

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of February 3, 2014
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm in the Selectmen's Office of the Kingston Town Hall. In attendance were Chairman Mark Heitz and Selectmen Peter Broderick and George Korn.

Non-public Session

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Selectman Broderick, Chairman Heitz polled the Board for a unanimous vote to retire to non-public session under the provisions of NH RSA 91-A:3. II-a. The Board retired at 6:35 pm.

The Board returned to public session at 7:10 pm.

MOTON: Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Selectman Broderick, Chairman Heitz polled the Board for a unanimous vote to seal the minutes of the non-public session for an indeterminate period.

Police Department Discussion

Police Chief Donald Briggs, Jr. was present to discuss with the Board a contract for services of the regional Prosecutor. He explained that the annual fee now is based on a 3-year average of cases rather than on a per capita basis, which will work in Kingston's favor. The 2014 contract amount of \$24,294.00 represents a \$400.00 increase over the 2013 amount. A total of six area towns use the services of the Prosecutor, who has an office in Plaistow.

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Selectman Broderick, it was unanimously voted to approve the proposed contract for Prosecutor services for 2014.

Chief Briggs then discussed with the Board his intent to purchase a new computer system for the department, to be paid from asset forfeiture funds. He also is looking into a video surveillance system for the building and grounds of the police station.

Discussion of Horse Keeping on Rural Residential Property

David and Alicia Robertson, potential purchasers of a 5-acre property on Frontage Road, asked the Board what requirements they will need to meet to use the property to keep up to six show horses. Chairman Heitz advised that there are no restrictions to the keeping of horses in that area, but noted that the town does request that Best Management Practices be followed. Discussion was held about manure handling, use of a utility easement bisecting the property, the type of structures that will need to be built, and required distances from wells and boundaries, etc. Mr. and Mrs. Robertson were advised to read a copy of the actual utility easement to see what's allowed in the easement area, and to call the utility directly to advise them of their intent to use the easement area for paddocks.

The Board agreed that they have no objection to the plan as outlined so long as Best Management Practices are consistently followed and any necessary permits are obtained.

Fire Department Discussion

Fire Chief Bill Seaman and Deputy Chief Marty Conlon advised the Board that an ice making machine has been made available by Alternative Sales for a cost of \$500.00. The machine is used to supply ice so that cold drinks can be provided to emergency scenes. The Board requested that Chief Seaman make sure that the machine is not of the water cooled type and is in good enough condition that repair bills will not be necessary in the near future. Chief Seaman will report back to the Board after examining the machine.

Chief Seaman discussed with the Board whether ambulance fees should be increased. Fees at present are 75% over Medicare rates. The ambulance billing service - Comstar - has advised that they have 50 New Hampshire towns that charge higher rates and still have good payment histories. Kingston already has the third highest rates in the seacoast area.

The Board requested that Chief Seaman ask Comstar for a breakdown of how many of each type of call the ambulance service made last year, and that he conduct a survey of area towns to ascertain their present rates and what they intend to change in the coming year.

The issue will be re-visited when more information is available.

Conservation Commission Request

Conservation Commission Chair Evelyn Nathan requested of the Board permission to designate a small parcel owned by the town on the shoreline of Powwow Pond as a kayak/canoe pull-out. She would like to be able to put up a sign and possibly place a picnic table to make residents aware that they can use the area as a rest stop. The Board has no objection to the plan. The property is designated as Tax Map R26, Lot 27 and is approximately ½ acre.

Return of Tax Deeded Property to Previous Owners Approved

The Board reviewed a request from previous owners of a tax deeded property that their property be returned to them upon payment of all back taxes, fees, costs and penalties. The Board executed a deed that will be released upon payment in full of the determined amount.

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Broderick and second of Selectman Korn it was voted to accept the minutes of the January 27, 2014 meeting as printed. Chairman Heitz abstained from the vote.

Administrative Items

The Board signed a letter of commitment to match an LCHIP grant for renovation of the bandstand.

Chairman Heitz signed the Project Agreement for the LCHIP bandstand project.

A Department of Environmental Services application for operation of the Newton Transfer Station was reviewed and will be kept on file.

An Intent to Cut for Tax Map R39, Lot 12 on Farm Road was signed.

A letter from a resident requesting re-zoning of his Rockrimmon Road property will be referred to the Planning Board for further action.

A letter from ISO (Insurance Standards Organization) was reviewed. They advise that the town recently underwent a review process for its inspection services and that there is an improvement in the rating for both residential and commercial properties in Kingston.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Grant
Administrative Assistant**