

Minutes
Nottingham Select Board Meeting
July 2, 2018

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, Anthony Dumas, Benjamin Bartlett

Others: Town Administrator Chris Sterndale,

Approval of Manifest:

Motion: by Mr. Dumas, second by Mr. Bartlett to approve the July 2, 2018 accounts payable and July 3, 2018 payroll manifests and deposit on the Fire Truck.

Ms. Andersen asked about the payments issued for the cemetery clean up. Mr. Sterndale reported payments for cemetery work are issued from the general fund, which is then reimbursed from the Trustees of the Trust fund from the cemetery trust funds. General discussion took place about the difference between public and private cemeteries, how work is paid for, the work by the Historical Society to determine those cemeteries that have trust funds, and the continuation of clean up work that will continue to take place. The Select Board asked to receive a list of the cemetery clean up plans so the board is aware of what trust funds will be accessed and how much will be used.

Vote: 4 in favor. 1 abstain.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: by Mr. Eaton to approve the Select Board June 18, 2018 public minutes as amended. Second by Ms. Andersen.

Vote: 5 – 0 in favor.

Select Board Department/Board/Committee Reports:

Budget: Meeting will be on July 26th at 7:00 pm

Planning: The committee completed a site walk for a proposed sub-division and potential house lots.

Town Administrator Reports, Mail, Signature Items:

Water Testing: Monday, July 10 is the date of testing with about half of the needed owners replying. Some questions have been received.

Highway: The adjuster reviewed the damaged dump truck with the recommendation that the vehicle be considered a total loss, Primex will provide their recommendation later in the week, at which point a decision can be made about how to proceed. It could still be utilized for minimal work, depending on the cost of repairs.

The new pickup truck has been ordered with a six to eight week delivery time.

Fire: The new fire engine has been ordered.

Building: The new building inspector, Dale Sylvia, has been hired and he will start on a full in basis during July with an official start date of August. Chair Danis reported she met with Mr. Sylvia and felt he would be a fabulous addition.

Minutes
Nottingham Select Board Meeting
July 2, 2018

Town Beach: The initial opening went well and there hasn't been any reports of problems taking place.

Chair Danis mentioned that additional infestations of milfoil has been found in Pawtuckaway Lake. Boaters should be cautious when riding around marked areas and the Weed Watchers is seeking additional volunteers.

Recreation: Things are going well with summer camp, with a few hiccups the first few days, which is expected especially with the change in location to the school for part of the campers. The department leased a second van to help transport kids to where they need to go and provides the staff an ability to be in two locations at the same time and transportation to the town beach.

Mr. Dumas asked to keep an eye on the road to make sure it remains safe to travel. Chair Danis reported the same issues are seen at the Fundy Boat launch.

The board signed paperwork regarding

General Business:

Cell Tower Lease: Mr. Sterndale reported the board is being asked to authorize him to sign a six month extension to the cell tower lease in order to continue working on the Route 4 property related issues.

Motion: by Ms. Andersen to approve the amendment to the site agreement with SBA Towers and authorizes the Town Administrator to execute related documents. Second by Mr. Dumas.

Vote: 5 – 0 in favor.

Cable Franchise Agreement: Mr. Sterndale reported he has been working with town council regarding the update to the cable franchise agreement and asked the board to answer a few questions. Does the board want to change the amount of the franchise fee and would they consider adding an elderly discount to the Comcast bill.

It was stated that while reducing the franchise fee would theoretically mean users pay less in their bill, it doesn't mean that Comcast still wouldn't increase prices.

Discussion took place about the franchise fund cap, which is set at \$30,000.00, and if that amount should be reduced. The school completed a significant video upgrade in 2017, the school might consider adding mobile broadcasting, and the town might need minor equipment upgrades soon.

The franchise agreement is renewed every six to seven years with a quarterly payment that are received from Comcast.

Mr. Dumas recommended getting a better camera for the town office. Mr. Dumas also expressed concern that only Comcast users can watch meetings on cable TV and asked if there was an ability to live stream the meeting; ultimately to try and find more ways to provide meeting access.

Mr. Eaton asked if there was an ability to determine the number of people who watch the meetings live on Channel 22.

Mr. Sterndale reported the YouTube option is free for the town for non-Comcast users, and could see some objections from Comcast about utilizing franchise money to live stream meetings on another medium.

Minutes
Nottingham Select Board Meeting
July 2, 2018

Discussion took place about the reason for finding a live stream option.

Ms. Andersen asked if the \$30,000.00 franchise fund be reduced, stating the town doesn't appear to receive a lot of complaints about the video quality since the previous upgrade, but would consider the purchase of a higher definition camera.

Chair Danis supported lowering the amount of the franchise fee. Mr. Dumas was worried that Comcast would reduce the franchise fee but make other increases so the users wouldn't see any savings. Mr. Sterndale reported the town has no control over the amount Comcast charges for the services.

The board asked to determine what other towns are charging for their franchise fee and how many Nottingham citizens were Comcast subscribers. Chair Danis asked to determine if there was a method to change how the fees could be used. Mr. Sterndale would determine the answers to the board questions.

The board determined they wanted answers to their questions before making a decision, but expressed support for reducing the fee. It was stated by lowering the fee wouldn't have a huge impact on lowering the Comcast bill significantly, but more like \$2.00 to \$5.00.

Mr. Sterndale reported he was also requested to determine if there could also be some type of elderly discount for Comcast users. The board agree to consider

Appointments: None

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: The Board entered non-public under RSA 91-A:3 II(a).

7:16 PM Motion: Motion by Ms. Andersen, second by Mr. Eaton to enter non-public under RSA 91-A:3 II(a).

Roll Call Vote: Danis – Yea, Eaton – Yea, Andersen – Yea, Dumas – Yea, Bartlett – Yea. 5 – 0 in favor.

8:15 PM Motion: by Mr. Eaton, second by Ms. Andersen to exit the non-public session.

Roll Call Vote: Danis – Yea, Eaton – Yea, Andersen – Yea, Dumas – Yea, Bartlett – Yea. 5 – 0 in favor.

Motion: by Mr. Eaton, second by Ms. Andersen to seal the non-public minutes of July 2, 2018.

Roll Call Vote: Danis – Yea, Eaton – Yea, Andersen – Yea, Dumas – Yea, Bartlett – Yea. 5 – 0 in favor.

The Selectmen made no decisions during their nonpublic session.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business,

8:16 PM Motion: by Ms. Andersen, second by Mr. Eaton to adjourn.

Vote: 5 – 0 in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Calley-Murdough