

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of February 24, 2020
FINAL MINUTES**

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

PRESENT: Kevin St. James, Vice Chair; Donald Briggs, Jr., Phillip Coombs, Richard Wilson, Selectmen

NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

MOTION: by Selectman Briggs, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b): The hiring of any person as a public employee.

SECOND: by Selectman Wilson

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

The Board adjourned to Non-public session at 6:30 pm

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Coombs, **SECOND** of Selectman Wilson, it was voted by roll call to return to public session at 7:01 PM

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

Discussed in non-public:

Police Department hiring

APPOINTMENTS:

Library Trustees: Solar project contract

Library Trustee Ellen Faulconer, and Library solar committee members Ernie Landry, Rick Russman and Glenn Coppelman were present to speak about the library's solar project and to request a signature on the contract.

Ms. Faulconer reviewed information on the project, which the Trustees had already brought before the Board, and gained approval to use impact fees to pay for it. The cost will be just under \$25,000 with no cost to taxpayers; it is to be a single pole mounted array and while there will be some savings on electricity, it will be mainly for educational purposes. Mr. Russman and Mr. Coppelman answered questions of the Board about the location of the pole, which will be straight ahead as you come down Library Lane, and about educational aspects that will be available. The software that comes with the array will display diagnostics on a monitor in the library; this information, displayed in real time, will be part of the educational process as well. Mr. Coppelman said that as this is web-based it will be accessible from any computer.

MOTION: by Selectman Wilson, to authorize the Vice Chairman to sign the contract for Revision Energy to build a single-pole solar array on the library grounds.

SECOND: by Selectman Briggs

All in favor.

Rick Russman: Expansion of Town Forest

Mr. Russman asked to discuss this matter in non- public session, as a person who is involved would prefer not to be named in public at this time. It was agreed to enter non-public session after the remainder of public issues are taken care of.

PUBLIC COMMENT I: none

OLD BUSINESS

All American Assisted Living - Performance bond

This request for release of the balance of the performance bond has been received and sent back to the Planning Board for review. At this time, the request has come back to the Selectmen as it is not a Planning Board bond. Selectman Briggs said that he is not sure about the communications system for the assisted living complex; he said he had requested a repeater system and would like to go in and test that system before releasing the bond money. This matter was tabled until the March 2 meeting. Ellen Faulconer commented that they Board should also make sure there is money left to pay Danna Truslow, whose company does continuing testing on the permeable reactive barrier.

NEW BUSINESS - None

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS:

Selectman Coombs said the **inspectors** are still trying to finalize the fee schedules. He said he would like to know that the Board is behind the effort before going too far, as it is becoming apparent that in many cases the Electrical and Plumbing inspectors are needed to review applications before the permits are issued, and they are not full time, but paid by the inspection. He said they are very skilled but can't be expected to continue spending their own time, taking time from their own businesses, to take calls. He said he would like to see that they are compensated for their time. Selectman Coombs added that this is not a budget constraint as the inspectors are self-funded through fees. Selectman St. James pointed out that the Board is behind the Warrant article to allow the Select Board to set fees. There was support expressed to changing the fees as needed.

Selectman Coombs said that he would like the representative to the **Planning Board** to be someone other than him after the election, as there are large projects coming up to which he would be an abutter. It was agreed that likely Selectman Wilson will take over as representative to the Planning Board.

Selectman Wilson reported that there will be a joint meeting of the **Historic District and Heritage** commissions, to talk about future joint projects.

PUBLIC COMMENT II: None heard.

CORRESPONDENCE, APPLICATIONS, PURCHASE ORDERS:

- Three veterans tax credit applications were reviewed and signed.
- One application for an elderly exemption was reviewed but not approved, as the applicant does not fit the income and asset criteria.

- A letter of commitment to participate in the 2020 Household Hazardous Waste Day, which will take place in Hampstead on October 24, was signed (Motion by Coombs, Second by Wilson, all in favor).
- Appointment of a representative to the Rockingham Planning Commission's Technical Advisory Committee was discussed. Ellen Faulconer, the current representative, cannot normally attend the meetings, and has agreed it would be better to have someone at the table. Glenn Coppelman advised that the post requires some understanding of the Planning Commission, and has approached Peter Coffin. This matter will be tabled to the next meeting, so that Mr. Coffin can check his availability.
- A letter has been received from the attorney for James Dufresne (as requested by the Board), confirming that Mr. Dufresne has the authority to expend funds from the engineering bond for the Residential Village at Granite Fields.
- DES licensing paperwork has been received for John's Truck and Auto.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Vice Chair St. James announced that Candidates Night for all residents running for local positions on the 2020 ballot will be held on February 26 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. This will be televised on local channel 21, and will be available via YouTube afterward.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

MOTION: by Selectman St. James, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (c): Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a member of this board.

SECOND: by Selectman Wilson

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

The Board adjourned to Non-public session at 7:32 pm.

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Coombs, **SECOND** of Selectman Wilson, it was voted by roll call to return to public session at 7:45 PM

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

Discussed in non-public:

Town Forest land

Town Office renovation/changes: discussion with Road Agent

Following recent discussion of proposed changes to the office area of the Town Hall, such as removing part of the counter area in the Permitting/Assessing/Selectmen's office and rearranging work areas, Road Agent Rich St. Hilaire asked the Board to walk through the offices to visualize what might be done. The Board and Mr. St. Hilaire adjourned to the downstairs office area for this discussion. No final decisions were made.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION: by Selectman Coombs to approve the public and non-public meeting minutes of February 10, 2020 as written.

SECOND: by Selectman Wilson.

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

MOTION: by Selectman St James, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (l); legal advice, and (a) personnel

SECOND: by Selectman Briggs

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

The Board adjourned to Non-public session at 8:15 pm

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Coombs, **SECOND** of Selectman St. James, it was voted by roll call to return to public session at 8:45 PM

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

Discussed in non-public:

Legal /Personnel

Adjournment:

MOTION: by Selectman Coombs to adjourn at 8:45 PM

SECOND: by Selectman Briggs

All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Ayer
Administrative Assistant