

**Nottingham Select Board Meeting**

**03/23/2023**

**Approved April 17, 2023**

**Call to Order**

Members Present: Chair Donna Danis, Vice Chair Tony Dumas, John Morin, and Ben Bartlett.  
Others: Town Administrator Ellen White, Doug Bates, Tim Dabrieo, Matt Shirland, Jaye Vilchock.

Members Excused: Tiler Eaton.

Chair Danis opened the meeting at 7:15 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Town Administrator Report**

Ms. White spoke about the following:

1. **Action:** Dugouts Marston Farm Recreational Area: The Marston Fundraising committee had met back in February, and the management have been trying to put together the final pieces so that the baseball and softball fields can be utilized in 2023. The management is requesting use of the Recreation Impact Fees (which are only to be used for Marston) on Dugouts. Currently, the Town has \$34,139.00 in Recreation Impact fees. The fundraising committee would like the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to consider using around \$21,000 of those funds to construct four dugouts at Marston. In the packet there are the design plans and number breakdown. Alongside the attached the management has added in concrete pads and roughly what benches would cost to that number. The fencing piece in the mockups is already there, so that is not included in the cost. The NYA is going to purchase the bases for both fields. The management is hoping to get the dugouts installed with the help of volunteers around/on April 15th (Community Clean Up Day). Ms. White then asked whether the Board approve the use of Recreation Impact fees in the amount of \$21,000 for dugouts?

Ms. Danis said that it was her husband and his employee who prepared those plans, and Tim Dabries is working with Lowes to get the materials with a discount. She added that there has been a lot of effort put into trying to bring the cost of this project down. Mr. Bartlett noted that his understanding was that any work on Marston property should be done with the use of private funds, and not impact fees or tax dollars. Ms. Danis answered that she was not sure where such information could be coming from and added that impact fees support recreation and this is a legitimate use of that money. She also said that there is a fund raising committee that is actively working to find alternative funding sources. Mr. Bartlett noted that he remembered that when the warrant article for the field was put forward it was implied that this would be the only money the Town allocates to the project and the rest would be from private sources. Ms. Danis said that any other additional spending could also be put in front of the voters in the form of a warrant article and they can decide what happens to it.

There was discussion of what the impact fee money can be spent on and that it can only be related to growth and expansion of recreation, not renovations, or repairs of old facilities. Ms. Danis noted that the dugouts are necessary for the Town to start using the field.

Ms. Danis polled the members to see where they were on the issue and Mr. Bartlett said that he was against and reiterated that he thought that the Town only put the field in, so the rest of the money should be coming from private sources.

*Mr. Dumas made a motion that the Selectboard approves the use of Recreation Impact Fees in the amount of up to \$21,000 for the dugouts at Marston Field. Mr. Morin duly seconded and the motion passed by a 3:1 roll call vote. Mr. Morin – aye, Ms. Danis – aye, Mr. Dumas – aye, Mr. Bartlett – nay.*

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2. **Action:** There is an issue with trying to force people to use clear bags has proven to be difficult. Enforcing it creates conflict and many ignore the requirement. Ms. White asked if in the interest of reducing conflicts at the transfer station the Board vote to remove the requirement to use clear bags?

There was discussion about the rationale behind requiring clear bags, their poor quality, and ways to make sure that people are still not breaking the rules of the transfer station with that rule lifted. There was a suggestion made to go over the Recycling and Trash Disposal Policy which was updated in 2009 to see what needs to change.

Consensus was to say that clear bags are not mandatory but are preferred by the Town and then update the policy later.

3. **Action:** Will the Board approve allowing the forester to improve the Class VI road?

There was no information on that item and Ms. White deferred it to a later meeting.

4. **FYI:** State vs. 3M – Legal counsel filed an objection to the subpoena on Tuesday on the basis that the town is a non-party in the suit. She added that the other towns are doing the same in trying to put the burden of document collection onto the state.

5. **FYI:** Highway – DPW has located a utility at MacMulkin and has submitted a letter of commitment to purchase pending budget approval to hold the vehicle until 4/5/2023. Quote total was \$75,000.

Ms. White then thanked Ms. Danis and Mr. Dumas for their volunteer work for the Town presented them with recognition plaques.

Ms. Danis and Mr. Dumas thanked everyone and said that it had been a great experience for both of them.

**Non-Public Session**

*Mr. Dumas moved to enter a non-public session per 91-A:3 ii (a) at 7:33 PM, which was seconded by Mr. Morin. Motion passed by a 4:0 roll call vote. Mr. Morin – aye, Ms. Danis – aye, Mr. Dumas – aye, Mr. Bartlett – aye.*

Non-public session was entered at 7:33 PM

**Resumption of Public Session**

Public session was entered at 8:27 PM.

*Mr. Dumas moved to exit and seal the minutes indefinitely at 8:27 PM, Mr. Bartlett duly seconded. Motion passed by a 4:0 roll call vote. Mr. Morin – aye, Ms. Danis – aye, Mr. Dumas – aye, Mr. Bartlett – aye.*

**Adjournment:**

*Mr. Dumas moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bartlett duly seconded. Motion passed by a 4:0 roll call vote. Mr. Morin – aye, Ms. Danis – aye, Mr. Dumas – aye, Mr. Bartlett – aye.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Submitted by Alvina Snegach