

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of January 8, 2024
FINAL MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by the Chairman.

PRESENT: Chair Chris Bashaw; Glenn Coppelman, Laurie Szwed, Ellie Alessio, Select Board Members

ABSENT: Vice Chair Chuck Hart

MOTION: by Selectwoman Alessio, to adjourn public session and enter non-public session at 5:30 PM, per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and (b) to discuss hiring and compensation of personnel.

SECOND: by Selectwoman Szwed

All in favor via roll call vote

The Board returned to public session at 6:32 PM and voted to seal the non-public session minutes:

Motion made by Selectman Coppelman, seconded by Selectwoman Alessio, because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would...

☒ X Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board.

☐ Render a proposed action ineffective

☐ Pertains to preparation or carrying out of actions regarding terrorism

Roll Call Vote to Seal Minutes:

Chris Bashaw	Y	Charles Hart	Absent
Laureen Szwed	Y	Glenn Coppelman	Y
Electra Alessio	Y		

Motion: PASSED

APPOINTMENTS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT 1:

None heard

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

Selectman Coppelman said that with regard to the Museum Committee and work being done on the Grace Daly Barn, the container on the property that has been donated for use as storage during the renovations needs to be removed by a certain date. He said this means that if the work is not completed by that time, the contents need to be removed. He said that the DPW Director is aware of this.

Chairman Bashaw said that the Planning Board had a preliminary design review of the Sanborn Seminary project. He said this was very preliminary but the applicants are moving forward. He said there is a nice feel to the campus, which will consist of apartments as well as some stand-alone single- family homes, so that the site will be

condominiumized. He said a demolition permit will be pursued this year to take down the Science building.

Selectwoman Szwed said the Fairgrounds study group had its first meeting and talked about possible uses of the property. She said they will be doing a site walk and considering prior suggestions and pros and cons on using this property for certain things as opposed to the Plains. The group will bring its suggestions to the Select Board in a few months.

OLD BUSINESS

Solar project on closed landfill - Option Agreement with ReVision Energy

This agreement was already approved at a prior meeting, pending some additional language to be added and approved by attorneys on both sides. It was noted that a separate packet of information from a company interested in an agreement with the Town on this site had been received, but that the Board had already committed to working with ReVision on this exploratory phase. The Chairman signed the agreement.

RFP for installation of Point of Entry Treatment Systems

Select Board Administrator Susan Ayer and Selectman Coppelman reported on an online meeting they had had with representatives of Verdantas, the Town's new consultant on this project. Verdantas expects to complete a new Request for Proposals document for Town and NH DES approval by the end of January. There are many variables, but the best estimate is that the contractor will be chosen and the installations will begin by late spring.

Website upgrade: pricing

Ms. Ayer reported that she had not been able to connect with Civic Plus (the Town's current website provider and the one used by most Towns) a second time to begin a conversation on specific needs for the website, and would like to also reach out to at least one other company. This discussion was tabled to the next meeting. Estimated costs have already been gotten from other towns for budgeting purposes.

Website Policy and Welfare Policy

Both of these policies have been reviewed and final revisions have been made.

MOTION: by Selectman Coppelman, to adopt both the Welfare Policy and the Website Policy in current form.

SECOND: by Selectwoman Alessio

All in favor

NEW BUSINESS

Wetlands Violation Complaint

Selectman Coppelman said he had followed up on a complaint about a property on Rockrimmon Road that was received by the Conservation Commission Chair and relayed to the Chairman. He said that NH DES is not taking phone calls but he did fill out the pertinent forms and submitted them for review.

BOARD BUSINESS

Review of proposed Warrant Articles

The Board reviewed the Warrant as it currently stands. Once all petition articles are in place and the tax impacts have been completed, copies will be made for Decision Day #2, set for January 13 at 9 am.

Stacy Dion, Secretary for the Budget Committee, was present and commented that the Committee would like a breakdown of salaries that shows salary vs. insurance costs. She also said they would like to know the tax impact of the proposed changes to Elderly and Disabled Exemption parameters. It was agreed by Board members that this can't be quantified as there is no way of knowing how many taxpayers will be eligible for the exemptions.

PUBLIC COMMENT #2

Rick Russman, 18 Beach Drive, said that the Chinburg Properties project at the Sanborn Seminary is a great opportunity for the Town and he hoped the Planning Board process would not be overly lengthy. The Chair pointed out that the time frame depends largely on the completeness of the plans presented.

CORRESPONDENCE, APPLICATIONS, PURCHASE ORDERS:

- The Town's current contractor for pest control, Northeast Vegetation and Mosquito Control, is submitting their state permit renewal and needs the Town to sign the form. This was done.
- A facilities' use form for monthly contradance events in the Town Hall meeting room for January through June 2024, was approved.
- One Veterans Credit application was approved.
- A purchase order for meeting room cameras was approved; this will be paid through ARPA funds. An expenditure of \$30 for items needed to attempt a repair to the cable channel sound was approved.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION: By Selectwoman Alessio, to approve the public and non-public meeting minutes of December 18 and 28, 2023, as submitted.

SECOND: by Selectman Coppelman

All in favor

Chairman Bashaw, after Selectman Coppelman noted that the last meeting had not been televised, read a letter he had shared, written to the Town and Town employees and volunteers. Chairman Bashaw said that he will not be seeking re-election to the Select Board but appreciates all that the town employees and volunteers do, and encouraged residents to become involved.

MOTION: by Selectman Coppelman, to adjourn public session and enter non-public session at 5:30 PM, per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and (b) to discuss hiring and compensation of personnel.

SECOND: by Selectwoman Alessio

All in favor via roll call vote

The Board returned to public session at 7:50 PM and voted to seal the non-public session minutes:

Motion made by Selectman Coppelman, seconded by Selectwoman Szwed, because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would...

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Roll Call Vote to Seal Minutes:

Chris Bashaw	Y	Charles Hart	Absent
Laureen Szwed	Y	Glenn Coppelman	Y
Electra Alessio	Y		

Motion: PASSED

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Susan H. Ayer, Administrative Assistant to the Select Board