

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of January 11, 2021
FINAL MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM in the Meeting Room at the Town Hall.

PRESENT: Phillip Coombs, Chair; Donald Briggs, Vice Chair; Electra Alessio, Richard Wilson, Select Board Members.

ABSENT: Kevin St. James, Select Board Member

APPOINTMENTS:

Recreation Director Paul Butler: Kingston Rec Summer Camp

Mr. Butler reviewed tentative plans for 2021 Summer Camp activities, fees and hiring. He said that he will not know for a while how many kids there will be and how many trips they will be able to take, but he needs to hire counselors now. Normally he would hire twelve counselors. There was a discussion in which it was noted the counselors are “at will” employees that if not needed will be let go, and that all 12 should be hired.

The number of campers vs. the number of counselors was discussed; Mr. Butler said he would be comfortable with 50 campers, given the continued need for extra precautions and cleaning. Chairman Coombs said he should calculate the fees on what will make the Recreation Center fiscally sustainable based on 50 kids. Selectman Briggs asked if there was a policy in place for COVID exposure. Mr. Butler said he did have one in place and it was agreed that local day care centers and Camp Lincoln would be good sources for a template to update this policy going forward.

Mr. Butler asked permission to ask for sponsors for the tee shirts, to be able to eliminate the \$15 charge for shirts. This was agreed to. Various other details were discussed.

Moderator Ellen Faulconer: Town Meeting Procedures

Ms. Faulconer said that she had attended a webinar put on by the NH Municipal Association which addressed issues for the upcoming Deliberative session. She said she will be calling Dan Doyle, who is in charge of the school facilities, to have a look at the school auditorium which will be the setting for this meeting.

Citing information from the webinar, Ms. Faulconer said that for this meeting, as for the elections, masks and social distancing will be required. If someone refuses to wear a mask they will still need to be allowed to participate, so a different room may need to be set up. She suggested the library. In addition, she said that if there is an issue at the Deliberative session that requires a vote, there is no avenue for the public to vote online. She said they would need to set aside the issue to the end of the meeting in order to allow people to come to the meeting to vote in person.

Ms. Faulconer said she did not understand why the public was not allowed on Zoom during Saturday’s Budget hearing. It was explained that the school technicians were the

ones that set up the meeting with Zoom for committees and department heads, but YouTube for the public, citing the potential for disruptions and inappropriate comments. The Selectmen will meet with Dan Doyle, Ms. Faulconer, and a representative of the school technology team on January 16 following the Budget hearing, in order to work out details for the Deliberative session.

PUBLIC COMMENT I:

None heard.

OLD BUSINESS:

Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer compensation, job description

The Select Board reviewed Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer compensation information from neighboring Towns, and the job description for the Treasurer.

MOTION: by Selectman Briggs, to pay the Deputy Treasurer \$50 per trip, and to adopt the job description as written.

SECOND: by Selectman Wilson

All in favor via roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointment of RSA 79-E Tax Relief Committee

The following were appointed to the 79-E Tax Relief Committee, for terms to end in March, 2024: Glenn Coppelman, Marghi Bean, Susan Prescott, Richard Wilson and Ernie Landry. Glenn Greenwood will be on the committee in advisory, non-voting capacity.

The Public Hearing for the first 79-E Tax Relief application is set for February 1, 2021. The committee will meet prior to the hearing.

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS:

Selectwoman Alessio said that the agreement with McLane Middleton to review employment contracts is before the board for approval.

MOTION: by Selectman Briggs, to approve the terms outlined in the agreement and authorize Selectwoman Alessio to sign on behalf of the Board.

SECOND: by Chairman Coombs

All in favor via roll call vote

Selectman Briggs said that Conservation Chair Evy Nathan has asked if the Board would like to go over the Forest Management Plan, and if they would like her to come in to talk about it. It was agreed that if Ms. Nathan would provide a copy to the Board for review, that will be sufficient.

Chairman Coombs reported that he brought a draft presentation to the Inspectors meeting, which outlined goals to be accomplished. He said he hopes to have a draft of what was discussed ready to bring to the Board at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT II: None heard

BOARD BUSINESS:

Review draft Warrant

It was pointed out by the Administrative Assistant that the Town’s liaison with the Department of Revenue Administration had advised that some language in Article 4 could be removed. No decision was made.

Sands Lane

Chairman Coombs said he will be bringing all information related to the removal of equipment from Town land and the right of way at Sands Lane to the Town’s attorney.

Zoning Violation complaint

Chairman Coombs said he had received a complaint about a home based business that bears looking into. He said he would like to bring this to the attorney as well, in order to set a protocol for addressing violations. The Board had no objection to the Chairman meeting with counsel on these matters.

CORRESPONDENCE, APPLICATIONS, PURCHASE ORDERS:

- A request for refund of a tax payment discount that was not taken by the taxpayer was denied. The refund was not requested until after the payment deadline.
- A letter of interest in purchasing Town lots was received. This will be tabled until the next meeting, and the steps involved in selling Town land reviewed.
- Amended plans are available for the 266 Rte.125 project.
- Viens bond release: Selectman Wilson reported that the Town Engineer and Planning Board have concurred with the Board that this project is completed and the bond may be released.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION: by Selectwoman Alessio, to approve the public and non-public meeting minutes of January 4, 2021, as written.

SECOND: by Selectman Wilson

In Favor: Alessio, Briggs, Coombs, Wilson; Passes

NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

MOTION: by Selectman Wilson, to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a), Personnel

SECOND: by Selectwoman Alessio

All in favor

Meeting adjourned to non-public session at 8:00 PM.

MOTION: by Selectwoman Alessio, to return to public session at 8:15 PM

SECOND: by Selectman Briggs

All in favor

MOTION to seal these minutes for an undetermined length of time, made by Selectwoman Alessio, seconded by Selectman Wilson, because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would:

xx Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board.

Passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Discussed during non-public session: Legal advice from Town Attorney

Adjournment:

MOTION: by Selectman Coombs to adjourn at 8:16 PM

SECOND: by Selectwoman Alessio

All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Ayer, Administrative Assistant