

**Kingston, New Hampshire  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting of March 21, 2016  
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm in the Selectmen's Office of the Kingston Town Hall. In attendance were Chairman Mark Heitz and Selectmen Peter Broderick and George Korn.

**Discussion of Emergency Management Grant**

Emergency Management Director Bill Seaman was present to discuss with the Board his application for a NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management FEMA grant under the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program. The grant, if approved, will provide \$3,000.00 toward the purchase of a color capable multi-function copier/printer/scanner/fax machine, the total cost of which will be \$6,000.00. The town's match of \$3,000.00 will be paid from Radiologic Emergency Response Program (RERP) funds awarded by Seabrook Station to fund equipment purchases needed for Emergency Operations Centers.

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Selectman Broderick, it was unanimously voted to accept the terms of the Emergency management Performance Grant (EMPG) as presented in the amount of \$3,000.00 for the purchase of a color capable multi-function copier/printer/scanner/fax machine. Furthermore, the Board acknowledges that the total cost of this project will be \$6,000.00, of which the Town will be responsible for a 50% match (\$3,000.00).

The grant agreement was signed and notarized, and the Emergency Management Directors will submit the application once the minutes are available to accompany the submittal.

**Review of Cable Equipment Proposals**

Richard St. Hilaire was present to provide the Board with an outline of the equipment that's been determined to need replacement in the cable broadcasting room of the Town Hall. The Board will need to decide whether to purchase high definition capable equipment even though the public access station doesn't at present support that capability, or retain some of the routing equipment already in place and not go for high definition capability at this time. The difference in overall cost will be as much as \$32,000.00, which can be put into the existing cable equipment expendable trust for future upgrades if the second option is selected.

**Discussion of Engineering Report on Library**

Mr. St. Hilaire then discussed with the Board the engineering report on the Nichols Building, noting that he's not fully in agreement with the recommendations made. The report calls for roof replacement, whereas a previous recent inspection indicated that repairs and replacement of some of the tile shingles will suffice for the roof to continue for another century. Additionally, the report calls for finish work in the basement that will bring the floor level to within a foot of the seasonal high water mark. Any floods of the 100-year level (of which Kingston has had three in the past decade) would inundate the entire basement area. It's his belief that the basement area should not be considered usable space and that there should be no renovations to that area of the building.

It was noted that a petition to the court to move authority for the Nichols Building from the Library Trustees to the Selectmen still has not been signed by the Trustees' Chairman. The Board agreed to invite the Chairman to the next Selectmen's meeting to determine if there are concerns that need to be addressed.

**Discussion of the Plan NH Charette Program**

Debra Powers, Ernest Landry and Glenn Coppelman were present representing the 12-member subcommittee of officials from the town's various school, land use and historical boards to discuss the Plan NH Charette to be held in June. The project - to be known as Envision Kingston II - will provide professional engineering, planning and architectural guidance to determine what Kingston residents may wish to see in the downtown (HDI) section of town and to give ideas and designs for how the area

can be utilized. The target area extends from Route 125 down Main Street to the State Park, including the School District properties along the way. Ms. Powers outlined some of the plans the subcommittee has made to accommodate the Plan NH representatives during the time they're here and to hold the necessary walking tours, meetings and worksessions for the project. Residents of Newton will be invited to participate in some of the sessions involving the school properties, and an advertising/recruiting effort is underway to capture the interest of Kingston residents who may be able to participate. A similar project was undertaken in 1999, the report from which provided invaluable information for the Master Plan. Fundraising efforts already are underway to cover expenses, but both the School District and Town also have committed to helping with expenses where necessary, up to \$2,500.00 from each entity

Selectman Korn commended the subcommittee on their progress to date, and the Board thanked Ms. Powers and Mr. Landry and Mr. Coppelman for their update.

### **Review of Previous Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Selectman Broderick it was voted to accept the minutes of February 22, 2016 as printed. Chairman Heitz abstained from the vote.

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Selectman Broderick it was voted to accept the minutes of February 29, 2016 as printed. Chairman Heitz abstained from the vote.

### **Administrative Issues**

It was agreed that Selectman Korn will attend an April 14<sup>th</sup> Area Selectmen's Meeting, planned to be held in Plaistow, on behalf of the Board.

It was agreed that the high bid for a Maple Street property auctioned in the fall of 2015 will not be honored since the closing did not occur as required within 30 days of the auction. The bidder will be allowed to acquire the property for the total back taxes owed if the closing is arranged prior to May 31, 2016, and it was agreed that his initial down payment will be credited against the tax amount owed.

It was agreed that Selectman Broderick will attend the April 5<sup>th</sup> Seabrook Drill. Chairman Heitz also will attend if he's able.

It was agreed that Town Counsel will be consulted about a West Shore Park Road property being occupied by a relative of the former owner. The owner hoped to prevent trespasses onto the property by keeping it occupied, and has expressed an interest in paying back taxes and recovering title. However the property at present is owned by the Town and there is a question about the level of exposure being accepted if the town knowingly allows occupancy.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Grant  
Administrative Assistant