

Final Minutes

Exeter Board of Selectmen

March 16, 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. Introduced and Swearing In Of Town Officials

Andie Kohler, Town Clerk, swore in newly elected town officials. She swore in Dan Chartrand who was reelected to BOS, Mark Damsell to the Trustees of Swasey Parkway, Lisa Mcilveen to the Trustees of the Trust Fund, Paul Scafidi for Town Moderator, and Denise Leonard to the Trustees of the Library.

3. Selectboard Reorganization

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to nominate Julie Gilman as Chairwoman of the BOS over the coming year. Motion carried – 4-1 majority vote with Surman voting nay.

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Surman and seconded by Selectman Clement to nominate Don Clement as Vice Chair of the BOS over the coming year. Motion carried – 3-2 majority vote with Chartrand and Belanger voting nay.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Surman to nominate Nancy Belanger as Clerk of the BOS over the coming year. Motion carried – all in favor.

4. Bid Openings/Awards

None.

5. Public Comment

None.

6. Minutes and Proclamations

a. Proclamations/Recognitions

None.

b. Regular Meeting: March 9, 2015

The Board will take action on these minutes at the next BOS meeting.

c. Special Meeting: March 13, 2015

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Belanger and seconded by Selectwoman Surman to accept the minutes of the March 13, 2015 BOS special meeting. Motion carried – all in favor.

7. Appointments

None.

8. Discussion/Action Items

a. New Business

i) Special Town Meeting re: Gilman Street

Chairwoman Gilman said Phillips Exeter Academy has requested the discontinuance of Gilman Street. This must be voted on by the voters of the Town. Chairwoman Gilman talked about the Special Town Meeting Warrant for this and read the Article that explains. The Board had recommended this discontinuance with a 5-0 vote.

Roger Wakeman, from Phillips Exeter Academy, thanks Chairwoman Gilman for the opportunity to have this considered. He showed a map of the south campus of PEA. They are redoing this areas master plan. He gave some history on Gilman Street. It has a 60 foot right of way that was established in the 1800's for access to Gilman Park. It has been maintained by the Town since.

Mr. Wakeman said they have engaged architects to build up a Performance Arts building in the area. They are being constrained by Gilman Street, which he said is a major hindrance. PEA would like to make part of Gilman Street pedestrian only. All these plans are in the context of the master plan. PEA will take on the maintenance of the street. He said they are considerate of the townspeople feelings on this. They are looking forward to large attendances for performances and such in the new proposed building. They are looking to make a street access in the area to get to the track. Gilman Street will be pedestrian and the Chadwick Lane area will be vehicular. He thanked the Board for supporting this. They are at the point in the

design where they need to finalize where the building will go, which is why timing on this is important.

Martha Pennell, resident at Riverwoods and longtime participant in Exeter committees and boards, is concerned about the proposal. She is concerned with how fast this has come about. She gave some history of Gilman Street and how it came to be. She said there is a notable history in this street. It was meant to give access to the village at the time. She said the Board should be careful with this. She wants to make sure the historical significance is not lost. She hopes the Town will think carefully of the historical significance before discontinuing the street.

Joanna Pellerin said she came to the meeting and now considers herself informed.

Brian Griset said PEA and the Town have worked closely together for a long time. He wondered where they were on the partnership with the stadium. Chairwoman Gilman said they were close.

Vice Chair Clement liked the idea Ms. Pennell gave of a plaque recognizing the street.

Mr. Dean said the deliberative session for this will be Tuesday, March 31 @7 in the Town Hall.

Selectwoman Surman asked if they determined if PEA would take on some of the costs of this. Chairwoman Gilman said it has not been finalized.

ii) Review 2015 Town Meeting Results

Chairwoman Gilman said everything on the ballot passed, except two articles. Article 8 lost. There was only a 17% show of voters, or 1857 out of 11,258 town voters. The town budget passed by 65%. Article 11 passed by 80%. The sidewalks passed, but the brick enhancements did not. She went through all the new Town Officials who were sworn in. The Sno-Go replacement passed. The street sweeper and the bucket truck also passed. The shoulder widening project passed. Vice Chair Clement asked if they would be getting to work on this before the grant is in hand. Mr. Dean said they will spend the money on the project and the grant will reimburse. They don't pay up front. Vice Chair Clement asked when the sidewalks project will start. He said DPW is going to be very busy, and suggested that Jennifer Perry give an update on the project. Chairwoman Gilman said yes, and the Town Engineer. Mr. Dean said this will be a busy year and he will be making every effort to keep the public informed on all the happenings. Selectman Chartrand thanked the voters for the sidewalks and TIF passing. He also acknowledged the Budget Recommendations Committee on their work on the budget this year. Mr. Dean said they will be hearing more about the TIF in the next few weeks.

b. Old Business

i) 2015 Goals Meeting

Chairwoman Gilman said they need to confirm a date for the 2015 Goals Meeting. The Board agreed they would meet on April 11, 2015 at 9am.

9. Regular Business

a. Tax, Water/Sewer Abatements & Exemptions

None.

b. Permits & Approvals

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Clement to approve an application for use of the Town Hall by Jeanne Fuller for a Taoist Tai Chi Workshop on June 13 and 14, 2015 from 9am-9pm on Saturday and 9am-5pm on Sunday. Motion carried – all in favor.

c. Town Manager's Report

Mr. Dean just acknowledged the Legislative Bulletin included in the packet.

d. Committee Reports

Selectwoman Belanger said she would give her report next week.

Vice Chair Clement reported a Planning Board meeting and a River Study Committee for Thursday morning.

Selectman Chartrand had nothing to report.

Selectwoman Surman had nothing to report.

Chairwoman Gilman had nothing to report but said there will be a Historic District Commission meeting on Thursday.

e. Correspondence

The following correspondence were included in the packet:

- The New Hampshire Legislative Bulletin. There was discussion about what was in the Bulletin. The Board discussed keeping Rooms & Meals Tax as it is, money for bridges remaining, HB547 which Mr. Dean said he has been getting a lot of calls on, and State Reps needing to focus more on expenses and revenues.

10. Review Board Calendar

The next BOS meeting will be March 23, 2015. The Board will have Unitil in for a presentation and an update on the I&I program.

12. Adjournment

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Belanger and seconded by Selectwoman Surman to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. Motion carried - all in favor.

Respectively submitted,

Nicole Piper
Recording Secretary