

Final Minutes

**Exeter Board of Selectmen**

November 2, 2015

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Chairwoman Julie Gilman called the meeting to order at 7:17 pm in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Offices building. Other members present were Vice Chair Don Clement, Selectman Dan Chartrand, Selectwoman Nancy Belanger, and Selectwoman Anne Surman. Town Manager Russell Dean was also present.

**2. Non Public Session – RSA 91 a:3 II c – Tax Deeds**

The Board reconvened after a 6:30 non-public discussion.

**3. Board Interviews – Planning Board**

The Board came out of their non-public to conduct a Board Interview.

**4. Bid Openings/Awards**

There were no bid openings or awards.

**5. Public Comment**

Gerry Hamel said some major projects were voted in in March. He said lots of them did not get accomplished. He mentioned previous comments about changing the government in town. He said there is no need to change government, as it is not the form of government that is making these errors.

**6. Minutes and Proclamations**

**a. Proclamations/Recognitions**

Selectwoman Belanger read a Proclamation declaring November 13 as World Pancreatic Cancer Day in Exeter. The Proclamation included facts about the disease. 73% of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year. There were 200 deaths in NH in 2015.

**Motion:** A Motion was made by Vice Chair Clement and seconded by Selectman Chartrand to adopt this Proclamation as read by Selectwoman Belanger. Motion carried – all in favor.

## **b. Regular Meetings: October 19, 2015**

An amendment was made by Selectman Chartrand changing a name on Page 2, paragraph three. He also made an amendment to page 8, adding “a” to a sentence.

An amendment was made by Vice Chair Clement on page 8, last paragraph, changing “contractor” to “contract”. He also said the minute amendments from the 10/5 meeting still were not correct.

**Motion:** A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to accept the minutes of the 10/19/15 BOS meeting as amended by the Board members and submitted by Nicole Piper. Motion carried – all in favor.

## **7. Appointments**

**Motion:** A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to appoint Dan Gutstein to the Exeter Economic Development Commission with a term to expire April 30, 2016. Motion carried – all in favor.

## **8. Discussion/Action Items**

### **a. New Business**

#### **i) Police Department Updates**

Chief Richard Kane said there are three things he wanted to talk about. The first thing was that winter is coming. He reminded of the winter parking ban from 12/1-3/15. He said there are designated municipal lots for parking. He said if you will get a ticket if you park in a spot that has a ban. He said there are a couple street spots on Pleasant Street for parking. People can apply for permits. He suggested rethinking these spots next year because only 7 cars are allowed to park in this area. In town owned lots you cannot park overnight because the town will need that time to clear the lots.

The next thing he wanted to remind residents about is thievery. He said it is not unusual for thieves to go around with all the purchases being made this time of year. He urged not to become a victim during the holidays. He said thieves may follow UPS trucks and strike during work hours while houses are empty. He suggested those receiving deliveries to choose a specific delivery time and ask a friend or neighbor to pick up packages. Also you can ask the shipper to require a signature. He said vehicles should also be locked.

The third update was about scams. He said they are rapidly on the rise. He said if you donate, to donate to legitimate organizations. One recent local scam was a caller saying they are the IRS and requesting personal information. Chairwoman Gilman said you can report

these scams. Chief Kane said any emails from your bank asking to verify account numbers should put up a red flag. He urged to watch bank statements for charges you did not make. He also suggested watching credit cards. He said residents can look on the town's website for any scamming updates.

Chief Kane also commented about lots of construction going on around town and the Christmas Parade on December 5 at 5:30pm. Selectwoman Surman suggested changing the sign on Front Street to say "Businesses Open" not just "Road Open". Chief Kane said he would make that suggestion.

Vice Chair Clement asked about the heroin epidemic. Chief Kane said there have been two deaths this year and another last night. He said they will be having a meeting to try to come up with some solutions. Heroin is extremely addictive and they don't know how to stop the epidemic. He said they are working in conjunction with the state police and the local government. He said our senators are actively working to come up with solutions.

#### **ii) Fire Department – EMS Fund Withdrawal Request**

Chief Brian Comeau spoke to the board to ask that \$18,838 be withdrawn from the Ambulance Revolving Fund to replace the Fire Department's ambulance cot. Selectwoman Belanger asked what the useful life of a cot is. Chief Comeau said it is based on use. This cot that needs to be replaced has well over 130 hours of lifting and it 7 years old which is considered heavily used. Because of the condition of the cot, they cannot wait until spring when they get their new truck to replace the cot. Vice Chair Clement asked if generally when they get a new ambulance, they also get a new cot. Chief Comeau said yes. Vice Chair Clement asked what the current balance is in this fund. Mr. Dean said it is at \$112,340. Chairwoman Gilman said the life cycle of an ambulance and a cot are different, so this will come up again. Selectwoman Surman asked if the new cot will be more improved. Chief Comeau said they are always making improvements on them, as it is an important piece of equipment.

**Motion:** A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Vice Chair Clement to approve the withdrawal of \$18,838 from the EMS Revolving Fund to replace the ambulance cot. Motion carried – all in favor.

#### **iii) Fire Bucket Truck Lease/Purchase Documents**

Mr. Dean said it was approved by town meeting to replace the old Fire Bucket Truck. The bid was awarded to the recommended Tax Exempt Leasing, who has competitive and aggressive interest rates. They got a 5 year lease at a 2.58% interest rate. Vice Chair Clement asked what the amount was that was voted in at town meeting. Mr. Dean said it was \$102,434 with \$21,573 annual payments.

**Motion:** A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger that the BOS approve the Lease/Purchase of the Fire Alarm Truck to Tax Exempt Leasing for \$97,051.50

**Motion:** A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger that the Exeter BOS approve the Lease/Purchase for the Fire Alarm Truck to Tax Exempt Leasing Co. for a 5-year lease/purchase at 2.58% and further authorize the Town Manager to sign all documents related to effectuate the Lease/Purchase. Motion carried – all in favor.

**iv) Town Master Plan Chapters 1 and 2 – Cliff Sinnott, RPC**

**v) AECOM Report – Exeter Sportsmen’s Club Remedial Action Plan next steps\**

**vi) SEA-3 Letter – Newington Board of Selectmen**

**vii) DHR Grant Acceptance – Selectwoman Gilman**

**viii) 2016 Primex Renewals**

**b. Old Business**

**i) Great Dam MOA**

## **9. Regular Business**

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

A Motion was made by Selectwoman Belanger and seconded by Vice Chair Clement to approve the Jeopardy Warrant for map 104, lot 79, unit 611 in the amount of \$112.06. Motion carried – all in favor.

Paul McKenney and Scott Mars, from MRI, were present to answer any questions regarding the Riverwood’s abatement issue. They said an appeal has been filed. The hearing could be a year away. There was abatement granted in the 2014 tax year. Selectman Chartrand asked if they are going in front of the BTLA for a 2014 tax abatement which was granted. Mr. McKenney said it was granted, but they were not happy with the outcome. Selectman Chartrand asked if 2015 has been corrected. Mr. McKenney said it has and as far as he is concerned 2014 was corrected with abatement. Selectman Chartrand asked if Mr. McKenney was urging no action and letting this roll to the BTLA. Mr. McKenney said yes. Vice Chair Clement said he was comfortable with the process going forward.

### Abatement Requests:

3 Salem Street – Mike Jeffers said the applicant has reviewed the abatement process and has withdrawn.

4 Liberty Lane – Richard Eldor was present to speak. He said after being gone for 47 days, he noticed his water wasn't shut off. He proposed paying his water portion of the bill, but not sewer. He explained how he came up with his abatement request. Mr. Jeffers said 13 others had similar problems because of the cold winter. He recommended abatement be granted. A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to rescind disapproval for 4 Liberty Lane. Motion carried –all in favor. A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to approve abatement for \$153.96 for 4 Liberty Lane. Motion carried –all in favor. Selectman Chartrand asked Mr. Jeffers to reach out to the 13 others who had this similar problem.

1 Ridgewood Terrace – Mr. Jeffers said he went out and met with the property owners several times. He doesn't see how abatement can be given when the problem was with the gas company. A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to disapprove abatement for 1 Ridgewood Terrace. Motion carried – all in favor.

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

A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to approve the application for use of the Town Hall by Evelyn Orr for an Exeter Women's Club antique appraisal on October 9, 2016 from 12pm-5pm. Motion carried – all in favor.

A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to approve the application for use of the Town Hall by Evelyn Orr for an Exeter Women's Club Asian silk and silver sale on November 20, 2016 from 10am-5pm. Motion carried – all in favor.

### **c. Town Manager's Report**

Mr. Dean talked about the following, which was included in the packet:

- The Transfer Station is now operating on winter hours through December 15
- Parks/Rec Pumpkin Carving at the Senior Center on October 20 at 3:30pm
- The "all day" Budget Rec. Committee meeting on October 21
- The Halloween Parade on Friday, October 30 and Trick or Treat on Saturday October 31 from 4-7pm

## **10. Review Board Calendar**

The next BOS meeting will be November 2, 2015. Chairwoman Gilman told the Board the Historic District Commission was awarded another \$6000.

## **11. Adjournment**

A Motion was made by Selectman Chartrand and seconded by Selectwoman Belanger to adjourn the meeting at 10:12pm. Motion carried – all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Piper,

Recording Secretary