

FINAL MINUTES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

MINUTES

April 20, 2009

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman William Campbell convened the meeting at 6:45 pm for an interview. The Board then reconvened in the Nowak Room at the Town Offices at 7:00 pm. Mr. Campbell introduced other members of the Board: Mr. Bob Eastman, Ms. Julie Gilman, Mr. Matt Quandt, Mr. Bobby Aldrich and Town Manager, Russ Dean.

2. Public Comment – none.

3. Minutes & Proclamations

a. **April 6th, 2009** – Mr. Aldrich found 3 mistakes that needed corrections. Mr. Campbell was cited as Vice-Chairman when he is in fact Chairman of the Board. Under Mr. Eastman's committee report, it should read: inappropriate *materials*. Mr. Aldrich called the roll not Ms. Gilman.

Mr. Eastman moved to waive the reading of the April 6th, 2009 minutes and accept them as amended; Ms. Gilman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

4. Appointments

a. Local Transportation Committee – Don Woodward (no term)

Mr. Aldrich moved to appoint Don Woodward to the Local Transportation Committee; Ms. Gilman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

b. Re-Appointments:

Arts Committee

Jane Kiernan - term to expire 4/30/2012

Cable TV Committee

Jim Fellows – term to expire 4/30/2012

Candace Hoene – term to expire 4/30/2012

Conservation Commission

Sean Lyons – term to expire 4/30/2012

Virginia Raub - term to expire 4/30/2012

Carlos Guindon - term to expire 4/30/2011

Don Briselden (Alternate) - term to expire 4/30/2012

Council on Aging

Betsey McDonald - term to expire 4/30/2011

Exeter River Committee

Mike Lampert - term to expire 4/30/2012

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Heritage Commission

John Merkle - term to expire 4/30/2012

Historic District Commission

Jeanette Lackey (Alternate) - term to expire 4/30/2012

Planning Board

Carol Sideris - term to expire 4/30/2012

Katherine Woolhouse - term to expire 4/30/2012

Dennis Derby (Alternate) - term to expire 4/30/2012

Gwen English (Alternate) - term to expire 4/30/2012

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Martha Pennell (Alternate) - term to expire 4/30/2011

Joe Stone (Alternate) - term to expire 4/30/2012

Robert Prior - term to expire 4/30/2012

John Hauschildt - term to expire 4/30/2012

Mr. Aldrich moved to accept the reappointments; Ms. Gilman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

5. Discussion / Action Items

a. Train Committee Update and Presentation

Patricia Quinn, the Rail Authority Director in Portland, was present to speak about the Down Easter. Ms. Quinn spoke of the success, the volunteers, and on-time performance of the Down Easter. She also talked about the projects, finances of Portland's Train Station and the federal programs used to help fund projects and to help maintain great service. There is hope that the railway will be extended 30 miles north to Brunswick enabling riders to get from Boston, MA to Rockland, ME. Stimulus recovery grants may also help with funding.

Don Briselden of the Exeter Train Committee presented a draft plan to the Selectmen regarding the train station. Their vision is to develop an Exeter Regional Transportation Center at the railroad passenger station that will support Amtrak service as well as bus service along with adequate parking. Mr. Briselden reviewed the history, the current situation of the passenger station, the growth projection, the economic impact, funding possibilities and the proposed recommendations. Seniors that are 62 years or older can ride everyday at half price if tickets are bought 3 days in advance. There are many people from Exeter and from the region who use this station. It has had a very positive impact since the station has re-opened and people are happy to have this form of transportation back in town. Mr. Dean thanked everyone who helps to make this a great service and also to the DPW and Parks and Recreation for all their maintenance help. The Town will be driving forward to try to obtain any extra funding for the train station.

b. Recreation Pool Naming Update

The Board supported renaming the Recreation Park pool "Daniel J. Healy Memorial Pool" last year. A ceremony will take place on July 19th. The family and others have been working on various concepts for signage and memorials.

c. Recreation Fund Policy

Mr. Dean received feedback form DRA on the expenditure of the revolving fund. The authority to expend funds can be delegated to the Town Manager or it can be brought back before the town

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with the new language to fix the issue. Mr. Eastman believes that the voting of the expenditure of the fund should be brought weekly to the Selectmen's public meetings and that it is the Selectmen's responsibility. Mr. Campbell asked what the Board would do if they were in recess for that week. Mr. Dean stated that he spoke with 2 different auditors and delegating is appropriate. Ms. Gilman agrees with Mr. Eastman but thinks that they should consider having a method and a process for bookkeeping. The Board agreed that this needs to be rewritten with the new language and Recreation fund statutes and brought back before the town.

6. Public Hearings

a. EMS Fees

Fire Chief Comeau requested that the ambulance billing be increased from \$419 to the new rate of \$441.63 since the new Medicare rate adjustments have been posted. The Fire Department would like to stay with the Medicare costs. This would help cover expenses. The Board talked about what effect this would have with the EMS revolving fund. There will be another reading on the EMS fees next week.

7. Permits & Approvals

a. Tax Abatements & Exemptions

Current Use Application:

Mr. Aldrich moved to approve the Current Use Application as presented; Ms. Gilman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

Disability Exemptions:

Mr. Aldrich moved to approve the Disability Exemptions totaling \$84,500; Mr. Quandt seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

Elderly Exemptions:

Mr. Aldrich moved to approve the Elderly Exemptions totaling \$1,339,204; Mr. Eastman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

Abatements:

Mr. Aldrich moved to approve the Utility Abatements totaling \$56,534.96; Mr. Quandt seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

b. Water/Sewer Abatements – none.

c. Permits –

1. The Exeter Sportsmen's Club requested relief of shooting hours on Sunday April 20, 2009 for a hunter education class. This is a one time request.

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Mr. Quandt moved to accept the request as presented; Mr. Eastman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

2. Peter K. Datillo of Ian's Granite State Franks LLC applied for a peddling permit to sell hotdogs in Swasey Parkway from his trailer earlier this month. He is back before the Board to have some conditions straightened out. Mr. Dean stated that the conditions are in good shape now and he recommended moving forward with the application. Mr. Datillo read the response he had to the conditions. Mr. Datillo's trailer is to be parked on the north side of the first speed bump in Swasey Parkway and he will need to detach the trailer from his truck during the Farmers Market.

Mr. Eastman moved to accept the permit as amended; Mr. Quandt seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

3. The Rockingham Planning Commission applied for a permit to use the Town Hall for a meeting on May 18th, 2009 from 6:45pm – 9:00pm.
4. Kenneth L. Berry applied for a permit to use the Town Hall for a craft fair on November 6th from 4:00pm – 9:00pm and on November 7th from 7:00am – 4:00pm.

Ms. Gilman moved to accept the permits as presented; Mr. Aldrich seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

8. Reports

a. Town Manager's Report

Russ Dean: Mr. Dean met with the owner of Serendipity and they spoke about having a community garden set up on town property. Mr. Campbell and Ms. Gilman mentioned that the Conservation Commission and the Recreation Advisory Committee also have been talking about doing the same thing. Mr. Dean had a meeting earlier today in Epping on USDA programs, Community Facilities and Business Programs. He will be finding out if Exeter can benefit from the programs. There was a small business showcase on April 8. The kids that ran the showcase did a great job. Exeter will be receiving back \$150,000 from FEMA from the December ice storm. The money should be received in about 30 days.

b. Selectmen's Committee Reports

Julie Gilman: The Energy Committee met 2 weeks ago and they talked about recycle, reduce, reuse and getting the message out to neighbors. They also talked about how the downtown businesses need recycle pick up to come more frequently. The Heritage Commission met and identified properties on the National Register and looked at the section 106 process. They will be finalizing a database for the town wide survey. The application for the Local Certified Government will be passed. This will allow them to apply for grant funding. Ms. Gilman attended a Transportation Summit on Friday. They talked about organizing a central calling center.

Matt Quandt: Nothing to report.

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Bob Eastman: Mr. Eastman spoke with Sylvia von Aulock on how to approach the CIP this year and how to address projects and review them. He would like this to be a discussion item on next week's agenda. He also would like to discuss the expenditure report. Mr. Campbell said that the expenditure report discussion will happen in 2 weeks.

Bill Campbell: The Planning Board meeting was canceled. Sylvia von Aulock received the visionary award and Mr. Campbell congratulated her. On Friday at 10:00am there will be the Liberty Tree Ceremony at Stewart Park.

Bobby Aldrich: The Art Committee met last Thursday and is busy planning the Spring Show. It is set to open this weekend. Members met with Doreen about the Art Committee's finances. The Conservation Commission met last week and had 2 applications for races. They also discussed the easement at Lindon Commons. The Trail Committee meets Tuesday at 5:30pm.

b. Correspondence:

1. Letter from Patricia Taylor regarding tax appeal
2. Memorial Day Assembly Invitation
3. 2 Letters from R. Ridlon regarding lights in Town buildings
4. Letter from Comcast regarding new service offering
5. Exeter Historical Society invitation to Youth Night
6. 2 Letters from Dennis Derby regarding Exeter River Shoreline
7. Census Bureau letter notice of local visits
8. DES letter regarding Tuck Realty Corp.
9. DES letter of appointment for Peter Richardson
10. Comcast Cares Day letter
11. Notice of pavement work from the State of NH

9. Second Public Comment – none.

10. Non Public Session –

At 9:15pm, Mr. Eastman moved to enter into a non public meeting on RSA 91-A:3 exceptions II(e), (c.) (a); Mr. Quandt seconded. Mr. Aldrich called the roll: Mr. Eastman - aye, Mr. Quandt – aye, Mr. Campbell – aye, Ms. Gilman – aye, Mr. Aldrich – aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Aimee Caruso
Recording Secretary