

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Eastman convened the Board at 7:00 PM in the Nowak Room of the Town Office and introduced other members of the Board: Ms. Julie Gilman, Mr. Lionel Ingram, Mr. Joe Pace, Mr. William Campbell, and Mr. Russell Dean, Town Manager.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Proclamations

None.

4. Minutes

Ms. Gilman moves to reopen the approval of the April 23, 2007 minutes. Mr. Campbell seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Campbell noted 2 corrections to the April 23, 2007 minutes: Ms. Gwen English and Mr. Kathy Corson were appointed to the Rockingham Planning Commission. Mr. Campbell notes that Ms. English is appointed a regular member and Ms. Corson is appointed an alternate member.

Mr. Campbell moves to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2007 minutes as amended. Mr. Pace seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Pace moves to waive reading of the minutes of the May 7 and May 21 meetings and approve them with any editorial changes. Mr. Ingram seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

Ms. Gilman notes that Mr. Braband's name is misspelled.

Mr. Pace moves to approve the non public session minutes of May 7 and May 29, appropriately redacted. Mr. Campbell seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

5. Appointments

None.

6. Discussion/Action Items

- a. 30 Beech Hill Road Intent to Cut. Ms. Felicia Donovan, 40 Beech Hill Road appears regarding the Clear Cutting Operation at 30 Beech Hill Road. There is an existing Town Ordinance regarding timber cutting. She believes that if the Ordinance was followed, this operation would not have proceeded, since they intended to cut more than 2 acres and the Ordinance requires a cutting plan. She and other abutters were not notified of the intent to cut in this area and the scale of the operation. She is asking the Board to review the existing Ordinance and the current procedures to ensure that this type of cutting does not occur again. Mr. Campbell sees that the violation of this Town Ordinance should result in a misdemeanor charge against the violator, and the State has established jurisdiction in this case. Mr. Pace acknowledges that the Board members who signed this intent to cut did not follow up on the procedures that are established for this action. The Board is trying to clarify the processing of these types of requests and involving the Planning Department in the beginning of the process if the request involves more than 2 acres. Mr. Pace is looking for a way for the Town to help this situation. Mr. Dean notes that the landowner in this case has been issued a directive from the DES to submit a restoration plan by July 31, 2007. A certified wetlands scientist must prepare this report. Mr. Ingram notes that the property owner should be held responsible his actions, and Mr. Dean says that the Town will work with the DES to ensure that the proper people are held responsible. Mr. Dean would like the role of the Town's enforcement officer to be clarified for these types of cases. Ms. Donovan recalls that the DES and State Forest Rangers would not allow Town Planner Sylvia von Aulock or Building Inspector Doug Eastman to walk through the land when the other agencies were reviewing the damage due to the issue of jurisdiction in this case. Mr. Ingram and Ms. Gilman note that there is a lack of coordination with DES in the process of issuing permits. Mr. Campbell sees a need to review and possibly amend the Town Ordinance in this case, and to give Town Planner von Aulock some time to review it and make recommendations.
- b. Review of Article 33: 2007 Town Meeting/Election. Mr. Eastman asks if there is any interest within the Board to establish an energy commission for the Town. Ms. Gilman is willing to look into the formation of a committee to look at alternative energies in conjunction with Mr. Dean.
- c. Bid Award: Raising and Lowering of Castings 2007. Mr. Dean recommends that the Board accepts the bid of C & Y Construction on Bid Item 2 and 3 to raise castings to final grade at a rate of \$140 each and to adjust castings for paving at a rate of \$150 each.

Mr. Pace moves to award the bid of raising and adjusting castings to C & Y Construction of Westminster, MA. Ms. Gilman seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

- d. Policy Updates: Fixed Assets, Purchasing. Mr. Dean notes that the Fixed Asset Policy is designed to help with the GASB 34 process. This item will be continued to the June 18, 2007 agenda along with the Purchasing Policy. Mr. Dean is looking for 2 Board members to assist him with a review of the Personnel Policy, wages and benefit issues. Mr. Ingram volunteers for this subcommittee as well as Mr. Eastman. First meeting to be determined.

- e. Authorize the Town Manager to Accept DES Watershed Assistance Grant for Pet Waste Pickup/Clean Water Program. Mr. Campbell inquired about the logistics of this program, and whether DPW is solely responsible for the administration it. Mr. Dean states that the grant allows for maintenance of the equipment.

Mr. Ingram moves to authorize the Town Manager to apply for and expend the Pet Waste Grant from the DES Watershed Assistance Bureau. Ms. Gilman seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

- f. First Reading: Parking Ordinance Change. Chief Kane proposes to post Cass Street as no parking on the odd numbered side of the street and that Green Street be posted “No Parking Here To Corner” from Cass Street 100 feet down Green Street on both sides. Mr. Eastman notes that the issue of parking on Front Street, raised by Arthur Baillargeon at past meetings, has not been resolved and asks that Mr. Dean speak with Chief Kane and Chief Comeau regarding the issue for the next meeting. Mr. Campbell and Mr. Ingram recall that the Cass Street/Green Street issue has been before the Board before, and that the residents worked out an arrangement with the Main Street School, which was satisfactory for a while, and that the residents should be involved in whatever decision the Board will now contemplate.

7. Public Hearings

Mr. Ingram moves to open a Public Hearing regarding a Property Value Update. Mr. Campbell seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

John DeVittori, Town Assessor, appears to answer questions from the Board regarding his submission of a 10 Month Review if the sales of property in Exeter. Mr. Eastman asks whether a small number of sales within a given group is enough to determine the value or change it. Mr. DeVittori says that in such cases he must look at trends and past sales. The Coefficient of Dispersion is used as an indicator of a need for review and reassessment. Mr. Pace does not see a need to raise the assessments when there is an inequitable ratios within amongst the categories. Mr. Eastman states that the Board must vote on the Property Value update within 15 days, so it will be voted at the next Board meeting. There are no Public Comments to this issue.

Mr. Pace moves to close the Public Hearing on the Property Value Update. Mr. Campbell seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

8. Permits & Approvals

Mr. Dean has received a request from the High Street neighborhood to lift the parking ban for the Eventide Home area on June 9, 2007. This is a yearly request, and Mr. Dean is asking if the Board is in agreement to grant this request.

Mr. Campbell moves to approve the request for a lift of the Parking Ban on June 9, 2007. Mr. Ingram seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

9. Reports

a) Town Manager's Report.

Mr. Dean met with the staff of DPW to discuss illegal dumping and the Town Ordinances will be reviewed in an effort to change them if needed and address recent occurrences. Mr. Dean wishes to thank all of the participants of the Alewife Festival. The water line project is going very well and on schedule.

b) Selectmen's Committee Reports

Mr. Pace: Monday night June 11, 2007 at 7PM in the Nowak room for the Ascertainment Hearing. The Train committee met to discuss access to the ticket machine that is currently situated inside Jerry's. The Train Committee will meet again this week. Mr. Pace would like to thank all attendees of the Memorial Day Observances.

Mr. Campbell: Mr. Campbell attended the Exeter River Public Hearing. The Planning Board met on May 24, 2007 and granted conditional approval to the Seacoast Academy which will be on Hampton Road, and the Planning Board also heard an opening presentation by Moncal LLC for a multi family site plan for 13 units on the property of the former VFW Hall. Mr. Campbell would like to acknowledge the new Stuart Park project is very nice and the moorings that would accommodate a visiting vessel are nicely done.

Ms. Gilman: The Heritage Commission will meet next week and review maps to determine where to begin a survey. Ms. Gilman would like to remind everyone of Parks Discovery Day on Saturday, June 16, 2007.

Mr. Ingram: The Transportation Committee will meet soon. River Committee will meet on Thursday morning. Most items are on the Town web site. Council on Aging met last Thursday and would like to ensure that the dedication of the Pavilion is an opportunity to amplify the heritage of the Town of Exeter.

Mr. Eastman: Water and Sewer Advisory Committee will meet in the near future, and the feedback from the community regarding the Memorial Day Observances has been excellent. The Veteran's Council had a lunch following the parade, and the participation was high.

10. Public Comment

None.

11. Non public Session

Minutes already approved in a prior motion.

12. Adjournment

Mr. Ingram moves to adjourn. Mr. Pace seconds. VOTE:Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Geis
AA/HR Director