

Nottingham Select Board Meeting
12-27-21
Official Minutes as of 1-10-22

1 Call to Order

2 Members Present: Chair Ben Bartlett, Vice Chair John Morin, Tiler Eaton, Tony Dumas, Donna
3 Danis

4 Absent:

5 Others: Lorraine Petrini, Dale Sylvia, Betsy Warrington, Jen Phillips, Kathy Brosnan, Karyl
6 Martin

7 The Chair opened the meeting at 6pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

8 Approve Manifests

9 **Mr. Dumas made a motion to approve the accounts payable manifest of 12-27-21 and**
10 **payroll manifest of 12-28-21. Mr. Morin seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.**

11 Approve Minutes

12 **Mr. Eaton made a motion to approve the public and non-public minutes from 12-13-21 as**
13 **written. Mr. Morin seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.**

14 BOS Reports from Assigned Boards/Committees

15 *Budget Committee*

16 The meeting was cancelled.

17 *Planning Board*

18 Mr. Morin went over the meeting.

19 *CIP*

20 Mr. Dumas said they reviewed the CIP draft.

21 *300th Celebration Committee*

22 Mr. Eaton said they met last week. The bonfire will be January 8. The pallets will be burned as
23 well as Christmas trees. Mr. Bartlett will make a speech at the event.

24 *Marston Property*

25 Ms. Danis said the shed went in. The backstops were installed. They are doing fundraising still
26 for side fencing. Carl Edin has been putting the transformer in place. The well pump is on hold
27 due to supply chain. The trails are blazed. Ms. Danis thanked Joe Caproni, Carl Edin, Shawn
28 McLean, Shea Concrete, Gary Cowan and Matt Kouchoukos.

29 Town Administrator Report

30 Mr. Sylvia said there are items he will discuss as they come up in the meeting.

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31 **Action Items from Last Meetings**

32 300th Celebration, Dale Sylvia

33 Ms. Danis asked if a meeting with the 300th Committee was scheduled. There is no meeting for
34 the BOS before the bonfire. Ms. Danis said they don't have a solid budget from the committee.

35 **General Business**

36 *Kitchen Renovations*

37 Mr. Sylvia said the kitchen renovations warrant article which was approved by the town was for
38 \$22k. Since that time, the prices have increased. They received 5 bids and they were wide
39 ranging for prices. He is recommending the lowest bid. They need an extra \$6550 to encumber.
40 The lowest bid was \$28,550.

41 *Old Town Hall Renovations*

42 Mr. Sylvia said they went through 6 or 7 plans. They needed to find a useable space for SAU and
43 revamp the space for townspeople as well. Two contractors put in bids. The target was under
44 \$200k. The bid he is suggesting is \$186,000. With this, there will be a small addition that can be
45 isolated and insulated. They need an ADA bathroom, and a new furnace will be installed. The
46 duct work will be left in case the hall needs to be heated in the future. There will be no heat in
47 the hallway nor is there any now. There will be a basic kitchenette. Ms. Danis asked what money
48 the School Board will put towards this renovation. Ms. Brosnan said \$70k. Mr. Sylvia said the
49 space consists of 3 offices and another room; it will give them more space than the SB originally
50 thought. The SAU area will stay secure, and the town can use the kitchenette. The main hallway
51 will not be usable in the winter as it is not heated.

52 *2021 Encumbrances*

53 Ms. Warrington said the town surplus is \$185,000.

54 Ms. Danis said the kitchen and old town hall renovations would be \$122,000. Ms. Danis said
55 they were hoping to get the SB approval to use their \$70k.

56 Mr. Sylvia said it is \$191K for both; the other \$6-7k will be found. The old town hall renovations
57 have to be decided tonight. If the school comes through for the \$70k, there is plenty of money
58 for everything. Mr. Sylvia said there is wiggle room for the \$7k in the town budget now but his
59 concern is for the other items that the BOS may use the money towards.

60 Ms. Danis asked using the town surplus money for other items. Mr. Sylvia said they have to have
61 contracts before the end of the year. Ms. Danis asked if they can do conditional approval for Mr.
62 Sylvia to move forward with getting contracts. Mr. Sylvia said yes.

63 Ms. Danis said if they have the SB's \$70k, the BOS could use the money for police department
64 items, etc. Mr. Bartlett would prefer the police tasers over the cameras if it comes to that.

65 Mr. Bartlett asked about the fuel tank.

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Ms. Danis made a motion to for the Board authorizes Dale Sylvia to enter into contract with Gary Anderson Home improvements for the amount of \$28,550 for the community center kitchen renovations with the funds to come from end of year budget surplus. Mr. Dumas seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

Ms. Danis made a motion that the Board authorizes Dale Sylvia to enter into contract with Solid Roots Construction for renovations to the old town hall in the amount of \$186,000 with the funds to come from end of year budget surplus. Mr. Dumas seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Sylvia said if the school gives \$70k to the old town hall renovations, the town surplus will be \$63K. Mr. Bartlett said the tasers are a priority. Mr. Bartlett said fuel tank for the sand pit would be his 2nd choice. Mr. Dumas suggested the guard rail on Deerfield Road.

The Board agreed on these three items to be paid for with the end of year budget surplus and Mr. Sylvia suggested motions on each separately.

Ms. Danis made a motion for the Board to authorize the purchase of tasers for the police department, not to exceed \$40,300, with the funds coming from the end of year budget surplus. Mr. Dumas seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

Ms. Danis made a motion for the Board to authorize the purchase of a fuel tank cube for the pit, not to exceed \$5,000, with the funds coming from the end of year budget surplus. Mr. Dumas seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

Ms. Danis made a motion for the Board to authorize the guard rail repair on Deerfield Road, not to exceed \$16,700, with the funds coming from the end of year budget surplus. Mr. Dumas seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

Mr. Sylvia confirmed that he will not go forward unless the school money comes through. If the school comes through less than \$70k, the tasers is the priority.

Mask Mandate

Mr. Dumas asked how things are going well in the building. Mr. Sylvia said no one tested positive in the two-week period. He received many positive things about the masks and one negative. Mr. Sylvia said there are two options. He continued to say that the primary concern was that many employees were exposed. They met that objective; 10 days passed, and no one got sick. Mr. Sylvia continued to say that the BOS could rescind mask mandate although it may get worse again. He said mask mandates have started in other towns and you may upset more people if you switch back and forth. He suggested discussing this at every meeting.

Ms. Danis said she is not in favor of lifting mask mandate at this time. Mr. Dumas agreed. He said some towns have instituted mask mandates. Mr. Bartlett would like to lift the mandate and have a sign that recommends people wear them but not mandate it. He will not vote in favor of keeping the mask mandate. Mr. Morin said he is in favor of keeping the mandate. Mr. Eaton agrees with Mr. Bartlett.

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103 Mr. Sylvia said they have reminded people to wear masks when they come in. Some people
104 choose not to wear a mask and they have been asked to leave.

105 **Ms. Danis made a motion to keep the mask mandate in place and the Board will review this**
106 **decision at each biweekly meeting. Mr. Morin seconded. The motion passes by a vote of 3-2,**
107 **with Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Eaton nay.**

108 *2022 Proposed Budget*

109 Mr. Dumas went over the spreadsheet with the cuts they made. The debt values were put into the
110 budget and the budget percentage was lower. Ms. Danis asked for a version without the fire
111 department personnel as well. Ms. Warrington will send out that copy.

112 Mr. Dumas said Line 130 and 131 need to be updated in the budget, Line 217 needs to be
113 updated and cuts from Line 283 should be from Line 282.

114 Ms. Danis confirmed with the Board that they said no for the rec/highway person.

115 Mr. Morin said he in favor of having a full-time fire department. Ms. Danis said they should not
116 put personnel on a warrant article. She would like to see the updated budget without the fire
117 personnel.

118 *2022 Proposed Warrant Articles*

119 Ms. Danis suggested taking off the 300th Celebration fund for \$5k for warrant articles. Mr.
120 Bartlett suggested taking off the 350 truck until the following year. Taser warrant article has
121 been removed.

122 Mr. Morin said there may be a citizen petition warrant article that may be coming in.

123 There was a discussion on the budget with the additional firefighters in the budget and without.
124 Mr. Dumas spoke in favor of paying off the debt which would allow the budget increase to
125 decrease in future years. Ms. Warrington said that any debts that want to be paid off will have to
126 be warrant articles. She will send all the warrant articles to the attorney to review as well. Ms.
127 Phillips asked if the library warrant article is on the list. Ms. Danis said it's not there but it will
128 get written. Ms. Phillips will write up a narrative for the library warrant article.

129 Ms. Danis asked about the order about warrant articles. Mr. Bartlett went over his suggestion.

130 Mr. Sylvia will reach out to the chairs of the SB to discuss the money for the old town hall
131 renovations.

132 Mr. Morin asked how the BOS feels about the fire department personal increasing to 24-hour
133 coverage. Mr. Bartlett said he doesn't want the fire chief to lose people but it's a large jump in
134 the budget for 4 months of firefighters which means it's a bigger jump for the following year.
135 The town is getting older as well. Mr. Bartlett said the business park is on the horizon and there
136 are new developments. Mr. Sylvia said in the last three years, there have been 100 new houses. If
137 everything goes through Planning, there will be additional 70 new units, not including single

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138 dwellings. Ms. Danis said she has concerns about a big leap all at once and she has concerns
139 about the following year's numbers. Mr. Eaton would like to see the actual costs. Mr. Dumas
140 said he had hoped to keep all the positions, but they weren't able to get the percentage down.

141 **Appointments**

142 *31-b Public Hearing*

143 Mr. Bartlett opened the public hearing where they will be discussing the American Rescue Plan
144 for 2021. Mr. Dumas is in favor of receiving this money. Mr. Eaton is as well and wonders what
145 they can spend it on. Mr. Morin said he is in favor of accepting the money. He said there are
146 construction projects that they can put it towards. Mr. Bartlett agrees. He asked what the timeline
147 was. Mr. Sylvia said they must use the money within 3 years.

148 **Ms. Danis made a motion for the Select Board to accept up to \$540,000 in federal funds**
149 **from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, authorize the Town Administrator to sign and**
150 **submit related documents, and direct those funds be accounted for independently as a**
151 **general fund account. Mr. Dumas seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.**

152 **Ms. Danis made a motion for the Select Board to authorize the use of up to \$60,000 in**
153 **American Rescue Plan Act funds for the creation of an emergency water supply at the**
154 **Marston property. Mr. Dumas seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.**

155 The hearing was ended at 7:05pm.

156 **Review Action Items for Next Meeting**

157 300th Committee: Jan. 10

158 Warrant articles: Jan. 10

159 **Non-Public per RSA 91-A:3 II (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and/or (l) if required.**

160 **Adjourn**

161 **Ms. Danis made a motion to adjourn the public meeting at 7:44pm and go into non-public**
162 **RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Mr. Dumas seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Bartlett-yay, Mr. Morin-yay,**
163 **Mr. Eaton-yay, Ms. Danis-yay and Mr. Dumas-yay. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-**
164 **0.**

165 The non-public meeting ended at 8:35pm.

166
167 **Ms. Danis made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Mr. Dumas**
168 **seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Bartlett-yay, Mr. Morin-yay, Mr. Eaton-yay, Ms. Danis-yay**
169 **and Mr. Dumas-yay. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.**

170
171 **Mr. Eaton made a motion to adjourn the public meeting at 8:35. Ms. Danis seconded. Roll**
172 **call vote: Mr. Bartlett-yay, Mr. Morin-yay, Mr. Eaton-yay, Ms. Danis-yay, and Mr.**
173 **Dumas-yay. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.**