

Select Board Meeting  
Monday June 1, 2020  
Remotely via Zoom  
Final Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

Members present: Julie Gilman, Molly Cowan, Lovey Roundtree Oliff, Daryl Browne, Niko Papakonstantis, and Russ Dean were present at this meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Papakonstantis at 6:50 PM.

Mr. Papakonstantis said that gatherings of 10 or more people currently pose a risk to our community. The Select Board meeting is imperative to maintaining the Town of Exeter public services, so per RSA 91-A:2(3)b, this meeting will be conducted without a quorum of this body being physically present in one location. He welcomed the members of the public attending remotely, and said the usual rules of conduct and decorum will apply. All votes will require a roll call vote.

2. Board Interview

- a. Communications Committee - Nina Braun

3. Public Comment

- a. Mr. Papakonstantis condemned the injustice against George Floyd and spoke in support of the black community. He is proud of our town's non-violent protests. Police Chief Stephan Poulin and Mr. Dean also read statements on the events.

4. Proclamations/Recognitions

- a. Mr. Papakonstantis recognized the students, teachers, and parents of Exeter for their efforts in remote learning since March.
- b. Ms. Cowan said June is Pride Month, and the LGBTQ+ community supports Black Lives Matter.

5. Approval of Minutes

- a. Regular Meeting: May 18, 2020

**MOTION:** Ms. Cowan moved to approve the minutes of May 18, 2020 as presented. Mr. Browne seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor.

6. Appointments

- a. ZBA

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to appoint Anne Surman to the Zoning Board, term to expire April 30, 2021. Mr. Browne seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor.

- b. Conservation Commission

**MOTION:** Ms. Cowan moved to appoint Kristin Osterwood to the Conservation Commission as an alternate, term to expire April 30, 2021. Mr. Browne seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor.

7. Discussion/Action Items

a. Parks/Recreation Updates

Mr. Bisson said the pavilion at Gilman Park should be complete by the end of June, and they hope to have a ribbon cutting to which the Select Board members are invited. At Kids Park, the company Themed Concepts is completing the playground in Minnesota, and it will be shipped and installed soon, but the playground will not be open until restrictions on playgrounds are lifted. The tennis courts at the Rec Park are open for singles play only, following the recommendations of NH and the USTA. Pickleball will also need to be played one on one. The basketball courts have not been opened. The skateboard park will be open, with a limit of 10 people at a time. They're looking to modify park rules generally so that the police can better enforce the guidelines. For the CareKids program, they now have the Governor's recommendations on day camps, and the results of the family survey, but the interest in the program is a little underwhelming.

Ms. Roy said this program would start July 6 and run to August 14, Monday through Friday from 8 AM - 4 PM. They would take a minimum of 18 kids and a maximum of 45. They would need to create groups of nine children and one staff member. There will be other aides, but the 9/1 groups must be independent for the day to limit potential exposure. The kids must be in grades 1-7. They will hire between 3 and 9 staff members. When students arrive in the morning, there will be a temperature check and some questions, and if they don't pass they will get back in the car with their parent/guardian to go home. There would be a staggered drop off. They will be following the NH Task Force guidelines for a sick child. DHHS has not required children to wear masks. Staff can wear masks or take them off as long as they are outside and at a six foot distance. There will be hand sanitizer stations throughout the park. They've cancelled all field trips. Personal belongings will be separated. There will be no sharing of food. The registration numbers will determine whether they need to hire extra cleaners or whether Rec staff can handle cleaning. At 18 kids, the program will be financially viable. If they can get 18, each registrant beyond that will be added to a waitlist until a full group of 9 is registered, although they may be able to do a group of six - eight if necessary. They could consider opening registration to other towns in SAU 16 after giving precedence to Exeter residents. They're looking for Board approval to run the program.

Ms. Roy added that everyone who was registered for camp this year will be automatically registered for next year.

**MOTION:** Mr. Browne authorized the Parks and Rec department to create the CareKids program with a minimum of 18 kids and a maximum of 45 for summer 2020. Ms. Oliff seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Mr. Bisson said they have been talking with the schools and are looking to do events at school facilities, such as drive-in movies or concerts at EHS. They're looking at the week of June 19th for the first movie night. It will be restrictive at first but they're hoping the guidelines will allow them to ease up on social interaction later in the summer. They would like the Board's authorization to spend \$8,000 out of their existing budget, although they don't need a motion. They will have people sign waivers, although Primex has advised them it may not hold up. The Board generally agreed.

Mr. Bisson discussed the state of each sport; baseball and softball are the mostly likely to come back, as they have the least contact.

b. Bond Documents, Surface/Groundwater Assessment

Mr. Papakonstantis asked if the early construction work at the library will result in any savings. Mr. Dean said the construction has run into some foundation issues they've had to address. There are contingencies that should cover overages. He will need an update from the Library to see how the timeline is going. Mr. Papakonstantis asked that Hope Godino, the Library Director, update them at an upcoming meeting. Doreen Chester said they've had some delays in materials, which has slowed down the timeline. The savings in part time wages would be a give-back item to the town this year.

Ms. Gilman read the Bond Document, which covers both the Library and the Groundwater/Surfacewater project:

*Certificate of Vote Regarding Authorization of Bonds and Approval of Loan Agreement with the New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank*

*I, the undersigned Clerk of the Issuer, hereby certify that a meeting of the Governing Board of Issuer (the "Board") was held on June 1, 2020. A quorum of the Board was in attendance and voting throughout.*

*I further certify that there are no vacancies on the Board, that all of the members of the Board were duly notified to the time, place, and purposes of said meeting, including as one of the purposes the authorization of bonds and the approval of a Loan Agreement between the New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank (the "Bond Bank") and the Issuer.*

*I further certify that the following is a true copy of resolutions unanimously adopted at said meeting:*

*RESOLVED: That under and pursuant to the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33, N.H.R.S.A., as amended, the New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank Law, Chapter 35-A, N.H.R.S.A., as amended, and other laws in addition thereto, and to votes of the Issuer duly adopted on March 13, 2018 and March 12, 2019 under Articles 7 and 6, respectively, of the Warrants for such annual meetings of the Issuer there be and hereby is authorize the issuance of a \$5,105,885 Bond of the Issuer (the "Bond") which is being issued by the Issuer for the purposes of (i) financing the further development of groundwater sources and the conducting of an updated review of the surface water system, (ii) current refunding the Issuer's*

*\$2,500,000 bond anticipation note dated July 10, 2019, as amended on December 5, 2019, which note was issued to finance the design and construction of renovations and repairs, including furniture, fixtures, replacement of the HVAC system, and equipment of the Exeter Public Library (the "Library Project"), and (iii) financing the new money costs of the Library Project.*

*The Bond shall be dated as of its date of issuance, shall be in such numbers and denominations as the purchaser shall request, shall mature in accordance with the schedule set forth in Exhibit A to a certain Loan Agreement hereinafter described (the "Loan Agreement"), shall bear a net interest cost rate (as defined in the Loan Agreement) of two and a half percent (2.5%) per annum or such lesser amount as may be determined by a majority of the Board. The Bond shall be substantially in the form set forth as Exhibit B to the Loan Agreement and otherwise shall be issued in such manner and form as the signatories shall approve by their execution thereof.*

*RESOLVED: That the Bond shall be sold to the Bond Bank at the par value thereof plus any applicable premium.*

*RESOLVED: That in order to evidence the sale of the Bond, the Treasurer of Issuer and a member of the Board are authorized and directed to execute, attest and deliver, in the name and on behalf of the Issuer, a Loan Agreement in substantially the form submitted to this meeting, which is hereby approved, with such changes therein not inconsistent with this vote and approved by the officers executing the same on behalf of the Issuer. The approval of such changes by said officers shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution of the Loan Agreement by such officers.*

*RESOLVED: That all things heretofore done and all actions heretofore taken by the Issuer and its officers and agents in its authorization of the project to be financed by the Bond are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.*

*RESOLVED: That the Clerk and the signers of the Bond are each hereby authorized to take any and all action necessary and convenient to carry out the provisions of this vote, including delivering the Bond against payment therefor.*

*RESOLVED: That the useful life of the project being financed is in excess of twenty (20) years.*

*I further certify that said meeting was open to the public; the aforesaid vote was not taken by secret ballot nor in executive session; that the votes were taken by roll call if the meeting was held remotely/virtually and in accordance with Governor's Order #12; that notice of the time and place of said meeting was posted in at least two (2) appropriate public places within the territorial limits of the Issuer, or published in a newspaper of general circulation in said area, at least twenty-four (24) hours, excluding Sundays and legal holidays, before said meeting; that no deliberations or actions with respect to the vote were taken in executive session; and that the minutes of said meeting have been promptly recorded and have been or will be made open to inspection within one hundred forty-four (144) hours of said meeting, all in accordance with Chapter 91-A, N.H.R.S.A., as amended.*

*I further certify that the above vote has not been amended or rescinded and remains in full force and effect as of this date.*

*Witness my hand and seal of the Issuer this 1st day of June, 2020.*

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved the Bond Document. Ms. Oliff seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor.

c. COVID 19 Updates

Eric Wilking, the Fire Chief, said it's been three months since NH's first positive case. Since the state ramped up testing six weeks ago, there was a gain in positive cases, 25-27 every day in Rockingham County, but they're now down to 14 per day. The overall state numbers don't reflect a reduction. Exeter had four in the last week, for a total of 21 cases. Following NH guidelines will keep these numbers down. The firefighter who had been called into the MA National Guard has now returned. The Farmer's Market has been running well, and James Murray is no longer going each week. They've been working with Mr. Winham and town staff to assist any restaurant in town interested in outside dining. They've looked at items to submit for FEMA relief and others for the GOFER program. On Friday, the Governor extended the stay at home order until June 15th, and said that everyone should wear a mask and observe social distancing. They burned through a significant amount of PPE but they've been able to replace it at no cost to the town. Mr. Papakonstantis asked if there's enough PPE to handle a second wave of Covid-19, and Chief Wilking said they have not yet purchased a surplus in anticipation of that. They have tens of thousands of gloves but masks and gowns are less well-stocked.

Darren Winham, the Economic Development Director, said he is looking to help companies to allow employees to work from home. The Regional Development Directors wrote to the GOFER group about supporting local Chambers, who will not otherwise get any relief. They were hoping to hear about the Governor's plan for MSRF, but the guidelines will not be released until later this week. The scope of aid seems extremely small. Some categories of business can phase in or expand business today, some on June 15th, and day camp can start on June 29th. Exeter temporary outdoor dining applications have been going very well.

Mr. Dean said June 15th is the next milestone on the stay at home order. Chief Wilking and Ms. Chester pulled together all the GOFER information, and a 25 page packet was submitted. Hopefully they will get reimbursed the full \$362,000 they applied for. Town departments are still doing their regular work, some of it remotely. Ms. Gilman asked whether the Town Offices were notarizing documents. Mr. Dean said they've been doing some Facetime notarizing, but he would have to look into whether it's generally available.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked whether the Board would like to continue the closure of Swasey Parkway for another 30 days. They were in agreement to leave it closed.

**MOTION:** Ms. Cowan moved to extend the closure of vehicular traffic on Swasey Parkway for another 30 days. Mr. Browne seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor.

8. Regular Business

a. Tax Abatements, Veterans Credits and Exemptions

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved a Disability Exemption for 95/64/335 in the amount of \$125,000. Ms. Cowan seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved an Excavation Tax for 113/5 in the amount of \$442. Ms. Cowan seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor.

Ms. Gilman said there was an Intent to Excavate for 113/5 in the amount of \$442; that requires a signature, not a vote.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved a Yield Tax for 46/3 in the amount of \$106.31. Mr. Browne seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor.

The next item was a Voluntary Change of Address application. Family Promise, which owns 25 Hampton Road, has changed the property from a single family to a two family, and is looking for two separate addresses.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve the application for Voluntary Change of Address of 25 Hampton Road to 25A and 25B for emergency responders to easily locate the property. Ms. Oliff seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor.

b. Permits & Approvals

- i. There were no permits and approvals at this meeting.

c. Town Manager's Report

- i. The Town Offices are continuing to look into the Gilman Park Dog situation, and they hope to revisit it at the next meeting.
- ii. Mr. Dean thanked Eileen Flockhart for organizing the Arbor Day Ceremony on May 21st.
- iii. Bob Glowacky, Florence Ruffner, and others arranged a virtual Memorial Day ceremony, which is available on the town website.

d. Select Board Committee Reports

- i. Ms. Oliff said there was no formal meeting of the Swasey Parkway Trustees, but she heard of the need to replace shingles on the Swasey pavilion and a request to consider keeping the Parkway indefinitely closed to vehicular traffic. Ms. Gilman said the stage at Swasey Parkway is now the town's responsibility, and the roof has been needing repair for a number of years. It should be added to the budget.
- ii. Ms. Gilman said she had her first virtual HDC meeting, where they discussed the loka. It was a workshop and they did not vote; this group

has no regulatory power over how the building is used. The Arbor Day tree planting was nicely done. She would like to discuss the town's policy on the wearing of face masks at the next meeting. Mr. Papakonstantis said he'd like information about what other towns are doing and what Attorney Mitchell recommends.

- iii. Ms. Cowan said the Board had previously heard the recommendations from the Rec Advisory Board meeting. At the Planning Board meeting, they heard the continuation of one of the big properties proposed by developer Tom Monahan, but there was no vote.
- iv. Mr. Browne said he had no committee meetings. He worked with town staff to get the Communications Committee going again. He had a productive meeting with Chief Poulin and representatives of Phillips Exeter about reporting any incidents that happen to students up the chain to the Police so they can address them.
- e. Correspondence
  - i. There was no correspondence discussed at this meeting.

9. Review Board Calendar

- a. The next meetings are June 15 and 29.

10. Non-Public Session

- a. There was no non-public session at this meeting..

11. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Mr. Browne moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Gilman seconded. By a roll call vote, all were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joanna Bartell  
Recording Secretary