

Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of April 16, 2018
MINUTES- FINAL

PRESENT: Mark Heitz, Chairman; George Korn, Phillip Coombs, Kevin St. James and Donald Briggs, Jr., Selectmen.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Heritage Commission

Debra Powers, Chair of the Heritage Commission came to discuss several issues with the Selectmen, accompanied by Heritage Vice-Chair Ernest Landry, and Virginia Morse and Glenn Coppelman of the Envision Kingston Committee.

Ms. Powers said that she was disturbed to hear that the Selectmen were considering renovating the stage area in the Town Hall to be a separate meeting room. She said that she and the others were present to implore the Selectmen not to do this, but to work with them to find an alternate solution to meeting space needs.

Chairman Heitz said that no final decision has been made; the first step was to ask Rich St. Hilaire to get an estimate of the work to be done and the cost. However, he said that there is clearly a need for a place for non-public sessions or to meet with residents for various reasons, that is an appropriate work space. He said that with five Selectmen, the office downstairs is no longer large enough.

Ms. Powers suggested that the employee kitchen could be used temporarily to allow time to explore other options. She said possibly another addition to the meeting room similar to the cable room enclosure might work, or that other buildings in Town could be used for meetings.

Mr. Landry said that they have no proposals yet, but that removing the stage would change the character of the building and remove a piece of history. He asked that the Commission be allowed some time to look at other options.

Selectman Korn said that while there is no downside to listening to new ideas, there needs to be a time limit imposed.

MOTION: by Chairman Heitz to postpone any action on the proposed construction or change in use of the stage area until July 1, 2018.

SECOND: by Selectman Korn; unanimously approved.

Ms. Powers then shared with the Selectmen plans for the bandstand ribbon cutting ceremony, set to take place on May 19, 2018 from 1:00 until 3:00. She said that the executive director from LCHIP would be present to do a speech, and local officials are being asked to participate; she said she would like a Selectman to be present. In addition, the museum building will be open that day from noon to 4:00 PM.

Ms. Powers asked for time at a future Selectmen's meeting to give a formal presentation of what the Heritage Commission is doing and hopes to accomplish in the future. It was agreed that a date near July 1st would be appropriate, when the subject of the stage could be included.

Recreation Commission

Recreation Director Paul Butler gave the Board a brief update on summer camp preparations, noting that all counselors have been hired and that sign-ups are at around 80%. A full day of training will take place before camp opens, to include CPR, first aid, safety measures and general information on taking care of children. An Eagle Scout is building stairs out of the back of the building to the lake, which Mr. Butler said will be a nice addition.

Mr. Butler then asked for direction on how to handle a ~~request from a parent to provide a situation in which one-on-one helper~~ to a child with special needs. The child has this ~~one-on-one~~ supervision when in school, and ~~the parent feels whether~~ it is needed then required at camp as well. Mr. Butler said that generally this is a safety issue, as the child requires more supervision than the usual 1:10 ratio. *He said that he wants to be sure everyone is as safe as can be, but did not know if Kingston Recreation is obligated to provide extra help.*

There was a discussion of who would pay for the extra help, as the child would be at camp for 40 hour weeks. It was noted that the school system pays for the extra person when the child is at school, but that school is mandated while *the Town is not mandated to provide recreation camp is not*. The cost of providing the extra help was considered, as well as setting a precedent for future such requests. Issues of liability for a non-Town employee and also ADA compliance at the camp were discussed.

It was decided to ask Mr. Butler to stay for non-public session in order to discuss the matter in more detail without disclosing personal information.

Announcements

- The Chairman read the notice that has been posted for a Public Hearing on April 30. The hearing will be for two proposed Discretionary Preservation Easements, which allow for property tax relief for owners of old barns who can demonstrate the public benefit of preserving the structure.
- The Spring Household Hazardous Waste collection day will be in Plaistow, at 51 Old County Road, on Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 9:00 am until noon. A poster with details is posted at the Town Hall, and also can be viewed on the Town website on the Solid Waste page. As the Town is charged based on participation, residency proof will be required.
- The Town's new Electrical Inspectors are Tom Soterakopoulos of Kingston Electric, primary, and Eric Thompson, assistant.

Review of Prior Meeting Minutes

MOTION: By Selectman St. James to approve the meeting minutes of April 9, 2018, as written.

SECOND: By Selectman Coombs, who noted that his name was spelled wrong on page one. This will be corrected.

Approved by all.

MOTION: By Selectman Coombs to approve the non-public meeting minutes of April 9, 2018, as written.

SECOND: By Selectman St. James, approved by all.

OLD BUSINESS

Agriculture and Farm License Plates

Selectman Coombs gave an update on his research into agriculture and farm vehicle plates. He said he met with Town Clerk Tammy Bakie, who plans to get more information on the topic at a conference she is attending this week. She will also get a count of such plates issued in Kingston. Selectman Coombs said that these plates are cheaper due to the restrictions placed on them (such as 20 mile travel from home limit on an Agriculture plate) and that the RSA governing them needs to be signed by applicants, and enforced.

Fire Station Building Committee

Ten letters of interest have been received to date, from residents that would like to serve on this committee. Noting that the letter to the editor soliciting interested members just ran in last week's paper, the Chairman said the Board will wait another week before reviewing the list and setting up the committee.

Public Comment

- Stanley Shalett of 3 East Way addressed the Selectmen to express his interest in serving on the Fire Station Building committee. He was directed to bring a letter to the Selectmen's Office.
- Mr. Shalett also addressed the Board about the Preservation Easement hearing, one of the applications being for his property at 22 Cheney Road. He said he will not be able to be present at the April 30 hearing, but can submit a statement to be read. He also reminded the Selectmen that he has invited them to do a site walk at the property to see the barn. He said there are tenants, so he will ask permission to go inside, but in any case the outside can be viewed. Permission will also be sought to visit the second barn to be discussed at the hearing, at 172 Main Street. The Selectmen decided to visit the Shalett barn at 5:30 and the Zotz barn at 6:00, with permission and as time allows, prior to their April 23 meeting.
- Mr. Landry thanked the Board for the time given to look into office space. He asked who to contact with questions, and was instructed to work with Rich St. Hilaire.

NEW BUSINESS

Recording of Committee Meetings

Virginia Morse, Chair of the Historic District Commission, addressed the Selectmen regarding taping of meetings for the local cable channel. She said she was pleased to have had a televised meeting for the first time, and wanted to know if the Selectmen would allow all the HDC meetings to be televised, or if this was only in the budget for the Selectmen, Planning and Zoning Board meetings.

After discussing the length and frequency of meetings and ascertaining that a technician is available, the Selectmen agreed that televising HDC meetings is allowable within the current budget.

Non-Public Session

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman St. James, **SECOND** of Selectman Coombs, it was voted unanimously to adjourn to Non-Public session under the provisions of NH RSA 91-A:3, II (b): "The hiring of any person as a public employee", and RSA 91-A:3, II (c): "Matters which if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board...". The Board adjourned at 8:10 pm.

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Briggs, **SECOND** of Selectman Coombs, it was voted unanimously to return to public session at 8:50 pm.

A discussion requested for non-public session had taken place with Lesley Hume, Gladys Roy and Walt Roy, volunteers at the Historical Museum. It was noted by Selectman St. James that this discussion did not meet any statutory reason for being held in non-public session, and all agreed it should be recorded in the public minutes.

Ms. Hume had asked to speak to the Selectmen about a series of thefts from the Historical Museum that had taken place over the course of about 6 years. She and the other volunteers had noticed items missing from cabinets, displays and basement storage areas, but had not been able to pinpoint when the items had been taken or who might have had access to them. Items missing include a military hat, an antique bridal hat, a pair of children's shoes and a handmade miniature dropleaf table. All items were described as having sufficient value that someone might take them to sell on eBay.

After discussing security at the Museum, the Selectmen suggested having Road Agent Rich St. Hilaire change the locks on both front and back doors to the building, and key them alike. They also suggested that the alarm codes for the building should be changed. The situation will be reviewed after these measures have been taken.

Administrative Items

- Enforcement letter approved to be sent registered mail to owner of driveway in violation of property setbacks.
- Correspondence received from Panciocco Law firm was read, and the updated well easement for Senior Housing Development was signed by the Selectmen. This will be held pending receipt of an executed agreement showing the increased payment due to Kingston with the addition of a second well.
- Two disability exemption applications were approved.
- One notice of intent to cut wood was signed.
- Application for renewal of Groundwater Management Permit was signed.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:36 PM.

(**MOTION:** Selectman Coombs; **SECOND:** Selectman St. James, unanimous)

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ayer
Administrative Assistant