



Town of Hopkinton, NH

Office of the Select Board

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SELECT BOARD PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2014 APPROVED August 25, 2014

Jim O'Brien, Chairman, called this regular meeting of the Select Board to order at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 11, 2014, in the large meeting room in the Town Hall. Chairman O'Brien introduced the members of the Board. George Langwasser led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Jim O'Brien, George Langwasser, Sara Persechino, Ken Traum and Sue B. Strickford

Staff Present: Neal Cass, Town Administrator, and Robin Buchanan, Administrative Assessing Assistant

Public Present: Ken Wilkens, Merle Dustin, John Nesbitt and Art Perkins, Jeff Yale

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Consent Agenda

Board members reviewed documents for signature and approved unanimously (5-0) the Consent Agenda, taking the following action on motion made by Mr. Traum and seconded by Mrs. Persechino. Mr. Traum asked that the Building Permit he has submitted be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

Item	Date	Action	Comments
Accounts Payable Manifest	08-11-14	Approved	127,188.16
Building Permit	08-11-14	Approved	Map 210 Lot 20 demo
Building Permit	08-11-14	Approved	Map 209 Lot 56 renovations
Building Permit	08-11-14	Approved	Map 239 Lot 32
Building Permit	08-11-14	Approved	Map 232 Lot 7.2

Mr. Langwasser made a motion to approve a building permit for Ken and Catherine Traum for a deck. Mrs. Persechino seconded the motion.

VOTE: O'Brien, Langwasser, Persechino, and Strickford voting in favor of the motion; no votes against; Traum abstaining; MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the public meeting minutes of July 28, 2014. Mr. Traum made a motion; seconded by Mrs. Persechino, to approve the public meeting minutes of July 28, 2014. Correction; Page 3, third sentence; change engineer to engineering

VOTE: Langwasser, Persechino, Traum and Strickford voting in favor of the motion; no votes against; O'Brien abstaining; MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.

The Board reviewed the non-public meeting minutes of July 28, 2014. Mrs. Persechino made a motion; seconded by Mrs. Strickford, to approve the non-public meeting minutes of July 28, 2014.

VOTE: Langwasser, Persechino, Traum and Strickford voting in favor of the motion; no votes against; O'Brien abstaining; MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.

III. PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS**John Nesbitt and Art Perkins, Rolfe Pond Road**

Mr. Nesbitt and Attorney Perkins were in to discuss the purchase of a piece of property owned by the Town and abutting Mr. Nesbitt. Mr. Nesbitt has expressed interest in acquiring the property which was owned by Gwendoline Osgood and taken by Tax Deed on July 15, 2008. Attorney Perkins stated that he hired Attorney Dunn to do the title search. Attorney Dunn, as well as Mr. Cass, could not find a deed to Gwendoline Osgood. This concerns Mr. Nesbitt, as he had hoped to merge the property with his, however, without a clean title, merging the property would render Mr. Nesbitt's property unmarketable. In view of the work that will have to be done to clear the title, Mr. Nesbitt feels his original offer is too high and he would like to withdraw it; and re-offer \$4,000. Currently, the Purchase and Sales Agreement has a condition that the lots must be merged. Attorney Perkins stated it is Mr. Nesbitt's intention to merge the lots, once a clean title has been obtained, but there is no guarantee and it will take time. Mr. Traum inquired if it is kept as a separate lot, would it be buildable. Mr. Cass stated no. Discussion ensued, with regards to accepting the \$4,000 instead of the original offer and of the request to re-word the conditions.

Mr. Langwasser made a motion to amend the Purchase and Sales Agreement with John Nesbitt under Section 2; the price will be amended to \$4,000.00; under Section 8; it will state The Buyer agrees to merge this lot with the lot he currently owns, Map 209 Lot 17, Sublot 000 upon a decree from the court regarding clear title. Mr. Traum seconded the motion.

VOTE: O'Brien, Langwasser, Persechino, and Strickford voting in favor of the motion; no votes against; Traum abstaining; MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

Merle Dustin inquired about the lack of a sign on Rowell Road. Mr. Cass stated a new sign will be ordered when we order other signs. Mrs. Dustin inquired if the Town had a policy regarding the use of helmets at the skateboard park. Mr. Cass stated there is a policy about helmet use and it is posted at the skateboard park. Mrs. Dustin inquired as to how the town band is paid. Mr. Cass stated it is in the budget; and we are billed.

V. PUBLIC HEARING

Acceptance of McKercher Trust Funds

Chairman O'Brien opened the public hearing 6:00 pm. Chairman O'Brien stated the intent of the public hearing is to obtain public input regarding the acceptance of unanticipated revenue. He gave a brief history of the McKercher Trust Funds, noting the Trust is to expire in July of 2015. It has been terminated early and there were 3 beneficiaries of the Trust: The Police Department, the Fire Department and the Rescue Squad. Chairman O'Brien asked for public comment. There being no public comment, Chairman O'Brien closed the public hearing at 6:05 pm. The Fire Department has requested that their portion of the money be placed with the Firefighters' Association. Discussion ensued, as to the pros and cons of transferring the money to the Firefighters' Association; the responsibility for accounting of the fund and pros and cons of having the Town retain the money. Jeff Yale, President of the Firefighters' Association was present to answer any questions. It was noted these funds cannot be placed in the General fund, the intended purpose is for the use of the Fire Department; investment of the money, etc.

Mr. Traum made a motion to accept the unanticipated revenue in the total amount of \$55,831.86 from the McKercher Trust Fund. The beneficiaries are the Fire Department, the Rescue Squad and the Police Department. Mrs. Persechino seconded the motion.

VOTE: O'Brien, Langwasser, Persechino, Traum and Strickford voting in favor of the motion; no votes against; **MOTION APPROVED 5-0.**

Mr. Traum made a motion to transfer \$27,915.93 as well as any accumulating interest from the Fire Department to the Firefighters' Association, noting the money is to only be used for a public purpose according to the conditions of the Trust. All purchases out of the fund must be approved by the Fire Chief and an annual report is forwarded to the Town Office and the Fire Department.

VOTE: O'Brien, Persechino, Traum and Strickford voting in favor of the motion; no votes against; Langwasser abstaining; **MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.**

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Sestercentennial Update and Fundraising

Mrs. Persechino updated the Board on the commemorative items the committee will be selling: 2 types of tee shirts; buttons with logo; coins and possibly flags. Mrs. Persechino stated some of the restaurants were inquiring about glasses with the logo. She asked if anyone on the Board had objections to shot glasses, pilsner glasses, etc. There were no objections. Fundraising is now at \$20,143.20.

Fountain Update: Bill Chapin, Jr. has contacted Swenson Granite with regards to a granite foundation. Mrs. Persechino stated the design has changed. Mr. Cass stated if the design has changed, they need to come back in for approval.

PSNH Easement-E. Penacook Road

PSNH has proposed to move the easement back about 100 feet. All abutters have agreed to move the easement. (Town of Hopkinton is one of the abutters).

Mr. Traum made a motion to accept the Easement Agreement. Mrs. Persechino seconded the motion.

VOTE: O'Brien, Langwasser, Persechino, Traum and Strickford voting in favor of the motion; no votes against; MOTION APPROVED 5-0.

Health Insurance Contribution Holiday

Mr. Cass stated the Town will be receiving \$28,568.00 from Health Trust and will allocate funds back to those that paid insurance during the 2011-2012 year.

Mrs. Persechino made a motion to accept the Health Insurance Contribution Holiday funds in the amount of \$28,568.00. Mr. Traum seconded the motion.

VOTE: O'Brien, Langwasser, Persechino, Traum and Strickford voting in favor of the motion; no votes against; MOTION APPROVED 5-0.

Fire Station Building Update

Mr. Cass stated there was a building meeting last week. Things are moving forward. Mrs. Persechino inquired as to local contractors. Mr. Cass stated that Bonnett Page and Stone are responsible for hiring the contractors. Chairman O'Brien thanked Mr. Cass for his work on the Ground Breaking Ceremony, which was held on Thursday August 7, 2014 at the Fire Station.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Capital Reserve Fund Request-Fire Car

Mr. Cass stated there are issues with the electrical system with the current fire car and it needs replacement. Chief Mumford is requesting \$25,000 for the purchase of a used car.

Mr. Langwasser made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$25,000 for the purchase of a used vehicle for the Fire Department and the equipment needed for the vehicle. Mrs. Strickford seconded the motion.

VOTE: O'Brien, Langwasser, Persechino, Traum and Strickford voting in favor of the motion; no votes against; MOTION APPROVED 5-0.

Seven Month Budget Review

Mr. Cass stated we collected 46% of revenues and have spent 57% of the expense budget. Mr. Cass stated it will be very close at the end of the year.

Proposed 2015 Town Budget Schedule

Mr. Cass stated the process will be the same as last year. Discussion ensued with regards to how many meetings to have and the possibility of adding one more session.

VIII. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

Solid Waste Study Committee

Mr. Cass reported the committee heard a presentation with regards to three different curbside pickups. They are currently working on a comparison spreadsheet. One of the issues with curbside, would be what happens with Webster.

Mr. Cass reported that the new computers and server are being installed.

Also, Kimball Cabin Committee has a proposal; waiting for a response.

Cable Committee: Mr. Traum reported that Henniker has reached an agreement and we are next.

Mr. Cass reminded the Board of the Staff Appreciation BBQ on Thursday, August 14, 2014.

Mr. Cass reported that he, Greg Roberts, Jessica Bailey and John Thayer are meeting regarding the field use policy.

Farmer's Winter Market has requested to use the Town Hall during the winter months for the Farmer's Market. Mr. Langwasser stated he has only heard positive things about the Farmer's Market being held at the Town Hall during the winter months. The Board was in agreement that Farmer's Market can continue to use the Town Hall.

Mr. Cass stated Tom Johnson has sent samples of the water from his well to be tested. They will meet after the results come back.

Mr. Cass stated the Eagle Scout project has produced five picnic tables. Mrs. Persechino stated she would like to see two of them at the Riverway and the others at the Kimball Cabins site.

Mrs. Persechino inquired about the status of the port-a-potties at Mr. Mike's. She further stated they were there; then they weren't.

Mrs. Strickford stated that Rose Hanson died and she had the Boston Post Cane.

Mr. Langwasser asked if Mr. Cass had spoken to Mr. Clough regarding Clarke Kidder's concern of water coming out of the manhole cover. Mr. Cass stated, Mr. Clough told him it had to do with the river level and that it is clean water coming out of the manhole cover.

Mr. Traum inquired if the wooden guard rails by the bridge are in disrepair. Mr. Cass believes that is a State issue; he will check.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Mr. Traum, seconded by Mrs. Persechino to adjourn the meeting. Vote 5-0 in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Buchanan
Administrative Assessing Assistant