

Select Board Meeting
Monday September 6, 2022
6:50 PM
Nowak Room, Town Offices
Final Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

Members present: Julie Gilman, Molly Cowan, Lovey Roundtree Oliff, Niko Papakonstantis, Nancy Belanger, Town Manager Russ Dean, and Assistant Town Manager Melissa Roy were present at this meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Papakonstantis at 6:50 PM. The Board went downstairs for an interview.

2. Board Interviews

- a. Stacey Rogers for the Sustainability Committee

3. Bid Opening - Ambulance Fire/EMS

Mr. Dean stated that the bid came in on time but was set aside because of the holiday. The bid should be opened and referred to the Fire Department for review.

Mr. Papakonstantis opened the bid from Bulldog Fire and Emergency Apparatus of Woodville MA, for an Osage Type 3 Ambulance 2025 E480 Chassis, at a cost of \$336,033.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to forward the bid to the Fire Chief and Fire Department. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

4. Public Comment

- a. There was no public comment at this meeting.

5. Proclamations/Recognitions

- a. There were no proclamations/recognitions at this meeting.

6. Approval of Minutes

- a. Regular Meeting: August 22, 2022
These minutes were tabled to September 19.

7. Appointments

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to appoint Stacey Rogers to the Sustainability Advisory Committee with a term to expire April 2023. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

8. Discussion/Action Items

- a. Voter Registration Overview

Senior Supervisor of the Checklist Vicky Nawoichyk was present to discuss voter registration. Election season is open, and the first primary is Tuesday September 13 at Talbot Gym from 7 AM - 8 PM. If you're not yet registered, you can still register at the polling station on election day. Those wishing to register should bring photo ID and proof of residency such as a bank statement, car registration, utility bill, etc, as well as citizenship documents such as a birth certificate, naturalization papers, or passport. If you don't have that

documentation, we have a form you can sign that attests that you are a US Citizen.

b. Polling Pad Rental Contract

Mr. Dean said we have a price quote from LHS associates but don't yet have a contract. He will bring this back once we get one.

c. ARPA Funding Request

Police Chief Stephan Poulin was present to request ARPA funds for Police tasers. There are 27 tasers to be replaced. The Police first got them in 2006, and in 2017 replaced all tasers with the newest version. Five years is the standard useful life recommendation, and Taser will no longer cover us with the \$10M liability insurance. The latest model is more reliable. It has updated firmware, allows you to give the person a warning arc, allows you to recharge the batteries, and has dual lasers for sighting. We don't use tasers often. In 2019 we had one taser use, and a taser was additionally aimed one time. In 2020 we had one use and aimed it twice. In 2021, one taser was aimed. In 2022, we've had no uses or aims. When you need to use this equipment, it needs to work. It could be a life or death situation. We use it in place of lethal force. For 30 tasers, it would cost \$110,664.75, which includes tasers, batteries, holsters, and cartridges.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked how the tasers were paid for previously, and Mr. Dean said through the operating budget.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked if some are still under warranty, and Chief Poulin said no, at the end of this year they're all out of warranty.

Ms. Belanger said in the August 8 meeting, we had a list of possible ideas for ARPA, but without numbers associated. She's leaning towards tasers being part of the budget, not coming from ARPA funds.

Mr. Dean said we have \$736,374 left of ARPA funding, but we don't have to spend it until 2024.

Chief Poulin said he got information about a payment plan as well: over 5 years it would be \$22,132.95 each year.

Mr. Papakonstantis said he wanted to see all the proposals from the Departments before approving this request, and the Board agreed.

d. Rose Farm Conservation Deed Easement

Town Planner Dave Sharples spoke on behalf of Kristin Murphy regarding the Rose Farm Conservation Easement. This is 6.1 Acres of conservation land which has been offered as part of an open space development. This was approved by the Planning Board, and final plans have been signed. The developer has not started the subdivision yet. The Conservation Commission unanimously recommended the acceptance of the parcel, subject to legal review. Legal review has since approved the language of the deed.

Ms. Gilman said in the deed description, it mentions forestry and agriculture. Everyone's been wanting to do a community garden - could this be a place for one? This may be a question for Kristin Murphy.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to accept the Rose Farm conservation deed as presented and appoint the Chair to sign on behalf of the Select Board. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

e. Acceptance of Invest NH Funding

Town Planner Dave Sharples said he's been working on a town-wide rezoning effort. There are many limiting factors to growth, related to capacities such as sewer, water, natural resources, and transportation network capacity. To overcome these limitations requires capital improvement. In Exeter, we have a diverse housing stock, but the Planning Board and Housing Advisory Committee are looking to continue to grow a diverse community. Rezoning is a large effort, particularly the public engagement piece. Through Invest NH, he [Mr. Sharples] applied for a grant for \$45,000 to complete the project, which was approved. No match is required. He will use it to continue what he's doing with the Horsley-Whitten Group, and we may want to put something on the March 2023 Warrant.

Ms. Belanger said the Housing Advisory Committee is excited about this work. Supporting housing diversity is part of the Master Plan, on page 47. She thanked Mr. Sharples for his work and ideas. Mr. Papakonstantis said Mr. Sharples has gotten quite a lot of grant money for the town over the years.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to accept the Invest NH Municipal Planning and Zoning Grant in the amount of \$45,000 and further authorize the Town Manager or his designee to execute any documents and take any and all actions necessary to complete the project within the available funding. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

9. Regular Business

a. Tax Abatements, Veterans Credits and Exemptions

i. There were no tax abatements, credits, or exemptions considered at this meeting.

b. Permits & Approvals

Mr. Dean said the Board received a supplement to the packet today regarding the Squamscott River Siphons project. Public Works came back to us with a recommendation that the low bidder, N. Granese and Sons of Salem MA, be awarded the bid at \$1,627,750. Mr. Dean said Wright-Pierce did due diligence on this bid.

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to award the bid for the Squamscott River Sewer Siphons Project to N. Granese and Sons of Salem MA at \$1,627,750. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

MOTION: Ms. Gilman moved to authorize the Town Manager to sign the agreement necessary to completing the Squamscott River Sewer Siphons Project. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

c. Town Manager's Report

- i. Mr. Dean thanked Pam McElroy and Bob Glowacky for their work on the new website. They have been working on the Board, Committee, and Commission information, and the website now has staff contacts for all but two committees.
- ii. Chief Poulin found a Massachusetts vehicle dealer that had 200 police vehicles available. We booked two from the prior year's vote and two from this year to upgrade our fleet.
- iii. We've signed the fuel contracts through Aug 2023. The amount is \$3.78 diesel and \$2.98 for unleaded, which will be a hit to our budget.
- iv. He thanked Rachel Loughner, the Deputy Tax Collector, who resigned recently. Her last day is September 23rd. We posted the position today.
- v. Budget Meetings are continuing this week, and are going well so far.
- vi. He met with Tom Monahan today regarding the development on Epping Road. There are a few things Mr. Monahan was concerned about, such as impact fees, but those won't have to be paid until the CO is issued.
- vii. One TIF item is widening Epping Road, we will continue with that in the Spring.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked if the interviews that Bob Glowacky is doing are being broadcast yet. Mr. Dean said he thinks they're being broadcast, but he will check

Mr. Papakonstantis asked if we've heard from Attorney Mitchell on Swasey Park. Mr. Dean said yes. Attorney Mitchell has had contact with Tom Donovan of Charitable Trust, who has sent an email to the Board. There's a document about parkways in general that Mr. Donovan has given to Attorney Mitchell for review. Attorney Mitchell will write a letter to Mr. Donovan to commence the next step in the process. Mr. Papakonstantis asked if Attorney Mitchell could write a formal update for the Board.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked about the DPW Director Position. Mr. Dean said we're finalizing the outreach packet.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked about the public comment from several meetings ago regarding the Water/Sewer billing. Mr. Dean said we'll have to look at the program itself. We may have to change the charges from calculating on a monthly basis to a daily basis.

d. Select Board Committee Reports

- i. Ms. Belanger had a Planning Board meeting August 25, where Glerups shoe manufacturer of Denmark had a show and tell. They want to build a facility on Epping Road. They will be back this Thursday. Brentwood Distribution asked for an expansion to store some product through the winter. There were some requests for extensions on approval, which were all granted. The Housing Advisory Committee walking tour is Thursday from 4-6. We will post the map for anyone who might want to follow along

at another time. It starts at Town Hall and finishes at Sea Dog afterwards. The theme is "Housing Hiding in Plain Sight."

- ii. Ms. Gilman had no committee meetings. After conversations with the Heritage Commission and Arts Committee, we're getting Town Hall registered on the National Register of Historic Places, which will open up federal grant opportunities.
- iii. Ms. Cowan had no report.
- iv. Ms. Oliff had no report.
- v. Mr. Papakonstantis said he attended the Swasey Parkway Trustees meeting, where they discussed increased "no dogs" signage. They talked about fall and spring seeding and work plans, but because of drought restrictions they put everything on hold for now.

e. Correspondence

- i. There was no correspondence reviewed at this meeting.

10. Review Board Calendar

- a. The next meetings are September 19 and 26; Tuesday October 11; and October 24th.

11. Non-Public Session

MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3II(d). Ms. Gilman seconded. In a roll call vote, the motion passed 5-0. Selectwoman Belanger moved to seal the minutes seconded by Selectwoman Gilman. The motion passed 5-0.

12. Adjournment. Selectwoman Belanger moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectwoman Gilman. The motion carried 5-0. The Board stood adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanna Bartell
Recording Secretary