

Minutes
Nottingham Select Board Meeting
April 18, 2016

6:30 PM Chair Danis opened the meeting and stated the Board would hold a quick non-public session before the regular meeting agenda.

Members Present: Tiler Eaton, Charlene Andersen

Others: Town Administrator Chris Sterndale, David Viale of Southeast Land Trust,

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

6:00 PM Motion: Mr. Eaton, second Ms. Andersen to enter non-public under RSA 91-A:3 II(a).

Roll Call Vote: Danis – Yea, Eaton – Yea, Andersen – Yea. 3 – 0 in favor.

6:42 PM Motion: Mr. Eaton, second Ms. Andersen to exit the non-public session.

Vote: 3 – 0 in favor.

Motion: Mr. Eaton moved, second Ms. Andersen to seal the non-public minutes of April 18, 2016.

Roll Call Vote: Danis – Yea, Eaton – Yea, Andersen – Yea. 3 – 0 in favor.

The Selectmen did this during non-public session.

Chair Danis asked to stand for the pledge of allegiance.

Manifest Signature:

Motion: by Mr. Eaton, second by Ms. Andersen to approve the April 11, 2016 accounts payable and April 12, 2016 payroll manifests.

Vote: 3 – 0 in favor.

Outstanding Minutes:

Motion: Mr. Eaton, second Ms. Andersen to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2016 meeting as amended.

Vote: 2 – 0 in favor. 1 abstained.

Select Board Department/Board/Committee Reports:

Planning Board: Ms. Andersen reviewed that she was not able to attend the last Planning Board meeting due to illness, but watched the meeting. Three cases were reviewed, one was approved and the other two continued to a future meeting. The Planning Board also reviewed additional information presented by an employee of Eversource about future tree cutting/trimming on scenic roads.

Town Administrator Reports, Mail, and Signature Items: Mr. Sterndale presented an invitation from the County Commissioners for the Select Board to attend a meeting, if they wanted to attend. Mr. Sterndale had the Selectmen sign the annual MS-123 Municipal Officials Directory that will be submitted to the NH Department of Revenue.

The Selectmen were presented with grant paperwork for update of the Hazard Mitigation plan. Cost match for the town will be up to \$2,000.00, including employee time and other responsibilities. Strafford Regional Planning will perform most of the work.

Student letters were received from the school about their concerns, which included a lot of concern about the quantity and quality of the ball fields; a draft response was provided but the Selectmen could write their own. Ms. Danis agreed to read the letters and draft responses.

Town Offices: The sewer pipe was replaced, including repaving the area. Mr. Sterndale would wait a couple weeks to determine if that change helps solve the issue or if additional work needs to take place to fix the septic issues.

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Demolition of the two tax deeded properties will take place soon.

Town Square: Mr. Sterndale reported the old flag pole has been removed and the new one should be going in soon; he is waiting to hear a specific date from the purchasing/installing company.

Marston: A meeting would be held with Ironwood to review further information they have found to move forward with the start of construction. A decision will need to be made about where the ball fields will be installed; this must take place before other decisions can be made. Chair Danis stated she will start to work on the fundraising group and activity in the next two weeks.

Budget/Expenses: Mr. Sterndale reported he would have a 1st quarter budget/expense report within the next week; the light winter has provided the town with a good 1st quarter.

Police: The new cruiser should be arriving soon.

APPOINTMENTS:

7:00 pm: Sweetser Conservation Easement: Mr. Viale answered Ms. Andersen's questions about the proposed easement agreement for the Sweetser property. Language regarding building alteration cannot change, but it is meant to minimize the impact on the soil and to encourage use as an agricultural property; some commercial activities are permitted which a decision would be made by SELT and others involved. The limitation about buildings is more specific to the easement area and not excluded areas.

Mr. Viale stated a title search was completed and nothing was identified about oil, gas or mineral rights; it is possible to include language in the agreement about no one having rights to extract the materials. The existing contract already includes language eliminating the commercial withdrawal and sale of water.

Ms. Andersen asked that future easement agreements give consideration about potential sale of easements and having too many restrictions for future farmers; potentially making it harder to sell. Mr. Viale reported it is something SELT would be considering more in the future, but doesn't believe it should cause significant issues with an agricultural sale. The current family wants to restrict development rights and keep the property for agricultural purposes; information which will be included in any appraisal.

Mr. Viale stated there is an expectation to finalize the agreement during the month of May or June and clarifying language changes could be made to the agreement.

The Select Board agreed to keep the existing language as written regarding water withdrawal in the Sweetser agreement, but to include the specific information in future easements.

Mr. Sterndale reported an alternative person is typically authorized to sign the agreement, instead of trying to get the Select Board and all other parties in the same room at the same time. Chair Danis reported there is a lot of communication presented by the Conservation Commission regarding their proposals.

Motion: by Ms. Andersen, second by Mr. Eaton to authorize Sam Demeritt to sign the conservation easement on the Sweetser property on Ledge Farm Road on behalf of the town.

Vote: 3 – 0 in favor.

Mr. Sterndale reported SELT would return to Nottingham for a public hearing on the Harvey easement project.

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Chair Danis stated she wanted to make sure the Conservation Commission submits an updated easement project list, as requested several times in the past; this report helps guide decisions about possible easements.

General Business:

Social Media Policy: Mr. Sterndale reported the requested changes have been made. The policy provides the town with the ability to take action regarding social media accounts, if necessary.

Chair Danis reported she like that item number 5 identifies that the town website is the official source of information and asked for clarification about where and what link would be provided. Mr. Sterndale would remove the last sentence in item number 5.

Motion: by Ms. Andersen, second by Mr. Eaton to accept the Social Media Policy as amended in item number 5.

Vote: 3 – 0 in favor.

Lucas Pond Road Trucking: Mr. Sterndale stated Ms. Andersen requested to review the Town of Northwood policy regarding the No Thru Trucking posting on the Northwood side of Lucas Pond Road. A public hearing was held in Northwood approximately a week ago but official documentation and/or a final decision hasn't been found.

Ms. Andersen reported it could cause a potential problem for Northwood if there is not a similar restriction on the Nottingham end of the road, in addition to giving consideration to an official no thru trucking policy for Nottingham.

Chair Danis asked if other concerns about trucking have been brought to the attention to the town. Mr. Sterndale stated the Select Board reviewed one specific request for Garland Road which seems to be from one specific trucking firm, but a solution hasn't yet been found; the trucking firm has stated they will not respond.

Mr. Eaton asked if there was a specific recommendation. Ms. Andersen stated many towns have policies that address the issue for road connector roads from one state road to another or to address trucks driving in residential areas. A policy can be drafted to work with those connector roads.

Mr. Sterndale reported Chief Foss would be invited to review the issue of trucking and the potential problems.

Chair Danis asked Mr. Sterndale to provide a list of connector roads, as well as others should be considered; including discussion with Chief Foss.

Mr. Sterndale reported a draft policy would be written that includes the road limitations, penalties and fines, a public hearing held, and a final decision would be made by the Select Board. It would be the requirement of the Police Department to enforce the policy.

Energy Meeting: Ms. Andersen reported she attended a meeting in the Town of Lee about energy savings, which provided information about the steps taken in Hollis to save on energy expenses. Methods of potential savings included building weatherization, a multi-group electric energy purchase, a lot of solar hot water grants that are available, wood pellet boilers, district heating systems, and a solar farm to help supply electricity to schools.

Mr. Sterndale reported he has not seen any regional buying of energy resource opportunities in this area.

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Recycle Center: Ms. Andersen reported the center does not appear to have a specific sign that indicates vehicle permits are required for use, as well as the new method to get a sticker when vehicles are registered. Mr. Sterndale reviewed he would make sure it was done.

Board Priorities: Ms. Andersen and Chair Danis asked to include a review and discussion of board priorities at an upcoming meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business,

7:35 PM Motion: by Mr. Eaton, second by Ms. Andersen to adjourn.

Vote: 3 – 0 in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Calley-Murdough