration date and terms of the agreement. The Board reminded Mr. Griset that this is just a framework.

Mr. Griset wondered if there is a drought what rights does Exeter have to withhold water. He wondered why Exeter is pursuing this when it could offset any gains from the TIF.

Frank Ferraro talked about promises made when the new Groundwater Treatment Plant comes in. Promises of better water, cheaper, and not as much stress on a dated plant. He asked people not to confuse revenue with profit. He went on to say Stratham's tax rate is half of Exeter's, and he thinks with giving them water, Stratham will be more of a desirable place to live. He next recommended to stop referring to this as a "buy-in" to the treatment plant. He thinks it will confuse folks that they are part owner.

Chairwoman Gilman asked for the consensus of the Board to move forward with the framework of this. Vice Chair Chartrand and Selectwoman Belanger are in favor. Selectman Clement said they could go back and forth about competing with Stratham. He thinks they should talk about other things other than Stratham's tax rate. He doesn't want to hinder economic development. He is comfortable with the framework of this but said there is still a lot of work to be done. Mr. Dean said Stratham is just looking for a consensus now, which Chairwoman Gilman said the consensus of the Board is to keep things moving forward.

3. Wastewater Regional Option Update

Mr. Dean said he is scheduled to sit down with EPA to talk about the Regional Option and get some feedback. He said there is still some work to be done to evaluate the option. He said more information will be coming.

Selectman Clement said a lot of this is in Portsmouth's hands now. They are interested in exploring the option at Pease. His only concern is the clock is ticking. Jennifer Perry said that is a valid point. They are trying to move forward expeditiously.

Mr. Dean said time is important because they want feedback from the EPA. He said this is at least a \$50 million discussion. They are trying to preserve every option. They are trying to see if they should proceed with this path. Selectman Clement asked for an update of the EPA meeting after. Mr. Dean said he would provide an update.

Ms. Perry said Public Works continued with the cost information as far as the regional approach. She said they need to continue to finalize regional disposal options reports and wastewater plans.

4. Accept Household Hazardous Waste Funds

Mr. Dean said every year they do a household hazardous waste collection. The vote of the Board is needed to be able to collect the \$23,000 from the State.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger that the BOS vote to accept the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Funds and enter into a contract with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Waste Management Division for the 2015 Household Hazardous Waste Collection. Motion carried – all in favor.

Selectman Clement said he has helped out a lot in past years with this and said it is a great program.

5. Old Business

Housing Committee

Selectwoman Belanger said this is a draft to establish a Housing Advisory Committee. Mr. Dean said it contemplates five members plus one BOS rep.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger that rather than call this a draft, that we call this the founding document for the Housing Advisory Committee and we move as a Board to establish the Housing Advisory Committee for the Town of Exeter. Selectman Clement said he thinks they should have some citizen

participation too. Vice Chair Chartrand amended his Motion and Selectwoman Belanger amended her second to have two citizens at large on the Committee as well. Motion granted – all in favor.

Mr. Dean wanted to put it out there that this is moving forward and people can apply.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Surman to appoint Selectwoman Belanger as the BOS rep. Motion carried – all in favor.

Great Dam Section 106 Update

Chairwoman Gilman said there is a final report in the packet that the contractor had to provide. She said there is a public meeting on the Dam on February 24th at 6:30pm at the Exeter Historical Society.

Review Board Calendar and Adjournment

A Motion was made by Selectman Clement and seconded by Selectwoman Surman to appoint Frank Ferraro to the River Study Committee. Vice Chair Chartrand and Selectwoman Belanger said they would like an interview first. Motion fails 2-3 with Chartrand, Belanger, and Gilman voting nay so an interview can be conducted first.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Piper, recording secretary

WISE - WATER INTEGRATION FOR THE SQUAMSCOTT-EXETER THE TOWNS OF STRATHAM, NEWFIELDS, AND EXETER

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Project WISE will run from September 2013 to August 2014. The project team welcomes feedback at any point by any interested stakeholder.

Opportunities to provide feedback include:

Fall 2013: Feedback on the development of an Integrated Plan for stormwater and wastewater in the Squamscott-Exeter Watershed, including information for a multiple benefits analysis of community concerns about social, economic and environmental benefits of integrated water resources planning and the usage of Green Infrastructure.

Winter 2014: Input on land-use and pollutant load modeling, interpretations of results, feedback on scenarios for Green and Gray Infrastructure, a draft watershed monitoring framework, and provide an opportunity for you to evaluate and improve draft implementation tracking and planning tools.

Summer 2014: Feedback on Green and Gray Infrastructure scenarios in the context of the multiple benefits analysis and costing, the development of the draft Integrated Plan, and provide guidance on how to use the implementation tracking and planning tools.

*Feedback may be shared with Robert Roseen, Geosyntec Consultants, 603-686-2488
rroseen@geosyntec.com*

What's happening?

Water Integration for the Squamscott-Exeter (WISE) watershed will help Stratham, Newfields, and Exeter meet new, more stringent, wastewater and stormwater permit requirements, improve water quality in the Squamscott River and Great Bay, and support economic viability in the region. The WISE process involves officials from the Towns of Stratham, Newfields, and Exeter working with a team from Geosyntec Consultants, the University of New Hampshire, Rockingham Planning Commission, Consensus Building Institute, and the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve to develop the foundation for a Water Integration Plan that meets the needs of the three communities. Funding for Project WISE is provided by the NERRS Science Collaborative.

As communities respond to new permit requirements for discharging stormwater and wastewater, meeting regulatory requirements requires innovative ways to find effective and affordable means to meet water quality goals.

For more information, visit www.WISENH.net

What is Integrated Planning?

Integrated planning is a new concept which encourages a combination of Green Infrastructure and Gray Infrastructure for stormwater and wastewater management. Integrated planning



Chapman's Landing on the Squamscott River, Stratham, New Hampshire

provides the opportunity to significantly improve how the Clean Water Act is administered and allows municipalities to target scarce financial resources where they will have the most public health and greatest environmental benefit.

Why this project?

New Hampshire coastal communities have experienced rising populations resulting in an increase in development and wastewater effluent. As communities respond to new federal permit requirements for treating and discharging stormwater and wastewater, meeting regulatory requirements requires innovative ways to find effective and affordable means to meet water quality goals.

The neighboring towns of Stratham, Newfields, and Exeter, New Hampshire, share a history of collaboration. They share a regional school district, management of hazardous waste, and town recreation programs. More recently, representatives from the Towns of Stratham and Exeter have been working together to research and discuss sharing water and wastewater infrastructure and services. Learn more on back page...



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NATIONAL ESTUARINE
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UNIVERSITY
of NEW HAMPSHIRE

Project WISE Contacts:

Geosyntec:
Robert Roseen, Project Director
603-686-2488
rroseen@geosyntec.com



Town of Stratham:
Paul Deschaine, Town Administrator
603-772-7391
pdeschaine@strathamnh.gov



Town of Newfields:
Clay Mitchell, Town Planner
603-608-2521
planner@newfieldsnh.gov

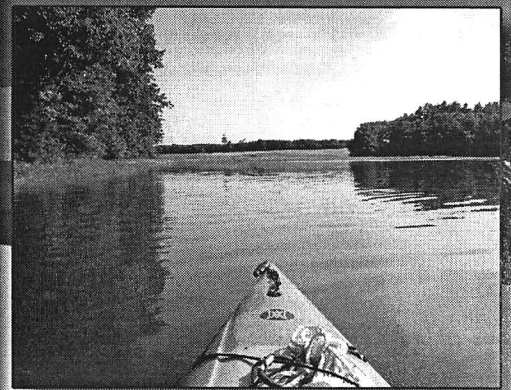
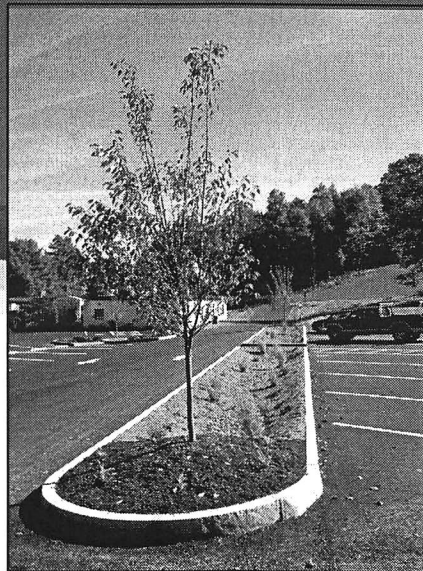


Town of Exeter:
Jennifer Perry, DPW Director
603-773-6157
perry@exeternh.gov



Rockingham Planning Commission:
Theresa Walker, Town Liaison
603-778-0885
twalker@rpc-nh.org

Website: www.WISENH.net



Green infrastructure system at the Stratham Municipal Complex (left), and kayaking on the Squamscott River

Project WISE sets the context for future collaborative success in addressing infrastructure and water quality needs in ways that are effective, sustainable and support local decision making. This project will develop an Integrated Plan to evaluate and manage water quality and impacts from extreme weather within and across municipal boundaries. The results will be used to quantify the economic and performance advantages of municipal collaboration and integration of water resource planning. Success of this new approach depends upon leadership by municipalities, trust, technical capacity and innovation, and regulatory flexibility.

How will project WISE work?

In New Hampshire local government is fundamental, and management is at a municipal scale. Watersheds typically cross multiple municipal boundaries, and collaboration is essential to the process of ensuring safe and healthy water with the least financial burden on communities.

To reach the goal of inter-municipally managing stormwater and wastewater, officials from the Towns of Stratham, Newfields, and Exeter will work in close coordination with project consultants throughout the duration of project WISE, answering key questions to enable the development of shared plans.

The Coordinating Team will manage technical components, develop materials, set Project Team agendas, and steer the group discussions to a workable outcome.

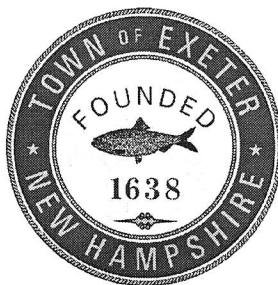
To ensure timely input from state and federal regulatory authorities, the Project Team will consult and work with representatives from US EPA Region 1 and NH Department of Environmental Services. Additional stakeholders representing organizations throughout the Great Bay watershed will provide input at key project points.

When a strategy for an Integrated Plan has been agreed upon by the towns, the research team will help develop the plan, which will provide technical resources to be used for permitting efforts.

An executive summary of results will be presented to municipal partners at a community forum. The overview will be designed to be accessible to a range of stakeholders, both in the Great Bay watershed, and in the larger water resource community.

Working together is success.

— Henry Ford



Town of Exeter
New Hampshire

April 19, 2014

Primex³
NH Public Risk Management Exchange

Center for
Public Sector
Advancement

Promoting Excellence in the Public Sector

Purpose and Intended Result of the Session

The purpose of the session was for the Board and Town Manager to come together to lay the horizon for the Town and establish goals and strategies that will help guide the Town over the next twelve (12) months.

Participants

Julie Gilman, Chairman

Dan Chartrand, Vice-Chairman

Anne Surman, Clerk

Nancy Belanger, Board of Selectmen

Donald Clement, Board of Selectmen

Russ Dean, Town Manager

The exercise was facilitated by:

Rick Alpers, Member Services Consultant, Primex³

Danielle Krause, Administrative Assistant, Primex³

2013 Goal Review Discussion

The session began with the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager reviewing the successful goals for 2013 and to identify any goals to continue working on along with the goals identified for 2014.

- Facilities plan – Goal Achieved (approved at Town Meeting)
- Communication and Technology improvements
- Housing and Development
- Population Growth
- Transportation
- Natural Resources
- Economic Development – Goal Achieved (approved at Town Meeting)
- 2014 Budget
- Natural Resources

All Board Meeting - Goal Achieved

In 2013, the Board of Selectmen, held an all boards meeting for the Town of Exeter and will be holding a second meeting on May 21, 2014. The Board of Selectmen and Town Manager were asked the following questions.

- What was the focus of last year's meeting?
- What is the focus of this year's meeting?

The focus of the 2013 all boards meeting was a meet and greet, and a review of regulations and process. Below are the topics to discuss for the upcoming all boards meeting.

Topics to Discuss

- Regulations vs. Development
- True road map for permitting (what are the steps?)
- Board of Selectmen and Planning Board
 - ✓ Discussion on TRC process
- Education of roles for all Boards
- What is the vision for the Town of Exeter?
- Master Plan update
- Zoning Regulations review

Steps for TRC as of Current Day

1. Idea and intake meeting (potential meeting with Economic Development Director)
2. Project Review (internal meeting to review zoning)
3. Application to land use boards
4. TRC
5. Informal consult of planning board
6. TRC - work session with planning board

Economic Development Position

The Board of Selectmen and Town Manager discussed what the goals should be for this position day 1. The Board of Selectmen and Town Manager, agreed to have the position be the Economic Development Administrator instead of a Director. The following goals were discussed for this position.

Economic Development Position Goals

- Outreach and introduction to existing businesses
- Initial Developer intake for businesses
- Commercial growth (non-residential)
- Downtown Czar (related growth)
- Liaison of revitalization efforts
- Bring business community together

Top 2-3 Priorities

Julie Gilman

1. Education of roles for all Boards and Commission members
2. Master Plan Update
3. Process of Economic Development Administrator into TRC

Dan Chartrand

1. Overall plan for the Downtown Revitalization
2. Balancing vision of land use policy
3. Regionalization (specific and comprehensive)

Don Clement

1. Stadium Well (Philips Exeter Academy)
2. Waste Water Municipal Agreement
3. Operations efficiency study

Anne Surman

1. Great Dam Removal
2. Communication amongst town officials and boards
3. Commercial and light industrial development

Nancy Belanger

1. Economic Development Administrator
2. Master Plan Update
3. Affordable housing analysis

Russ Dean

1. Organizational Alignment
2. Execution of Projects
3. Economic Development Administrator

Top 2014 Goals

The Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager identified the top goals for the Town of Exeter and to develop a work plan. The goals and deadline for an update or completion are listed below.

Goal #1: Lead the update of the Master Plan with pro-development strategies and the following chapters to be reviewed and updated.

Chapter 1

Chapter 2 and add economic development chapter

Deadline: March 2015

Goal #2: Develop strategies to diversify tax base

Deadline: October 2014

Goal #3: Review current land use rules and process to ensure efficiency and ease

Outcomes: Changes, improvement, recommendations and joint meeting with boards

Deadline: March 2015

Goal #4: Organizational Alignment

Outcomes:

- ✓ Review the efficiency of delivery of services
- ✓ Classification of non-union employees
- ✓ Grants

Deadline: June 2014

Goal #5: Project Execution

- ✓ Stadium Well
- ✓ Great Dam removal
- ✓ Downtown Revitalization (Draft Charge May 2014 2nd meeting)
- ✓ Waste Water Municipal Agreement
- ✓ Groundwater Plant
- ✓ Organizational Alignment
- ✓ Housing Analysis

Thank you again for the opportunity to participate in this process. Primex³ appreciates the opportunity to provide assistance to members with goal setting, and to help governing bodies create a vision for their communities and paths to achieve those visions. A forward-looking community that is deliberate and disciplined in accomplishing its goals illustrates how “good management is good risk management.”

Center for
Public Sector
Advancement



Bow Brook Place
46 Donovan Street
Concord, NH 03301

603-225-2841
800-698-2364

www.nhprimex.org

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A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger that the Selectboard accept the NH Division of Historical Resources Certified Local Government FY14 Grant Application and authorize Chairwoman Gilman to sign all documents required for said grant. Selectman Clement asked how much the grant is for. Chairwoman Gilman said it is for \$27,000 all together, so 60% from the grant and 40% from the Town. Chairwoman Gilman said the 40% from the Town will all be volunteer services. With a Motion on the floor, the Board voted; Motion carried – all in favor.

VI. NH Bond Bank Resolution: Great Dam/Water/Sewer Bonds

Mr. Dean talked about the Certificate of Vote Regarding Authorization of Bonds and Approval of Loan Agreement with the New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank. This certificate deals with the pending bond for removal of the Great Dam and the restoration of the Exeter River, and the Lincoln Street projects (water mains and sewer lines). Mr. Dean said the interest rate is at 3.75% which is a ceiling. Selectwoman Surman read the Certificate of Resolution.



VII. Review Primex BOS Goal Setting Report

Chairwoman Gilman went over the Primex Goal Setting Report. She said the last All Boards meeting was in 2013 and the next will be May 21, 2014. She said the one of the next steps is to look at the dates of expectations for the top 2014 goals. Mr. Dean asked the Board if they are ok with the Report as it is and, if so, how would they like him to convey that to Primex. Vice Chair Chartrand said the Report is an accurate reflection of what was done the day of the All Boards meeting. Chairwoman Gilman asked the Board if they want to get into any more detail about last year's goals. Selectman Clement said Goal 4 has a June 2014 deadline. He asked if the Board thought this deadline was a bit aggressive. Mr. Dean agreed it was. Selectman Clement also wondered what exactly "grants" meant in Goal 4. Chairwoman Gilman talked about an eventual grants coordinator. Selectman Clement asked if the June 2014 deadline should be changed and Vice Chair Chartrand said this is an ongoing project. Mr. Dean talked about breaking things down a bit and figuring out how to get from point A to point B. Selectwoman Belanger said she would like to get through the May 21 All Boards Meeting and ask some questions before going on any more, to see where the department heads are and get a feel how things go.

b. Old Business

I. Fuller Lane Tank Management Contract Proposal

Mr. Dean said the lease is in good shape. Everything that was suggested to be added was put in there.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Surman that the Exeter Selectboard approve the Utility Service Company Water Tank Maintenance

ALL-BOARDS MEETING #2

May 21, 2014

6:30-9:00 PM

Exeter Town Hall

AGENDA

1. Welcome, Introductions – *Julie Gilman, Chair, Exeter Selectboard* (5 min)
2. Recap of All Boards 1 Meeting – *Cliff Sinnott, Rockingham Planning Commission* (Meeting Facilitator) (10 min)
3. Final Discussion Question from All Boards 1 Meeting: (45 min)
“What specific actions and strategies should be taken [to achieve our community goals] with respect to specific areas of Town?”

Potential Locations

- Downtown
- Portsmouth Avenue
- Lincoln Street / ‘West Ex’
- Epping Road

BREAK – 10 minutes

4. ‘Audit’ of Exeter Development Policies: Can they be improved to better support the Town’s common goals? How? (30 min)
5. Inter-board communications, meeting our goals – “how to” (15 minutes)
6. Establishing a road map for executing priority actions (30 minutes)
 - priorities for economic & community development
 - priorities for land use
 - others
 - “how to” - process (planning board, economic development commission, selectboard, zoning board, zoning ordinances, site plan/subdivision regulations, town meeting actions, committees, subcommittees)
 - role of Town staff in follow-up
7. Next Steps; Closing thoughts, Follow Up – Russ Dean, Julie Gilman

**EXETER ALL BOARDS
MEETING NOTES
May 21, 2014**

EPPING ROAD

Extend sewer and water to 101 - ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓

Epping Road as Gateway – develop both Exeter Road and Portsmouth Avenue as gateways thru traffic control

As development occurs – make more attractive – greenway between roadway and S/W ✓✓✓

Traffic controls, third lane

Zoning as impacting development

Solar collector for welcome to Exeter sign

Make more attractive

Incentive sewer extension by creating private/public partnership ✓✓✓✓

Large undeveloped land – EDA to work with property owners

EPPING ROAD

Review zones/new look

Site plan regulations to be reviewed

Incentive zoning

EDA meet with property owners and with state

Epping Road zoning

Developer agreements

Lack of clarity of regulations and increases in regulations may be hindering development

Stop regulating the zone we are not in “hyper-growth” we don’t need to contain growth

Property taxes for on-road too high make development along roadway impossible

LINCOLN STREET

Train as asset bringing visitors daily – 10 total train stops

Gateway to Exeter

Encourage people to come and visit, stop, dine, etc

Welcome center/parking must be addressed (2nd story to parking lot)

Train stop as economic engine

Revisit Plan NH – bring together resident/businesses/school ✓✓✓✓

Traffic/pedestrian flow study due to large uses – safety ✓✓

2 hour parking on Lincoln – Street temporary solution

Long term/full service station

Reach out to property owners / encourage development/redevelopment / commercial is ripe for vendors

Interview property owners / reg why no investment

Reconsider Lincoln Street as own zoning district

79E as platform to reach out to property owners

When resurfacing road doesn’t need to go back to same alignment/stripping (also Portsmouth Avenue)

West exit, diamond in rough revitalize – encourage economic growth

Confusing street with multiple uses what is the vision for street

Church
symbol

Residents	train	vets
Baseball/school	commercial	

Although dense commercial – vibrant

PORTSMOUTH AVENUE

Connect to downtown (visually)
Development opportunities
Create one-way traffic downtown to reduce backup
Flexibility on regulations
Light at intersection causes backups
Pedestrian friendly = crosswalks

PORTSMOUTH AVENUE – HIGH STREET-GREEN STREET

From based code ✓✓✓✓✓✓
Bottle neck connections – bridge/High
Limitations – “it is what it is” car/pedestrian conflict exists
Parking garage
Feasibility for improvement good
Intersection at High Street/Portsmouth Avenue ✓
Redevelopment incentives west side not changing ✓✓✓
Pedestrian improvements/safety concerns ✓✓
Create a draw to bring people there
Create buffer with tree line separate S/W from lane

DOWNTOWN

Different rules/regulations for downtown
Replace sidewalks and curbing ✓✓✓✓
Creative funding
Parking – possible parking structure or fee to create funding source
Review of commercial district
More cycling and pedestrian facilities
Visible crosswalks
Maintain social capital to support all part of community including those aging in place
Put it on map – revitalization of downtown be competitive, especially waterfront ✓✓✓✓, lighting S/W
Opportunities with dam removal
River front opportunities
Water front opportunities where parking at boat area
No study/design without asking voters first
Parking relief requires ZBA action – burden
Commercial corridor review
- What do we permit
- Success/failures
Traffic concern
Historic assets – connection to economic development
Façade program

Utility – bury wires
Public/private coordination to make imp.
Get message out on 79E
New EDA work with EEDC
No new study, maintain what we have, put imp. in budget
Shame that we have let downtown go falling apart

AUDIT ON DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

2014 goals (Board of Selectmen)

Master Plan – predevelopment strategies chapter 1, 2, & economic development, goal 3/15
Strategies to diverse tax base
Process/rules review efficiency and ease
Wetlands not all equal revisit based on function/values
Should commercial districts be treated differently
Redundancy in regulation package wetlands
What do we waive consistently – look at those
Impact of new floodplain
Planning Board reviews each case – Exeter encourages good eng.g – can go a long way
What is not in regulations
- Financial hardship
Historic district guidelines, Master Plan chapter and guidelines and application to be reviewed and revised
80K now obsolete?
Planning Board/ZBA coordination on cases where density is considered

NEXT STEPS

Regional audit ➤ redundancy/major changes
Master Plan update may guide audit – priority setting
Plan NH and look at updating station as economic engine
Planning Board, Historic District Commission to make initial review
Master Plan for recommendations (SVA to email this)
79E – marketing campaign (EEDC & EDA)
Exeter is open for business
Board of Selectmen input possible BOS/PB/EEDC to review process, work session, timeline, review potential changes at next all boards meeting
Economic development Master Plan chapter
Planning Board subcommittee to work on these items
ZORC to possibly take on ZORC to be more transparent
- What is their mission
W/S extension on Epping Road
Next meeting – October ?
Thanks volunteers
Thanks Cliff

**TOWN OF EXETER
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Russ Dean, Town Manager
RE: Committee Appointments
DATE: March 9, 2015

Attached are the most recent known listings of appointments up at April 30, 2015 along with current board/committee vacancies. We will be verifying this information leading up to the 2015 re-appointment and appointment process.

The list of vacancies does not yet include the newly formed Housing Committee.

Board/Committee/Commission	Membership	Term Expiration
Arts Committee	Voting	4/30/2015
Heritage Commission	Voting	4/30/2017
Heritage Commission	Voting	4/30/2016
Heritage Commission	Voting	4/30/2016
Heritage Commission	Alternate	4/30/2015
Heritage Commission	Alternate	4/30/2017
Heritage Commission	Alternate	4/30/2016
Heritage Commission	Alternate	4/30/2016
Heritage Commission	Alternate	4/30/2016
Historic District Commission	Voting	4/30/2017
Historic District Commission	Voting	4/30/2017
Historic District Commission	Voting	4/30/2016
Planning Board	Voting	4/30/2017
Planning Board	Alternate	4/30/2016
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Alternate	4/30/2015

Committee	First Name	Last Name	Position	Beginning Term	Ending Term
Conservation Commission	Don	Briselden	Alternate	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Conservation Commission, Clerk	Virginia	Raub	Alternate	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Exeter Arts Committee	Jane	Kiernan	Voting	5/7/2012	4/30/2015
Exeter Arts Committee	Francesca	Fay	Voting	8/11/2014	4/30/2015
Exeter Economic Development Commission	Lizabeth	MacDonald	Voting	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Exeter Economic Development Commission	Brandon	Stauber	Voting	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Exeter Economic Development Commission	Brian	Lortie	Voting	4/25/2011	4/30/2015
Exeter Housing Authority	Boyd	Allen	Voting	8/2/2012	4/30/2015
Exeter Housing Authority	Barbara	Chapman	Voting	4/26/2010	4/30/2015
Exeter River Study Committee	Richard	Huber	Voting	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Heritage Commission	John	Merkle	Voting	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Historic District Commission, Clerk	Pam	Gjettum	Voting	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Historic District Commission	Valerie	Ouellette	Alternate	5/5/2014	4/30/2015
Planning Board	Carol	Sideris	Voting	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Planning Board	Katherine	Woolhouse	Voting	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Planning Board	Pete	Cameron	Alternate	4/30/2012	4/30/2015
Rockingham Planning Commission	Gwen	English	PB Rep	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Zoning Board of Adjustment, Chair	Robert	Prior	Voting	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Zoning Board of Adjustment, Vice Chair	John	Hauschildt	Voting	4/23/2012	4/30/2015
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Hank	Ouimet	Alternate	6/3/2013	4/30/2015
Water and Sewer Advisory Committee	John	Gilbert	Voting	8/20/2012	4/30/2015
Water and Sewer Advisory Committee, Chair	Bob	Kelly	Voting	4/23/2012	4/30/2015

List for Selectmen's meeting March 9, 2015

Abatements

<u>Map/Lot</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Refund</u>
72/79	44 Franklin St	570.71
70/76	3 Wheelwright Ave	1,701.72
111/5/1B	1B Green Gate CG	166.78

Veteran's Credit

<u>Map/Lot</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Credit Amount</u>
65/85	14 Jady Hill Cir	500.00
85/70	17 Pleasantview Dr	500.00

Elderly Exemption

<u>Map/Lot</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Exemption Amount</u>
65/6	1 Ridgecrest Dr	152,251
104/79/121	121 Robinhood Dr	152,251

Disability Exemption

<u>Map/Lot</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Exemption Amount</u>
104/79/132C	132C Exeter River Landing	125,000
111/5/1B	1B Green Gate CG	Denial

Current Use Land Change Tax

<u>Map/Lot</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>No Tax Due</u>
47/9	159 Epping Road	Only to correct records

Town Manager Updates

Submitted by: Russell Dean, Town Manager

Week Ending: March 6th, 2015

Updates

State of the Town Presentation to Rotary on February 23rd

EPA meeting on February 24th attended by different communities and hosted by Exeter at Hampton Inn.

I attended a HealthTrust Board of Directors meeting on February 27th.

Doctor Seuss reading to Lincoln Street school on March 4th.

Regional Manager's meeting – March 4th – main discussion on non point source issues for multiple communities and coordination of efforts.

Epping Road TIF Public Meeting – March 4th

Great Bay Kids Groundbreaking Ceremony – March 5th.

Meeting with proponent of 80 Epping Road Project

Work with Selectman Clement on efforts toward a Town "tree program" to formalize more tree plantings in Exeter.

Other

1. Snow removal efforts and budget review
2. Began employee evaluation process
3. Review Monthly Department Reports
4. Began review of Department annual goals (March to March)
5. Townwide Facilities Plan – Schedule interviews with proponents
6. Refinement of Financial Reports
7. NEMBA MOU to Provide Bike Patrols on Conservation Land
8. Bushnell Letter and Follow Up
9. Pot Hole Patrol
10. MS61 has been completed

Upcoming Calendar

1. BOS Regular Meeting – March 9th
2. Town Election – March 10th
3. BOS Regular Meeting – March 23rd

Town of
Seabrook, New Hampshire

Department of Public Works

Telephone: 603.474.9771

Fax: 603.474.5942

February 25, 2015

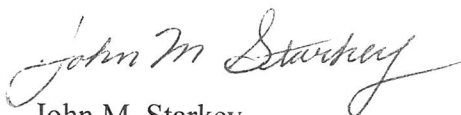
Dean F. Robinson, Jr.
NH Department of Environmental Services
Solid Waste Management Division
6 Hazen Drive
P.O. Box 95
Concord, NH 03301-6509

Attn: Household Hazardous Waste Coordinator

The Town of Seabrook, New Hampshire hereby commits to participate and cooperate with the communities of Stratham, Newfields, Epping, East Kingston and Exeter in a household Hazardous Waste Collection Project on October 3, 2015. The Seabrook Public Works Director, John M. Starkey, is authorized to represent the Town in organizing the collection project.

The Town of Seabrook has \$3,408.00 (Seabrook's anticipated share of costs) for the purpose of allowing all Seabrook residents' access to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Project, which I understand will be held this year in Exeter.

Sincerely yours,



John M. Starkey,
Public Works Manager

JMS/jew

cc: Bill Manzi, Town Manager
Kelly O'Connor, Deputy Town Manager
Roxanne Rines, Office Administrator RPC
Russell Dean, Town Manager Town of Exeter
Jennifer Perry, PE. Exeter DPW Director
Ralph Welch, Solid Waste Foreman
Judie Walker, DPW Sec
Lynn Willwerth, Office Supervisor
FILE

Town Manager's Office

FEB 27 2015

Received

1945

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...

STEPHEN R. FOURNIER
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

sfournier@newmarketnh.gov
www.newmarketnh.gov



TOWN HALL
186 MAIN STREET
NEWMARKET, NH 03857

TEL: (603) 659-3617
FAX: (603) 659-8508

FOUNDED DECEMBER 15, 1727
CHARTERED JANUARY 1, 1991

TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE *of the* TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

PRESS RELEASE

TOWN OF NEWMARKET RESPONDS TO COAST BUS SERVICE DECISION TO ELIMINATE ROUTE 7 IN NEWMARKET AND EXETER

March 5, 2015: The Town of Newmarket learned today that the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST) has decided to propose eliminating bus Route 7 effective July 1, 2015. Route 7 provides transportation services for the towns of Newmarket, Exeter, Stratham, Greenland, Newington and the city of Portsmouth.

COAST issued a release today that indicated that due to the lack of local financial support from all of those communities on the route it would need to be eliminated. This includes all ADA paratransit for those who are disabled in the community.

Town Administrator Steve Fournier states, "Eliminating this route is cutting off a lifeline for a number of our residents who rely on public transportation throughout the region. I am dismayed COAST was not able to come to a solution to this problem. I am also disappointed in those communities that are not financially contributing to provide this service. Supporting public transportation supports the businesses in their communities by providing access to them from surrounding communities."

The Town of Newmarket provided \$20,748 in funding to COAST in the current fiscal year. The Town has \$23,000 budgeted for the next fiscal year. Town Administrator Fournier indicated that this funding would not be distributed and any future contribution would have to relate to services that COAST provides.

The Town Administrator did indicate that there is an additional transportation option for some in the community. "The University of New Hampshire's Wildcat Transit is open to the public and provides

more trips in Newmarket. It may take some getting used to, but instead of shopping in Exeter, Stratham or Greenland, you can find the same services in Durham, Dover and Lee, while still being able to get to Portsmouth and Newington.” He further stated that Wildcat Transit schedules are available at Town Hall.

In addition, Lamprey Health Care provides transportation for the elderly and disabled in the community.

Prior to any elimination of any service, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires that public outreach meetings be scheduled. COAST is currently working on establishing these meetings and they will publish an announcement when they have determined this information. Town Administrator Fournier encouraged the public to attend these sessions and express their dismay over the elimination of the route.

COAST Board of Directors, on which the Town Administrator sits, could take a final action at their April 22 meeting. For more information on these proposed service adjustments, visit www.coastbus.org or call COAST at (603) 743-5777.