

Minutes
Nottingham Select Board Meeting
May 8, 2017

6:30 PM Chair Danis opened the meeting and asked all those present to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Donna Danis, Tiler Eaton, Charlene Andersen, Charles Brown, Anthony Dumas

Others: Town Administrator Chris Sterndale, Secretary Dawn Calley-Murdough, Sam Demeritt, Susan Mooney, Dale Rice, Raelene Shippee-Rice, Cheryl Smith, Liz Kotowski, Bill Netishen, Tom Howe

Approval of Manifest:

Motion: by Mr. Dumas, second by Mr. Brown to approve the May 8, 2017 accounts payable and May 9, 2017 payroll manifests.

Vote: 5 – 0 in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: by Ms. Andersen, second by Mr. Brown to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2017 meeting, as amended.

Vote: 3 in favor. 2 abstained.

Motion: by Ms. Andersen, second by Mr. Dumas to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2017 meeting as written.

Vote: 4 in favor. 1 abstained.

Select Board Department/Board/Committee Reports:

Budget: The Secretary is still seeking contact information for one new member, Leslie Thompson. A meeting is expected to be scheduled in early June.

Planning: Ms. Andersen asked to have replacement coverage at the May 24th meeting and Mr. Eaton stated he would be able to attend. The May 10th meeting will be for the Transportation Sub-Committee, as there are no cases being reviewed. Ms. Andersen would provide Mr. Eaton with agenda information for the May 24th meeting, which should include impact fees.

Strafford Regional Planning Commission has identified the need for a plan on improving transportation for the elderly, which they foresee becoming a bigger issue in the upcoming future. The board also reviewed and approved a tree removal on a scenic road request from NH Electric Coop, specifically for on Priest, Kennard and Mitchell Road. Mitchell Road will see the biggest impact because trees appear to be dying. The NH Electric Coop does not trim away from electric lines as often as Eversource and they tend to cut more when they do cut making it more of an impact.

Ms. Andersen stated concern has been expressed about an increasing amount of litter being dumped on the side of roads and asked to include the topic on the Select Board 2017 task list for future discussion.

Marston: Mr. Eaton and Mr. Sterndale reported a phasing plan should be expected soon and work should begin on starting fundraising.

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Town Administrator Reports, Mail, Signature Items:

Highway: The Select Board will discuss roads and road concerns at their May 22nd meeting and citizens will be invited.

Mr. Sterndale reported the Road Agent John Fernald has selected an estimated retirement date of Columbus Day 2017. The Select Board will need to start considering how they would like to move forward to find a replacement and how the position might change. Select Board members were asked to submit their questions, concerns, and thoughts about the replacement process to the Town Administrator.

Ms. Andersen asked to invite the Planning Board Transportation Sub-Committee to attend the upcoming road meetings. Chair Danis asked to limit discussion at the first meeting to primarily include the Board, Road Agent, and for citizen concerns.

Conservation: Kristen Lamb asked to install three turtle crossing signs for greater awareness of the endangered species. The Select Board approved installation of signs on Berry Road, Deerfield Road, and Flutter Street. It was stated these would be temporary seasonal signs and the Conservation Commission were notified they would be responsible for rotating the signs during the applicable time periods.

There would be no town cost for the signs, only manpower to install the posts.

Appointments:

6:45 pm – Fernald Easement Thank You: Mr. Demeritt introduced Tom Howe, from Society for the Protection of NH Forests (SPNHF). Mr. Howe offered his appreciation and thanks for the partnership SPNHF has with Nottingham, and presented the board with an appreciation plaque. This appreciation is for the support the town has provided to help protect NH Forest and Lands, which includes not only the financial help, but the administrative, personnel, and personal support as well.

The Select Board thanked Mr. Howe for attending and Chair Danis asked to schedule a routine meeting with the Conservation Commission.

7:00 pm – Public Hearing on Ratification of March 2017 Elections: Chair Danis opened the public hearing and asked if there was any public comment.

Chair Danis reviewed the purpose of the hearing, which was to ratify the election results from the weather related postponement of the Town Meeting Elections.

Mr. Netishan asked to clarify what items would be ratified.

Mr. Sterndale reported the Legislature validated the election of officers to town positions and a board or committee, and this step will include all other items on the ballot.

Mr. Brown thought this was a perfect solution to any concerns about postponing the elections. Ms. Andersen asked if there were any complaints. Mr. Sterndale reported there weren't any complaints and additional days were provided to people to submit an absentee ballot if one was needed.

Motion: by Ms. Andersen, second by Mr. Brown that Ratification of March 2017 Town Meeting be approved. Whereas the Town Meeting elections scheduled for March 14, 2017 were postponed until March 16, 2017 due to weather safety concerns; the State of New Hampshire

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adopted HB329, permitting the Select Board to ratify the results of postponed voting; a duly noticed and published public hearing was held on May 8, 2017. The Nottingham Select Board hereby legalizes, ratifies, and confirms all actions, votes, and proceedings held following the postponement of elections on March 14, 2017.

Vote: 5 – 0 in favor.

It was stated the Legislature continues to review possible solutions for this type of situation in the future.

General Business:

Route 4 Property: Mr. Sterndale reported it has been quiet since previously discussed. Discussion took place with NHDES to start work on closing the executive order. The town will have assistance completing this process with Mark West.

The Select Board reviewed the bid results for demolition of the unsafe building and the Request for Qualifications on the Environmental Records Review and Related Services. Mr. Sterndale reported the town hasn't received responses for fence rental, but will continue seeking an estimate.

General discussion took place about the submitted bids and what is needed to keep the public safe. The Select Board made the decision to hold off making a decision about demolition until the amount for fence rental was received.

Discussion took place about the Request for Qualification and Mr. Sterndale reported the town must hire someone to review the test results received after the prior clean up to determine if there are other things the town should be concerned about and if additional testing should take place. These preliminary answers will guide the town in how they will need to move forward for possible sale of the property.

The RFQ will be provided to approximately 40 candidates. There will be a short submittal period, with the expectation for a quick selection after candidate interviews. Mr. Sterndale stated the Select Board should have a recommendation for a selected candidate within 4 weeks.

The Select Board approved sending out the RFQ and would attend interviews if available.

Board of Selectmen Training: Mr. Dumas reported he found the NHMA Selectmen training very positive and one of the better trainings he has attended; it was worth the time to attend.

A lot of focus was given towards roads, and right to know.

DARE: Chair Danis reported the graduation would be held * and she would give a speech to the graduating class. She is looking forward to attending, invited any other members

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business,

7:23 PM Motion: by Ms. Andersen, second by Mr. Dumas to adjourn.

Vote: 5 – 0 in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Calley-Murdough