

Kingston, New Hampshire  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting of March 5, 2018  
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM in the Selectmen's office at the Kingston Town Hall.

**PRESENT:** Mark Heitz, Chairman; Peter Broderick, Selectman

**ABSENT:** George Korn, Selectman

**Facilities Use Request**

Carol Croteau, representing Friends of Nichols Historical Museum, came before the Selectmen to answer any questions regarding a Facilities Use application the group has submitted. The proposed use of the Town Hall meeting room was for an appraisal fundraiser day to be held on May 20, 2018. The Selectmen have signed approval for the event.

**Non-Public Session**

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Broderick, **SECONDED** by Chairman Heitz, it was voted unanimously to adjourn to Non-Public session under the provisions of NH RSA 91-A:3, II(c). The Board adjourned at 6:40 pm.

The Board returned to public session at 6:48 pm, and reconvened in the upstairs meeting room at 7:03 pm.

**Representative of Eversource Energy to discuss access rights over Town portion of Rowell Road:**

Patty Quinn of Cornerstone Energy presented information to the Board about a request made by Eversource Energy to gain an access easement over a discontinued portion of Rowell Road. Ms. Quinn gave the Board sample Agreement, Access Easement Deed, and Lien Holder Consent forms to consider as templates, along with a Google Earth map showing the property in question.

The transmission lines that Eversource seeks access to go across the Currier Wildlife Management Area, owned by New Hampshire Fish & Game. The discontinued portion of Rowell Road is along the northwest boundary of the WMA, and is jointly owned by the Town of Kingston and New Hampshire Fish & Game. Ms. Quinn explained that Eversource seeks an alternative to traveling through wetland areas whenever possible, and that is why they are approaching the town.

In discussion, Ms. Quinn explained that the use would be intermittent, and the road would not be upgraded, only kept clear enough for use by the power company. The Town will incur no expense, and will be compensated for granting the easement.

Selectman Broderick expressed concern that restrictions may have been placed on the discontinued road. The matter will be researched and Town Counsel consulted.

**Review of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Broderick, **SECOND** of Chairman Heitz, it was voted unanimously to accept the meeting minutes of February 12, 2018, as written.

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Broderick, **SECOND** of Chairman Heitz, it was voted unanimously to accept the non-public meeting minutes of February 12, 2018, as written.

#### **Evelyn Nathan, Conservation Commission**

Evelyn Nathan appeared to discuss the possible formation of a subcommittee to the Conservation Commission. This group would be comprised of five members, only one of which currently serves on the Conservation Commission. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to oversee improved mapping of local trails, and the addition of information kiosks and other sources of information such as cell phone barcodes.

Chairman Heitz said that the Selectmen do not have the authority to sanction another separate committee, and a subcommittee would normally be made up of members of the parent committee for a specific purpose. Ms. Nathan said that they had hoped for the subcommittee to be under the umbrella of the Town.

On a related topic, Ms. Nathan said that the Town owns at least three large open spaces; some have conservation easements but there is no management plan in place for the forests. She said that she hoped the Town would designate the areas as Town Forests in order to take responsibility for trails and maintenance, following best practices. Chairman Heitz recommended that Ms. Nathan first discuss the matter with Road Agent Rich St. Hilaire.

#### **Public Comment re: PFOA contamination at Fire House**

A resident (Dan Birdsall of 21 Wadleigh Point Road) approached the Selectmen and said that he is interested in the report that was to be prepared on the PFOA contamination at the fire house. He said that as a decision is being made about building a new fire house and the same aquifer would be affected, it would be valuable to know the extent of the contamination.

It was affirmed that the report is not yet available, and that all the Town has received is raw data from the testing.

Chairman Heitz pointed out that the chemicals that contaminated the old fire house site are no longer in use. Mr. Birdsall said he would like to see where the chemicals went, and that a different chemical might be a threat in the future.

There was a lengthy discussion about the safeguards to be put in place at the proposed fire station. Mr. Birdsall questioned the location of the property line at the proposed site of the new fire house at Main Street and Wadleigh Point, noting it is adjacent to Bolton's Landing.

Mr. Birdsall then brought up earlier water testing, wondering why neighboring residents were not notified when it was determined that the water at the fire station should not be used for drinking. Selectman Broderick said that earlier testing at the firehouse picked up bacteria, and that was when bottled water began to be used at the fire station. He said that generally, all residents are responsible for their own wells, but when PFOA contamination was found, neighboring wells were tested. He said that everything is being done to monitor and filter the water at affected wells.

Discussion continued on the value of knowing the test results, and also on other potential threats to the aquifer and lake.

### **Adjourn to Non-Public Session**

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Broderick, **SECOND** of Chairman Heitz, it was voted unanimously to adjourn to Non-Public session under the provisions of NH RSA 91-A:3, II(c). The Board adjourned at 8:15 pm.

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Broderick, **SECOND** of Chairman Heitz, it was voted unanimously to return to public session at 8:26 pm.

**MOTION:** Selectman Broderick moved to seal the contents of the non-public session for an undetermined period of time. **SECOND** by Chairman Heitz, unanimous.

### **Administrative Issues/Correspondence**

The following matters were addressed by the Board:

- Application for Facilities Use: Candidates night, March 8 at the Town Hall meeting room. Approved.
- Re-appointment forms signed for Historic Museum Committee members (2).
- Letter to the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development, authorizing Police Chief Briggs to sign agreements regarding traffic and crowd control for 2018 events unanimously approved and signed.
- Application for Facilities use approved, for 2018 adult softball league.
- Application for Veterans Tax Exemption (1) - approved.
- Lab report from Stantec re: fire house contamination - reviewed. Still awaiting formal report.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ayer