

**Kingston, New Hampshire  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting of April 22, 2019  
FINAL MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM in the Meeting Room at the Town Hall.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Mark Heitz; Phillip Coombs, Donald Briggs, Jr., Richard Wilson, Selectmen.

**ABSENT:** Kevin St. James, Selectman (arrived at 6:40 PM)

**Non-Public Session**

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Briggs, **SECOND** of Selectman Coombs, it was voted by roll call to adjourn to Non-Public session under the provisions of NH RSA 91-A:3, II (I): Consideration of legal advice, 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.

**In favor: Heitz, Briggs, Coombs, Wilson.**

The Board adjourned at 6:30 PM.

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Chairman Heitz, **SECOND** of Selectman Coombs it was voted by roll call to return to public session at 7:10 PM.

**MOTION:** By Selectman Heitz, to seal the minutes of the non-public session for an indefinite length of time, as releasing the minutes would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board, and would render a proposed action ineffective.

**SECOND:** By Selectman Coombs

**In Favor: Heitz, Briggs, Coombs, St. James, Wilson; Motion passed.**

**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS:**

**Budget Committee Appointee:**

Annemarie Roth, new appointee to the Budget Committee, was present to meet the Selectmen. Chairman Heitz explained that the Board has recently adopted a new policy of inviting committee appointees in to talk with the Selectmen.

Ms. Roth said she is an 8-year resident of Kingston and that she and her husband had in past years run a charity that took a lot of her time. She said that once she was no longer doing that, she began looking for ways to be involved with the town and to help out. There was a brief discussion during which the Selectmen expressed their thanks to Ms. Roth for volunteering her time to the Budget Committee.

**Recreation Wages**

In response to questions about wages for Recreation summer help, Recreation Director Paul Butler had submitted information to explain the increases to the Board. Mr. Butler arrived shortly after discussion had begun.

It was affirmed that the summer Recreation budget is essentially self-funded through revenues, and also that the total of the summer payroll falls within the budget. There was a discussion of various positions and increases to hourly rates. Mr. Butler said he

had lost five experienced counselors and felt he needed to try to keep people, that these are not easy jobs. Chairman Heitz said he felt that percentage-wise, the hourly rates are higher than for other comparable jobs in town. Selectman Coombs said he understands that, but also understands that it is a tight labor market. Selectman St. James said that it is hard to find summer help. Selectman Wilson said that even acknowledging that the budget is self-supporting and that no benefits are paid, he would like to see a cap on the \$1 per year increases proposed. Selectman Wilson added that he had heard nothing but praise for the Recreation program. One pay rate was adjusted down.

#### **Kingston Days Chair: Budget**

Lynn Gainty, Chair of Kingston Days Committee, was present to answer questions about the budget for the Kingston Days/325<sup>th</sup> Celebration, and some purchase orders for it that had come forward. An adjusted budget had been distributed to the Selectmen, which was reviewed line-by-line.

There was an extensive discussion about details of the event, which will span two weekends. Entertainment costs, parking, buses, and the parade were discussed. Purchase orders questioned had to do with the cost of entertainment, which the Selectmen felt was overly high.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None heard.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

##### **New location for Kingston Days Carnival campers**

Selectman Briggs reported that he had talked with Kevin White of the Lone Tree Council Boy Scout camp. Initially, Mr. White had thought that the Scout camp would be available for the Carnival campers, as an alternative to Magnusson field. However, after he had checked with Will Dinsmore, manager of the Council, he learned that there is an issue with them staying there at that time.

Another property owned by the Council, at the corner of Route 125 and West Shore Park Road, was offered. However, no water or electricity is available at that site, which Ms. Gainty said would not work for the carnival campers.

There was a discussion of how to supply power and water to this site. Selectman Coombs said that the Board had made a substantial effort to find another suitable area, but he doesn't want to spend more money on this. He said he appreciates the concerns of the neighbors at Magnusson Field, but it has worked for this purpose for two years and he doesn't feel it is necessary to recreate the wheel to go elsewhere.

**MOTION:** by Selectman St. James, to allow the Carnival workers to again camp at Magnusson Field for the period requested.

**SECOND:** None.

There being no second, it was decided to have Selectman Briggs get pricing on running electricity to the second site from an abandoned house on the property, and otherwise check its suitability. The matter was tabled until the next meeting.

### **Electricity supply aggregate with Rockingham Planning Commission**

Selectman St. James said he had had a conversation with someone at RPC, and was assured that there will be no cost to the Town of joining this aggregate unless the Town had to buy out of the contract. He said the RPC attorney does all the legal work at no cost to the towns involved. He said that the agreement would have to be beneficial to all five towns involved to go into cooperative buying. He said he saw no harm in signing the Memorandum of Understanding.

**MOTION:** to authorize the Chairman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Rockingham Planning Commission for Electric service bid sharing.

**SECOND:** by Selectman Briggs.

**In favor:** St. James, Briggs, Wilson; **Abstain:** Heitz, Coombs; **Motion passed.**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Town Cell phones**

Electrical Inspector Tom Soterakopoulos was present and requested that the Board consider providing him with a Town cell phone. He said that this would help to separate his own electric business from his Town duties. There was a brief discussion of the matter.

**MOTION:** by Selectman Coombs, to order a Town cell phone for the Electrical Inspector for use in the course of his Town inspection duties.

**SECOND:** by Selectman Wilson

**All in favor.**

Selectman Coombs said that on the same topic, he had talked to two Highway employees about being supplied Town phones or receiving a stipend toward their private cell phones to offset usage for Town business. He said they would prefer a stipend.

#### **Town Planner annual contract**

Town Planner Glenn Greenwood's annual contract, due for renewal, was discussed. The Selectmen questioned whether the services of the Rockingham Planning Commission still needed to be retained, if the Town has hired a Planner.

There was a discussion of Mr. Greenwood's duties and the budget amount. The Board decided to have the contract reviewed by Town Counsel and Primex before signing.

#### **Meeting to be held April 29 re: Ottati & Goss site 5-year review**

The Chairman announced that this meeting will take place on April 29 at the Town Hall meeting room at 6:00 PM, prior to the Selectmen's meeting. All interested in the update information are encouraged to attend.

#### **Compliance enforcement Request re: Saddle Up Saloon**

The Planning Board has requested enforcement of the Saddle Up Saloon's site plan, which stipulates that all activities must take place inside the building. Selectman Coombs said that the owners had come in to the Planning Board for expansion of use, to include outdoor seating, but withdrew. At this time the restaurant is advertising a "bike night" with a pig roast and burnout pit, which the Planning Board has pointed out will definitely not meet existing site plan approval. It was decided to send Selectman Briggs,

as Code enforcement official, down to talk with the owners and invite them in to discuss the matter.

**CORRESPONDENCE, APPLICATIONS, PURCHASE ORDERS:**

- Junkyard license renewal: Ken's Auto
- Application for Elderly Exemption (1)
- Appointment to Budget Committee (1)

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** by Selectman St James to approve the public and Non-public session meeting minutes of April 15, 2019, as written.

**SECOND:** by Selectman Briggs

**In favor:** Heitz, Briggs, Coombs, St. James, Wilson.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**Non-Public Session**

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman St James, **SECOND** of Selectman Coombs, it was voted by roll call to adjourn to Non-Public session under the provisions of NH RSA 91-A:3, II (I): Consideration of legal advice and **RSA 91-A:3, II(a)** Personnel.

**In favor:** Heitz, Briggs, Coombs, St. James, Wilson

The Board adjourned at 9:20 PM.

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Coombs, **SECOND** of Selectman Briggs it was voted by roll call to return to public session at 9:58 PM.

**MOTION:** By Selectman Wilson, to seal the minutes of the non-public session for an indefinite length of time, as releasing the minutes would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board, and would render a proposed action ineffective.

**SECOND:** By Selectman Briggs

**In Favor:** Heitz, Briggs, Coombs, Wilson; **Motion passed.**

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION:** by Selectman Wilson to adjourn at 10:00 PM

**SECOND:** by Selectman Heitz.

**All in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Ayer  
Administrative Assistant