

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of September 14, 2015
MINUTES**

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

Public Hearing

Chairman Heitz opened a Public Hearing for the purpose of discussing and accepting a FEMA grant under the 2014 Assistance to Firefighters grant program. The grant will fund 95% of a \$223,512.00 purchase of SCBA units for the Department. Chief Seaman discussed the grant process, noting that the town will need to match the FEMA grant amount of \$212,869.00 with \$10,643.00, but now will be able to remove the purchase from the Capital Improvements Plan. The units have a life span of fifteen years. The new equipment will have safety features not previously available, including alarms to indicate if a firefighter isn't moving. Each unit will cost approximately \$7,000.00, and it's expected that they will be available within 30 days of placing an order.

There were no members of the public present to provide input or ask questions.

There were no further questions forthcoming from the Board.

Chairman Heitz closed the Hearing at 7:15 pm.

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Broderick and second of Chairman Heitz it was unanimously voted to gratefully accept a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters grant in the amount of \$212,869.00 and to authorize a match by the town in the amount of \$10,643.00 in order to purchase SCBA units for the Kingston Fire Department.

Fire Department Discussion

Fire Chief Bill Seaman and Deputy Chief Marty Conlon were present to discuss with the Board their hope that a process to increase the wage scale for the department's firefighters will be continued in 2016. A proposed increase in 2015 was reduced by the Board with the understanding that the issue would be revisited. Selectman Broderick, who serves as liaison to the Budget Committee, advised that a \$.50 increase in each step of the department's present call firefighter pay scale will cost \$3,800.00 for the year in 2016, over and above whatever pay for performance increase is approved for 2015. A similar \$.50 increase for fulltime firemen will cost \$3,200.00 for 2016 over and above the increase for pay for performance.

Chief Seaman also discussed a particular employee who has performed beyond expectations who he would like to see awarded a pay for performance increase for 2015 despite not having completed a full year of employment.

The Capital Improvements Plan submittal for the department was discussed. Chief Seaman noted that long-range planning for ambulance replacement, remounting of a pump on a new chassis with a new cab, and purchase of a LUCAS CPR machine all are included in the plan, as is facility construction. He advised that the department will be meeting with architects and has begun formation of a Building Committee comprised of department members, members of the public, and town officials. Chairman Heitz asked if consideration will be given to prefabricated buildings such as the new Highway Garage. Chief Seaman advised that all options are on the table.

Discussion of Property Re-purchase

James and Paula Campbell were present to remit an agreed re-purchase amount for redemption of their Fifteenth Street property. The return deed will be recorded as soon as the check clears.

Discussion of Building Permit Issuance

John Pramberg of Websters Grove Realty Trust was present to discuss with the Board a delay in issuance or denial of a Building Permit application he'd submitted some time ago. The permit involves replacement of an existing seasonal structure with a year-round dwelling, however the proximity to wetlands and the fact that it's in a FEMA flood plain has made permit review complicated. Mr. Pramberg obtained a Variance in 2013 allowing him to build conditional on his not encroaching any further toward water than the existing structure. Chairman Heitz telephoned ZBA Chair Electra Alessio to ascertain that the decision does allow expansion of the building away from the water and does allow enclosure of an existing porch area located on the water side. Ms. Alessio confirmed that the ZBA decision does allow expansion of the building on the side away from the water and does allow enclosure of the existing porch so long as there is no area expansion toward the water.

Selectman Broderick will advise the Building Inspector of the discussions with Mr. Pramberg and with Ms. Alessio and request that the permit be issued.

Administrative Items

The Board review and signed a Petition for Injunction against a New Boston Road property owner who has failed to comply with a Notice of Violation.

A thank you letter to Clint Arnold was signed, expressing the Board's appreciation of Mr. Arnold's donation of his services as an auctioneer to the town's surplus equipment auction held at the end of August.

An application for use of Magnusson Field for a fall U12 baseball program was approved.

The Board agreed to meet with Library Trustees and members of the town's various Historical groups on September 28th at 6:30 at the Community Library. The purpose of the meeting will be discussion of the Nichols Building.

It was noted that Selectman Korn will attend an Emergency Management Regional Meeting in Fremont on September 21st at 7:00. Chief Seaman and Richard St. Hilaire also will be attending that meeting.

It was noted that the EPA comment period for changes to the proposed MS4 permitting process has been reopened.

A letter of resignation from Katy Stedman was reviewed. Ms. Stedman will no longer be co-director of the Recreation Department or Summer Program Director.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm. The Board will meet next on September 21, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Catherine Grant
Administrative Assistant**