

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of September 15, 2014
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm in the Selectmen's Office of the Kingston Town Hall. In attendance were Chairman Mark Heitz and Selectmen George Korn and Peter Broderick.

Highway Garage Contract Signed

Michael Pivero of Eastern Seaboard Concrete Construction was present with contract documents for the highway garage project. It was noted that the building will be ordered once the contract is signed and that delivery will be in approximately 12 weeks. In the meantime, Mr. Pivero's company will be completing the concrete and underground mechanical work and, hopefully, the building will be weather tight before snow. Chairman Heitz signed the contract on behalf of the Board.

Rockingham Planning Presentation on Possible Commuter Rail Extension into Plaistow

Craig Sinnott, Executive Director of the Rockingham Planning Commission, was present to discuss with the Board a proposed MBTA commuter train extension into Plaistow in the near future.

Mr. Sinnott explained that, because of issues with the Bradford, Massachusetts layover facility, and because the MBTA has identified a demand for commuter rail service between southern New Hampshire and Boston, the possibility of establishing a facility has been under consideration for several years. The NH Department of Transportation and Plaistow have undertaken a feasibility study to see if the benefits will justify whatever costs and adverse impacts are incurred. Mr. Sinnott explained that, because the MBTA is in need of the layover facility, there will be no construction or operating costs for Plaistow or the DOT but, depending on the final site chosen for the facility, there will be impact on surrounding properties, residents, and businesses. Plaistow is hoping for a boost to its economic development, as well as added convenience for commuters and a reduction in the level of traffic congestion. Any impact relating to noise, air quality, wetlands and groundwater, or abutter inconvenience will be studied prior to deciding on a final site. Mitigation of adverse impact will be undertaken as part of the construction and operational phases of the project. A meeting is to be held on October 9th at 7:00 pm at the Plaistow Town Hall to consider which of five potential sites might best serve the purpose. Mr. Sinnott noted that the Downeaster out of Exeter generally is full by the time it reaches the Exeter station during commuting times, so a new rail service will be particularly helpful, as well as more affordable, to commuters in this general area. He advised that the role assigned to the Planning Commission is to keep surrounding towns apprised of the project and its progress, so he will be speaking with the Board again. If the project feasibility study indicates a favorable cost/benefit analysis, the estimated completion date is in approximately five years.

The Board thanked Mr. Sinnott for his presentation and accepted several handouts relating to the project for review by Kingston residents.

Update of Bandstand Renovation Project

Selectman Korn, who serves as the Board's representative to the Heritage Commission, updated the Board on the bandstand renovation, advising that the final design calls for a lighting plan that may not be compliant with the town's Outdoor Lighting Ordinance. It was agreed that, while the town has the right to not follow land use ordinances on their projects, the Board will hold a meeting to which Heritage Commission members and abutting property owners will be invited, to get input and see what the property owners most affected think of the proposal. The Board also will consider a proposed regulation that will restrict use of the bandstand other than when specifically permitted.

Administrative Matters

The Board reconsidered an application from the Library Trustees to use the Town Hall for a contra dance program, but upheld their original denial due to concerns about air quality in the building.

The Board approved a request from Rockingham Planning Commission to hold their quarterly business meeting at the Town Hall, pending results of air quality testing.

Chairman Heitz signed an application for use of Swasey Gym for the 2015 Town and School Election.

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Selectman Broderick it was voted to accept the minutes of the September 8, 2014 meeting as printed. Chairman Heitz abstained from the vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board the meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm and the Board retired to address administrative issues.

**Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Grant
Administrative Assistant**