

**Nottingham Select Board Meeting  
8-9-21  
Official Minutes as of 8-23-21**

**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, Chris Sterndale, Steve Soreff, Susan Mooney, Gene Reed, Susan  
6 Diamond Johnston, Sam Demeritt, Mary Colvard, Cheryl Smith, Kevin Jordan, John Bartsch

7 Chair opened the meeting at 6:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chair recognized the  
8 support staff in the town office and various boards/committees.

**9 Approve Manifests**

10 **Mr. Eaton made a motion to approve the accounts payable manifest of 8-9-21 and payroll**  
11 **manifest of 8-10-21. Mr. Dumas seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.**

**12 Approve Minutes**

13 **Mr. Eaton made a motion to approve the public and non-public minutes from 7-26-21 as**  
14 **written. Mr. Morin seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 4-0 with Mr. Bartlett**  
15 **abstaining.**

**16 BOS Reports from Assigned Boards/Committees**

17 *Budget Committee*

18 No update

19 *Planning Board*

20 Wednesday meeting

21 *CIP*

22 No update

23 *300<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee*

24 Mr. Soreff said there has been a table at the concert series. There will be a new ornament  
25 available. There was a pancake breakfast that happened last weekend.

26 Ms. Danis asked what the next step is for the 300<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee to visit the BOS. Mr.  
27 Eaton said they will come in again. She suggested having them come in every 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. She  
28 said there was questions about costs of things and logistics of events. Mr. Bartlett asked if they  
29 were planning \$10k for fireworks; he said usually communities spend a lot more for a fireworks  
30 show. Mr. Sterndale will firm up a date with the committee.

31 *Marston Property*

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32 Ms. Danis said they are getting the shed taken care of. The fundraising committee meeting will  
33 be tomorrow. Flag football will be played on the field in the fall.

34 Mr. Bartlett asked about another town cleanup day at the field. Ms. Danis said they are going to  
35 mark the trails soon.

36 **Town Administrator Report**

37 Annual overlay paving will be next week. Asset management plan and surveying is underway.  
38 RFQ for the mezzanine project at fire station is due soon. The RFQ for the community center  
39 kitchen will be underway when the fire station RFQ is complete. There will be a joint workshop  
40 with the town attorney and Planning Board. It may be September 1.

41 **Action Items from Last Meetings**

42 300<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee, road standard policy, Chris/Shawn McLean road maintenance  
43 guidance

44 Mr. Bartlett said the road standard policy will not be discussed tonight. He'd like to speak to the  
45 town attorney and invited the BOS as well. Ms. Danis said she will join. Mr. Morin said people  
46 want an open forum for the discussion on the road standards policy. There will be a discussion  
47 with Shawn in the future for road maintenance as well.

48 **Assessing**

49 Mr. Dumas said they were requested to get in touch with the homeowner for Map 19 Lot 6-1.  
50 Ms. Danis said it was more of a hardship case. Mr. Morin said it's not the town burden; the town  
51 isn't going to take their house. The town will get their money eventually. Mr. Bartlett said they  
52 denied a previous person and the person may be losing their home. Ms. Danis said she doesn't  
53 see it as a direct line between the BOS decision and someone losing their home. Mr. Sterndale  
54 said they have not taken anyone's home in the time he has worked here. The policy is quite  
55 biased against taking a person's primary home. Mr. Eaton said no one has lost money since the  
56 pandemic. People have had gained money from stimulus checks. Precedence has been set before  
57 regarding cases like these. Ms. Danis said the person was granted an exemption in years past.  
58 Mr. Sterndale said property evals went up and the elderly exemption didn't go up; that is why the  
59 BOS has seen more of these requests in the past year. Some people are no longer eligible for  
60 exemptions, or they don't fill out the paperwork. Mr. Bartlett said the board is leaning towards  
61 denying it. Mr. Morin concurred. Ms. Danis said to be consistent, yes.

62 **Mr. Morin made a motion to deny the application for abatement for Map 19 Lot 6-1.**  
63 **seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 4-1 with Mr. Bartlett nay.**

64 **Mr. Dumas made a motion to deny the application for Map 24 Lot 31 per Avitar's**  
65 **recommendation. Mr. Eaton seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.**

66 Paperwork was not filled out properly by the owner for this abatement.

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67 **Mr. Dumas made a motion to approve the applications for Map 24 Lot 141 and Map 76 Lot**  
68 **2. Ms. Danis seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.**

69 **General Business**

70 *Impact Fee Appropriation*

71 Mr. Sterndale said the attorney agrees with what the BOS is doing with impact fees.

72 **Ms. Danis made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$32,199 in fire department impact**  
73 **fees for a principal payment on the fire station bond. Mr. Morin seconded. Unanimously**  
74 **approved by a vote of 5-0.**

75 *Other*

76 The Route 4 property is looking good and the buyer said they are on track. The realtor said the  
77 same.

78 Mr. Soreff suggested that people wear masks in the community center building again.

79 Ms. Diamond Johnston came to speak about Mooers Road. The owner, Jim Risborough  
80 separated his land, and he was supposed to bring the road up to standards. She asked if this had a  
81 certain time frame. Mr. Bartlett said there was no time frame. She is concerned that the residents  
82 on this road will lose police, ambulance, and mail if the town isn't satisfied with the road. Mr.  
83 Bartlett said the road still gets plowed in the winter; the police and fire can still get down there.  
84 She verified they won't lose any services. The board concurred. Mr. Dumas said the road owner  
85 can bring it up to standard, and it will become a town road. Mr. Sterndale said the people on  
86 this road shouldn't perceive any changes on this road for this winter.

87 **Appointments**

88 *Nottingham Conservation Commission*

89 Mr. Demeritt is the chair of the Commission. Ms. Mooney is the secretary. Ms. Smith is a  
90 member. They passed out a list of the active projects.

91

92 P17-ACT #1 has a potential commitment for \$300,000. SELT has worked with young farmers to  
93 help them with a piece of property. Project P20-ACT #2 is part of this. The farming family  
94 would get to use the land but it would not be theirs.

95 Mr. Morin asked how the NCC picks properties. Mr. Demeritt said it's possible that it's close to  
96 other projects. Ms. Smith said it's connectivity between land. They are thinking about water  
97 quality, and they want to protect aquifers. Ms. Mooney said they have been approached by some  
98 who had property that were landlocked. It's important to be attached to another property that the  
99 NCC has. Ms. Smith they would look at a landlocked piece of land if that had an aquifer. She  
100 said that the land has to be accessible to the public as well. If the land is actively farming a crop or  
101 logging, the land can be off limits to people during that time.

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102 Ms. Danis asked about the balance in 2019. Ms. Smith said the balance in 2019 was \$356K. It is  
103 \$425k now.

104 Mr. Demeritt said they have not actively targeted properties; people have come to them about  
105 land.

106 Mr. Bartlett asked how much they need for money. Mr. Morin asked what the chances are of  
107 closing the 90 acres property. Mr. Demeritt said they don't know how much of it the landowner  
108 will put in conservation. The landowner wants to get the maximum return on it. Mr. Demeritt  
109 said the whole thing may not go into conservation. Ms. Mooney said it may be a housing  
110 development and a conservation easement.

111 Mr. Bartlett said perhaps they can retire the Mulligan costs. Ms. Smith suggested not jumping  
112 into anything because they don't know quite yet what will close for their properties. Mr. Bartlett  
113 said they should be looking into paying off debt. He said the NCC isn't sure it's a viable option  
114 for the 90 acres.

115 There was discussion on paying off some properties. Ms. Danis suggested revisiting paying off  
116 properties in December. Mr. Bartlett said he believes in the importance of the NCC and supports  
117 it; he would also like to look into paying off debt.

118 Ms. Smith said they only have a certain amount of developmental land. Land is being sold higher  
119 right now. The town may get more money for taxes for properties not in the conservation;  
120 however, the town pays more in the end for those houses because of town services the town has  
121 to provide. There has to be a public hearing for the \$3000.

122 Ms. Mooney spoke to aquifers and reduced salt areas on Route 152 and Kelsey Road. She  
123 suggested asking DOT to mark at the limits of the aquifers to put less salt down.

124 **Review Action Items for Next Meeting**

125 8-23-21: Old Town Hall, Road Standards Policy and Practice

126 300<sup>th</sup> Celebration

127 NCC at December meeting

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

129 **Adjourn**

130 **Mr. Dumas made a motion to adjourn at 7:50pm. Mr. Eaton seconded. Unanimously**  
131 **approved by a vote of 5-0.**