

Select Board Meeting  
Monday May 15, 2023  
7 PM  
Nowak Room, Town Offices  
Final Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

Members present: Chair Niko Papakonstantis, Vice-Chair Molly Cowan, Clerk Julie Gilman, Dan Chartrand, Nancy Belanger, and Town Manager Russ Dean were present at this meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Papakonstantis at 7 PM.

2. Public Comment

- a. Ms. Gilman gave an update on legislative issues at the State level.

3. Proclamations/Recognitions

Mr. Papakonstantis congratulated Don Clement who received the Longard Volunteer award. Mr. Papakonstantis asked Mr. Dean to invite Mr. Clement to a future meeting for formal recognition. Mr. Chartrand said we celebrated the Alewife Festival last Saturday; Don was a leader in removing the dam which has made the river more vital and active.

4. Approval of Minutes

- a. Regular Meeting: May 1, 2023

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to approve the minutes of May 1, 2023 as submitted. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

5. Appointments

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to accept the resignation of Elizabeth Stevens from the Energy Committee. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

6. Discussion/Action Items

- a. AARP Age Friendly Community Network Application

David Tovey of Parks and Rec was present to discuss the application.

Mr. Papakonstantis thanked Mr. Tovey because when one of the members of our community was unable to attend a Rec field trip that included a meal, Mr. Tovey delivered the meal to them himself.

Mr. Tovey said the Department has continued to improve its efforts on age-friendly resources. At the last Rec Advisory meeting, the Board voted that Exeter join the AARP network of age-friendly communities. This would serve as an organizing structure for community improvements, provide resources for identifying community needs, gain access to webinars from professionals, and leverage the Department for grant opportunities. Membership is free. We need a letter of commitment from the highest elected official, so we're asking for the

Select Board's support in moving forward and a letter from Mr. Papakonstantis. We're also looking for members to join our resident Senior Council.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to authorize Parks and Rec to proceed with the application process to join AARP's Age Friendly Community Network and further authorize the Select Board Chair to write and sign the corresponding documentation. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

b. Special Town Meeting Discussion

Mr. Papakonstantis said there is a memo in the packet from Paul Vlasich giving an update on the Sewer Siphons project. Mr. Dean said there is an administrative, drilling, and site improvements piece to this. In administrative, this locks in the price for future drilling. The consultant discussed SRF funding with NH DES, and we could amend our loan for continued funding. In drilling, the work began last Tuesday, and they set up the gyro location device and pressure gauge. They completed 190 feet and began rock drilling today. They hired a mud engineer and added a pressure monitor to the drill. We're optimistic that they will succeed. In site improvements, they condensed their construction site for access to farmer's market and gazebo.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked if there are any recommendations on amending the current loan. Mr. Dean said Finance Director Corey Stevens and Assistant Town Manager Melissa Roy are putting together a plan for the Board for next week.

Mr. Chartrand said it's great that they could condense the site so the town can use Swasey Parkway as it gets to spring and summer.

Mr. Dean said additional funding will be required for phase 2. We're in the midst of putting together the plan, so specifics will wait until the 22nd. A special Town Meeting would be held, with the Deliberative Session on July 11th and the second session with voting on August 15th. We need to post for a bond as part of the project. It would require a vote of the Board to petition the Superior Court for permission to hold a special Town Meeting.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked if it would take two months to get permission, and Mr. Dean said we're hoping that it will go more quickly than that. It shouldn't take longer. Usually they give this kind of filing priority.

Ms. Belanger asked if the Deliberative Session would be at night, and Mr. Dean said yes.

Mr. Papakonstantis said time is of the essence because the contractor and subcontractor need to know if we can complete this work. We're hoping they can finish the project in the fall.

Mr. Chartrand described the process: at the July 11 Deliberative Session, the town would debate the warrant, which should just have one article. It could be amended. August 15 is the day where people would vote for this article. The reason we can't wait until after Labor Day is because the contractor needs to know sooner rather than later or we may incur additional charges for tearing

down and setting up again. Mr. Dean said there's a remobilization charge baked into what we already have, but we need to get the vote done by September 1st because there's a guarantee of the price through that date. After that, it could change. It would be a similar lump-sum agreement.

Ms. Belanger asked if Town Counsel is aware, and Mr. Dean said yes, Counsel put together this schedule and they're ready to file with Superior Court.

**MOTION** [not voted]: Ms. Belanger moved to authorize the Town Manager to authorize Town Counsel to petition Superior Court for permission to hold a special Town Meeting for the Town of Exeter as outlined in our statutory timeline, with July 11 as the first session and August 15 as the seconded session, 2023. Mr. Chartrand seconded. Ms. Gilman asked if it should include the purpose in the motion. Ms. Belanger rescinded her motion and Mr. Chartrand rescinded his second.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to authorize the Town Manager to authorize Town Counsel to petition Superior Court for permission to hold a special Town Meeting in the Town of Exeter to address the supplemental phase of the Squamscott Siphon project as outlined, with July 11 as the first session and August 15 as the second session, 2023, under RSA 40:13-26. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

c. FY23 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Grant

Mr. Dean said we get a grant from NH DES that helps offset the cost of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection event. This year it's up to \$7,150.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to accept the State grant of up to \$7,150 for the purposes of offsetting costs related to the Hazardous Waste Collection, to be held in October 2023. Ms. Cowan seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Dean said regarding the certificate of authority by vote, we have been getting pushback on these documents. He asks that the Board vote on the certificate of authority.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to authorize the Town Manager to sign the certificate of authority by vote in regards to the grant agreement with the State of NH DES. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

d. Economic Development Update: Darren Winham

Economic Development Director Darren Winham was present to give an update. CA Design, which makes military aircraft, purchased Osram's building B and is making a 40,000 square foot addition. They're investing \$35M. At 22 and 24 Continental Drive, one company is considering combining the parcels. At 85 Epping Road, there's a P&S in place with a bank. They're working on the financials for moving the contamination that was present. The business outreach program is ongoing. Mr. Carlisle's property has a brewery interested and they're looking to build a road. At Gateway at Exeter, they're moving dirt; it looks like they will receive \$3M from Invest NH.

Mr. Chartrand asked about Invest NH. Mr. Winham said the State took \$60M and put it out to developers who are putting in workforce housing. Towns can also apply, and Exeter applied for \$560,000, not tied to anything, just because we're willing to work with developers on workforce housing. We can't receive any money until the Gateway project gets its final approvals and permits.

Mr. Winham continued with the update. Travel and Nature is on Lincoln Street now. Their former building downtown will look completely different inside and outside. The owners have to go to the HDC. At 140 Epping Road, there's a Ninja warrior gym hoping to open June 4. He [Mr. Winham] took a tour of the Ioka and it was amazing. They're putting a deck all the way across the back. Fat Hen Brewing is looking at sites in Exeter, including the commercial spot in front of the Gateway project. They're also looking at a one barrel system at the Rinks. At 23 Water Street, the owner is going to build a building but he's not sure when. Glerups was going to build a 90,000 square foot building on Continental and received full approval, but then they went dark on us. It turns out that the sitework costs were so much higher than they anticipated, they can't do it. They put it on the market for \$1.895M. We do have someone looking at it. At One Cronin Road, which was State surplus, he's not allowed to say who's going in but it's a use you would expect. Big Bean is doing their work now, not sure when they're going to open; they're going in where the Tavern was. At 100 Domain Drive, Torrington Properties is looking at adding 60,000 square feet. At 17 Industrial Drive, the Distribution facility there needs workers. At 2 Center Street, the Masiello group left, and Art by Alissa and another business are going in. The Seacoast Economic Development Stakeholders group received money, and are putting it towards Soho creatives, creating tools for businesses to hire and retain workers. At 164 Epping Road, an Optometrist is going in. Remax Exeter went out, and people are looking at it now. A Yearbook studio company looking at going into Gateway. Flamingo Coffee Bar is open on Lincoln Street. At Monster Gas, a local person wants to buy part or all of that building and fix it up. Donut Love will reopen. New England Mercantile Home is going in at 154 Water Street. At 97 Lincoln Street, a new florist client is considering that location.

Ms. Gilman said she wishes we could find space for other restaurants. Mr. Winham said we just don't have space. He's trying to get people on Epping Road but they want to be downtown.

e. RSA 79E Public Hearing - 173-179 Water Street "Smith Building"

**MOTION:** Mr. Chartrand moved to open the public hearing on the granting of 79-E tax relief to 173-179 Water Street in Exeter, the Smith Building. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Winham read his memo regarding the 79-E request from Jones and Wilson LLC, the owners of 173-179 Water Street.

Mr. Dean said no later than 45 days after the public hearing, the governing body shall render a decision and determine the covenant period. It doesn't need to happen tonight.

Mr. Chartrand asked the applicants to describe the property.

Kevin Jones of Jones and Wilson Reality said it was the former Woolworth building. We've reconfigured the old large George and Phillips space, which was 12,000 square feet. We took the front 2,000 square feet to take its place and it has been leased out to a retail tenant for opening in July. The remaining 10,000 square feet was approved by the Planning Board for 7 residential apartments. We will enclose the parking area and create 14 parking spaces. There are openings cut into the building on the river and those will be residential-style windows.

Ms. Gilman said this building is not individually listed as a historic property.

Ms. Belanger asked if the rentals will be market rate, and Mr. Jones said that's correct.

Ms. Gilman said she thinks there will be a lot of public good around this project. She has no problem agreeing, it's just a question of for how long.

Mr. Chartrand said he was part of the push to adopt 79-E 10 years ago, and this was exactly the kind of project we were hoping for, one that takes buildings and uses them more efficiently. There's a residential unit shortage, and these folks are putting in residential units downtown, where we already have water and sewer, to generate a residential population downtown, which is one of the goals of our Master Plan. He would encourage the Board to go long rather than short on the time period. We want to encourage other developers to come into town. It will be on the tax rolls after the time period and then it will be a huge win.

Ms. Gilman said in the past we may have extended the relief for too long. We have to balance development with the rest of the taxpayers. It starts at 5 years, and she would add the 2 years for adding residential units, for a total of 7 years. Mr. Chartrand and Ms. Cowan agreed.

Ms. Cowan said she wants that part of the river to be more vibrant, and enclosing the parking lot will make it look better.

Mr. Chartrand said adding 7 units on this side of the river is a significant impact. Adding residential units is making downtown more vital. Putting in improvements that are half of the existing valuation is a tremendous percentage. He's seen applications that were a fraction of that. It shows a tremendous commitment by the owners.

Ms. Cowan asked what commercial tenant is going in, and Mr. Jones said they prefer that he not say.

Ms. Belanger said her concern is that 79-E was an experiment 10 years ago. We now need to know the cost to the taxpayers for giving away those 5 or 7 years. She's hoping to delay the vote to get the Board those numbers. Mr. Winham said he's gathering that information, but his opinion is that we wouldn't want to punish someone who is investing this much money by delaying the decision. Mr. Papakonstantis asked how long it would take to get that information, and Mr. Dean said he didn't know. Mr. Chartrand said you'd be

estimating what the valuation would be at the end of the development, it would just be a ballpark figure. Ms. Belanger said the Housing Advisory Committee was going to get a report on historic data on 79-E exemptions. She would have liked to have similar numbers for tonight.

Mr. Dean said the estimated project cost is \$880,000 according to the application. If you froze the taxes on that number, it would be \$21,000 or \$22,000 in taxes foregone each year at the current tax rate, or \$154,000 over 7 years.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to close the public hearing on the tax relief request for 173-179 Water Street. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve the application for 173-179 Water Street tax relief under 79-E because of the following public benefits: I) it enhances the economic vitality of the downtown; II-a) it promotes the preservation and reuse of existing building stock throughout a municipality by the rehabilitation of historic structures, thereby conserving the embodied energy in accordance with energy efficiency guidelines established by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation; III) It promotes development of municipal centers, providing for efficiency, safety, and a greater sense of community, consistent with RSA 9-B; and IV) it increases residential housing in urban or town centers; and further move that the covenants required to run with the relief period, and that relief period shall be 7 years. The covenant must be reviewed by Town Counsel at the applicant's expense prior to completion of the application. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

f. RSA 79E Extension Request - Former Ioka Property

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to open the public hearing on the extension request. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Winham read the memo related to the application from March 11, 2021. The amount of money they've put into the project is \$4.76M. They're looking to extend. They had supply chain issues that drove the project longer than they expected. Ms. Belanger asked if one of the delays was getting permission from DES, and Mr. Winham said yes.

Applicants David Cowie and Jay Caswell were present. Mr. Cowie said we're strongly underway now, the steel arrived a month ago and we're ready to get going. We would be happy to give the Board members a tour.

Mr. Winham said it's already approved for 9 years. Mr. Cowie said we're looking for an extension on the completion date. We had delays and cost escalations. We would like to get the project completed before 2 years, but we want to request 2 years so we don't have to come back. We didn't get the building permit until May of that year.

Ms. Gilman said she had no problem extending the completion date because of the situation.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to close the public hearing on 79 E request for 53-55 water Street. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

MOTION [not voted]: Ms. Gilman moved to approve an extension of the November 2022 expected completion date two years for 79-E tax relief application for the Mayer Building at 53-55 Water Street. Mr. Chartrand seconded. Ms. Belanger asked if the new completion date should be included. Ms. Gilman withdrew her motion and Mr. Chartrand withdrew his second.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve the request for extension of the project completion date for 79-E tax relief application for the Mayer Building at 53-55 Water Street to June 30, 2025. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

## 7. Regular Business

### a. Tax Abatements, Veterans Credits and Exemptions

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a warrant for the 2023 first tax bill in the amount of \$28,601,655. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to deny the Elderly Exemption for 90/11 for tax year 2023. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 63/8 in the amount of \$72,600. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 35/4 in the amount of \$363,200. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 80/18/E in the amount of \$7,167,700. Ms. Belanger seconded. Mr. Chartrand recused himself. The motion passed 4-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 97/23/E in the amount of \$10,852,500. Ms. Belanger seconded. Mr. Chartrand recused himself. The motion passed 4-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 98/37/E in the amount of \$6,666,100. Ms. Belanger seconded. Mr. Chartrand recused himself. The motion passed 4-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 55/61/6 in the amount of \$103,200. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 55/61/10 in the amount of \$70,800. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 55/61/11 in the amount of \$57,300. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 55/61/12 in the amount of \$85,300. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 55/61/13 in the amount of \$72,600. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 86/8/1 in the amount of \$179,600. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 86/8/2 in the amount of \$178,400. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 87/36/E in the amount of \$389,700. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 65/146 in the amount of \$1,670,500. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 72/9 in the amount of \$582,800. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 73/292 in the amount of \$517,600. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 72/206 in the amount of \$550,300. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 72/215 in the amount of \$389,500. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 65/129/1 in the amount of \$7,196,500. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 65/128 in the amount of \$36,700. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 65/130 in the amount of \$10,380,000. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 65/131 in the amount of \$41,962,200. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 71/47/1 in the amount of \$0. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 65/131/3 in the amount of \$1,216,100. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Charitable Exemption for 71/48/E in the amount of \$64,000. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 71/119/1 in the amount of \$199,600. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 71/119/1E in the amount of \$40,000. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 62/112 in the amount of \$2,729,700. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 108/1 in the amount of \$191,800. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 64/41/E in the amount of \$2,291,300. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 64/42 in the amount of \$762,500. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 64/43 in the amount of \$1,125,900. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 64/46 in the amount of \$1,007,600. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 71/119/E in the amount of \$5,102,100. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 72/169/E in the amount of \$21,362,900. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 72/204/1E in the amount of \$414,200. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 72/208/E in the amount of \$25,432,400. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 72/209/E in the amount of \$32,602,900. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 83/1/E in the amount of \$26,153,300. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve an Educational Exemption for 83/87 in the amount of \$973,500. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 62/90 in the amount of \$684,100. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 83/60 in the amount of \$2,735,900. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 91/32/E in the amount of \$2,278,000. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 72/222 in the amount of \$531,000. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 72/222/E in the amount of \$516,600. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 73/143 in the amount of \$628,700. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 29/26 in the amount of \$378,700. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 29/21/E in the amount of \$1,351,500. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 95/61 in the amount of \$575,600. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 72/166 in the amount of \$1,117,600. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a Religious Exemption for 91/35/E in the amount of \$1,188,700. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

b. Permits & Approvals

Parks and Rec Director Greg Bisson said the Board previously authorized the Department to grade the fields at the Rec Park, but we discovered the turf around the infield was in worse condition than expected and had to be replaced.

Our staff tried their hardest, but it was a hot streak and they had to call in additional help. He's looking for approval to expend from the Parks Improvement fund for \$1,900 from Tuckahoe Turf and \$3,800 for Yeti Landcare who provided the labor to remove the sod and lay it. When you get sod, you only have 24 hours to put it down. Now it looks tremendous. The fund now has \$19,722.65, taking into account the \$25,000 match for the grant we have not yet gotten. That includes these expenditures.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to allow the Parks and Recreation Department to expend \$1,900 from the Park Improvement fund to purchase sod from Tuckahoe Turf and further to allow the Parks and Recreation Department to expend \$3,800 from the Park Improvement Fund to contract with Yeti Landcare for removal of the old sod and installation of new sod. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Bisson said last year the Board approved the purchase of heavy duty semi-permanent nets for pickleball, but people are moving them between the courts. Last year we had 180 players total; this year we had 189 and had to cap it with 100 people on the waitlist. We're looking to buy a net for the upper courts that we could put out during our pickleball program. This would come from the Rec Revolving Fund.

Mr. Chartrand asked if pickleball players move the nets. Mr. Bisson said we don't know who's moving them. They're on wheels. Mr. Dean said we've had some conversations about security cameras at the courts. Mr. Papakonstantis said it's a necessity given all the feedback we get about the courts. Mr. Bisson said it would cost \$6,800 to install monitoring cameras. Once we get to 10 Hampton Road, staff could get there almost instantly in case of an incident. People can also log in and see if the courts are being used. He's working with Andy Swanson on how best to do this.

Mr. Papakonstantis said there are 189 participants, each paying a \$15 fee, plus 100 on the waitlist. How many of them live in Exeter? Mr. Bisson said it's about 50/50. We've never filled up like this. We had an onslaught from other organizations running pickleball clinics. Next year we'll look at having a differential fee for residents and non-residents. He's attending a webinar next week on "peace and love between pickleball and tennis."

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to allow the Parks and Recreation department to expend at most \$4,800 from the Rec Revolving Fund to purchase a set of heavy-duty pickleball nets from Pioneer Athletics. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

c. Town Manager's Report

- i. Joanna filled in during Pam's vacation last week.
- ii. The Highway Dept is out doing crosswalks. Please drive carefully and slowly around our personnel.
- iii. A few people have contacted the Board about volunteering for a committee for the future of Swasey Parkway.

- iv. We're working on our bonding, and the Board should see something shortly.
  - v. The Town Hall Assessment contracts are signed and went out to Tony Callendrello today. The contractor ARCove is getting ready to start.
  - vi. We're getting good feedback on the speed monitors on Front and School streets.
  - vii. The Westside Drive neighborhood meeting is tomorrow.
  - viii. It's tax deed time, and the list will be forthcoming. He will send it to the Board via email. There will be a meeting about next steps.
  - ix. The Memorial Day Parade will go forward, but there are some additional costs for Police details this year. That will overspend the veteran's activities budget by about \$400. We will have to adjust the budget for FY24. Mr. Papakonstantis asked Mr. Dean to find out where the Select Board will meet for the parade.
  - x. Public Works is paving Linden Street and making structure adjustments in May. In late May they will be paving Salem Street. We're working on a design contract for the roundabout at Pine, Front, and Linden. We're working with Severino construction on the Epping Road on a near term design, a TIFF project.
  - xi. The Watershed Assistance Grant for the Kids Park BMP has cost increase concerns and is being reevaluated.
  - xii. Regarding Linden Street and the Exeter River Bridge, Wright Pierce is revising their contract, and is looking to complete that project this year.
- d. Select Board Committee Reports
- i. Ms. Belanger said she attended a Housing Advisory committee work session on May 4th. They talked about the housing report and whether it needed to be completely updated as well as next steps. There was another meeting the next morning, we were going to go through the exemptions to get those numbers. With all the other data available, we're not going to completely redo the report. The Director of the Workforce Housing Coalition gave a legislative update. We were planning a field trip to Dover to the Randolphs' project, but decided to postpone to September. The Planning Board may come too. Darren Winham talked about alternative wastewater systems. On May 9, she attended a Seacoast Regional Emergency Response Preparedness meeting at Unital in Exeter. She talked to Justin Pizon about doing an update on this plan for the Select Board and social media. She attended a downtown parking, traffic, and pedestrian analysis pre-proposal meeting on the scope of the work for the bicycle and pedestrian master plan. She attended a Conservation Commission meeting where they discussed the Alewife Festival, which Drew Koff said had a good turnout. She did the Alewife event with the Conservation Commission and they all work well together. They heard a proposal at the Carlyle subdivision that will come to the

Select Board. There's an SST cleanup May 10th. There's an EHS trail day Saturday June 3rd. The Raynes Barn repairs are going well, and the Commission recommends renewing the lease for another 5 years. There's an Orientation event coming up. Kristen Murphy was invited to Ipswich to talk about our dam removal, and Ipswich voted to remove their dam. At the Planning Board meeting, they had an election of officers and heard a second presentation from Dave Sharples, on the benefits of developed land. At the RPC May 10, they heard a presentation from the Randolphs.

- ii. Ms. Gilman had an Arts and Culture Advisory Commission where they talked about prioritizing different ideas. They discussed painting sidewalks and a sculpture in Townhouse Common, which is proposed to be an alewife. They also talked about putting murals and artwork downtown.
  - iii. Ms. Cowan attended a Rec Advisory Board meeting. They spoke about pickleball/tennis issues, the AARP age-friendly community program which the Rec Board voted unanimously to recommend, and field rental and how to ensure we're not having competing teams. She will not be available for the next Rec Advisory meeting on May 30. Ms. Gilman agreed to attend.
  - iv. Mr. Chartrand attended a Sustainability meeting on May 2nd. They will come before the Board next week with suggestions on adopting specific measures related to the single-use plastic citizens' petition. They're analyzing where we can do better on our recycling and waste streams. One idea was covering our cardboard collection area at the Transfer Station. There's a proposal for a water station in Swasey Parkway. We have one in Townhouse Common. The request could go to the budget recommendation process. Mr. Papakonstantis said Kristen Murphy talked to the Trustees about that, and they were interested. They're waiting for her to give them more information.
  - v. Mr. Papakonstantis had a Tree Committee meeting May 9. They talked about the table at the Alewife Festival. Exeter is the recipients of three trees that have to be planted by kids; it will be at LSS, date to be determined. The Rec Department will provide tree diapers.
- e. Correspondence
- i. A resident communicating about Kingston Road
  - ii. A memo from the US Dept of Transportation with public notice of availability
  - iii. Emails from the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks, with different legislation that will be in the T&I committee.
  - iv. A letter of appreciation for continued support from Waypoint
  - v. A notice of a special meeting from CPCNH

- vi. A letter from the NH Local Welfare Administrators Association in support of SB110
- vii. An NHMA Legislative Bulletin

8. Review Board Calendar

- a. The next meetings are May 22, June 5, and June 26. There may also be a meeting June 12.

9. Non-Public Session

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

10. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joanna Bartell  
Recording Secretary