

MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

The Board of Selectmen met for their weekly meeting at 6:30 p. m. at the Campton Municipal Building. Present were Selectmen, Sharon Davis, Charles Cheney, Karl Kelly and Peter Laufenberg. Selectman Wheeler was not present due to a conflict in schedule. The Board signed the manifest and reviewed the bills. They signed 1 Building Permit, 1 Tax Agreement and 1 Annual Leave Request.

A member of the public who attended the meeting but was not on the agenda was Tom Mullen.

At 6:45 p.m. Chair Davis called the meeting to order and inquired if there were any changes to the Agenda. Ann Marie confirmed there were no changes.

Chair Davis then called on George Wright to give an update on Northern Pass. He acknowledged the fact that the route for Northern Pass has changed and he confirmed that the new established route from Bridgewater to Bethlehem (52 miles) will have buried power lines rather than towers and all living in this area are happy about this decision. He also indicated that he recently attended a meeting in Concord and expressed that he was pleased with how aggressively the public is opposing the project with towers along the rest of the route. With the new established route, there are issues, and he stated that Tom Mullen is here this evening to elaborate further on these issues. Mr. Mullen explained that he traveled the 52 mile route for the proposed underground power lines. He expressed that the route will involve (in some sections) going right down the middle of U.S. Route 3. This will cause lengthy disruption for weeks through Main Street in Plymouth and also cause disruption in Campton. Other places up north there are ledge issues that come within two feet of the edge of the road and other areas where there isn't even two feet of edge to work with which will also force going down the center of the highway. Mr. Mullen expressed that he felt the new route was not studied very well. Mr. Mullen expressed the procedures are underway for writing up the rules for citing the project and approval of the route and there are public hearings scheduled in October. With this in mind, Mr. Mullen prepared a proposed draft letter (which he read to the Board) which he asked that the Board consider signing and forwarding to Mr. Martin Honigberg, Chairman of New Hampshire PUC and a member and Chairman of the NH Site Evaluation Committee. Chair Davis thanked Mr. Mullen and Mr. Wright for all their work on this project and the letter. Chair Davis assured Mr. Mullen and Mr. Wright that the Board would get back to Mr. Mullen after further discussion and research.

Chair Davis continued the meeting by calling for a Motion to approve the public Minutes of September 14, 2015. After revisions discussed, a Motion was duly made and seconded, and the Minutes, as revised, were unanimously approved.

The next item on the agenda was a tax matter. Chair Davis made a Motion to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II(c). The Motion was seconded and the Board went into Non Public Session at 7:05 p.m. The Board came out of Non Public Session at 7:07 p.m.

The next item on the agenda was discussion regarding the adoption of the proposal presented by Chair Davis last week pertaining to Selectmen's Policy on Public Input at Board Meetings. Chair Davis explained that while the Board supports and encourages public input, the proposed policy will give more structure to encourage the public to contact the Town Administrator (no later than the Thursday before the next scheduled meeting) to be placed on the agenda for that meeting. Chair Davis explained that if the policy is adopted, the format of the agenda will be revised to support the proposed policy. The policy proposes any person who wishes to speak on an item not on the agenda for a meeting will be allowed to speak briefly during the public input time scheduled on the agenda for that meeting. Comments during the public input session of a meeting will be limited to not more than 5 minutes, except as may be permitted by the Board. Persons who wish to speak longer than the usual time may request to be placed on the agenda for a future meeting. Chair Davis informed the Board that she spoke with Selectman Wheeler and he is in favor of the proposed policy. After discussion, and no further comments, Chair Davis called on Selectman Laufenberg who made a Motion to approve the Selectmen's Policy on Public Input to commence October 4, 2015. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Cheney and with a roll call vote the policy was unanimously approved.

Chair Davis stated that the next item on the agenda was the discussion and review of the initial Wage Analysis for the 2016 Budget. Ann Marie distributed to the Board a spreadsheet indicating the labor grade of each Town employee giving a minimum wage, midpoint and maximum wage for hourly rate employees together with salaried employees which Diane Richards, bookkeeper and Ann Marie prepared. Ann Marie explained the spreadsheet and pointed out that some employees who are in the same labor grade; but with a different number of years of service and experience had the same rate of compensation and others were varied. The wage study recommended consideration for years of service and experience. Chair Davis indicated that the next step was for the Board to meet with the Department Heads. Ann Marie confirmed that she sent a Memorandum to all Department Heads concerning performance evaluations and the scheduled deadline by October 15, 2015. Ann Marie confirmed that all Department Heads will be meeting with the Board on September 28, 2015, at 7:15 p.m. to discuss common goals and concerns for the upcoming budget year.

Chair Davis continued the meeting by calling on Ann Marie to review correspondence. Ann Marie informed the Board that Lakes Region Water Company, Inc. sent notice of the increase in their rates and Deer Run will be affected by the new rates.

Ann Marie informed the Board that a request was made by Fire Chief Dan Defosses to install a 12 foot by 10 foot concrete pad with a wood structure at the Campton substation which would be used for training session for rescuing people out of a burning building

through the window. The Board suggested that Charles Brosseau view the site to make sure it meets building permit set back requirements. The Board members expressed that they were happy there would be more activity at the substation if all building permit requirements are met. Selectman Kelly mentioned that he thought Luther Haartz, who conveyed the land to the Town, had some stipulations in the deed. Ann Marie will check on this.

Ann Marie read an email to the Board which Selectman Laufenberg submitted to her from Jessica Halm regarding Becket School. Mrs. Halm did state that she has few complaints about the "Depot Street" facility; however, the "big house" still has issues which she addressed in her email to Selectman Laufenberg and Selectman Laufenberg wanted the Board to be aware of. Selectman Laufenberg stated that he has addressed the issues with Selectman Wheeler and he brought the issues to the attention of Becket School. Selectman Wheeler asked the Becket School to contact Jessica Halm to update her on measures being taken to resolve the problems.

Ann Marie informed the Board that Arnold M. Graton Associates, Inc. inquired if the Board would agree to submit a letter of reference to Kentucky Finance Cabinet as Mr. Graton stated the reference letter is needed to be submitted with the their Proposal for the Kentucky project before October 13, 2015. The Board agreed and a reference letter will be submitted. Ann Marie also indicated that Craig Keeney informed her that the electrician will be working on the lighting next week on the Blair Bridge. Craig will contact Butch Bain about signs on Blair Bridge. Meg Graton emailed Ann Marie to say that Tim will be doing the repair work that was found (when they did the recent inspection) either this week or next week.

Attorney Dan Crean informed Ann Marie that he will be attending a Municipal Lawyers Conference in Nevada and a short vacation in Utah from 10/1 through 10/13 and will have limited availability by cell phone during that time period.

Ann Marie informed the Board that NH DOT is holding a meeting at the NH DOT, on October 15, 2015, at 1:00 p.m. to discuss concerns and answer questions regarding a streetlight discontinuance which will affect Campton by removing 10 streetlights, with only 4 remaining. Discussion ensued pertaining to concerns of eliminating streetlights in certain areas in Campton, particularly at exit 28 off of I-93 in Campton. Selectman Laufenberg agreed to attend the October 15, 2015 meeting at the NH DOT and he also stated that he will contact Senator Forrester, Executive Councilor Kenney, and the Chamber of Commerce regarding the Board's concerns.

Ann Marie reminded the Board of the property auction to be held at the Campton Municipal Building, in the Community Room, on October 17, 2015, at 11:00 a.m. Ann Marie stated that May Brosseau volunteered to attend the auction in Ann Marie's absence while she visits her family and babysits her new Grandchild. Chair Davis stated that she will attend the auction and sign the Purchase and Sales Agreement and May Brosseau will not have to attend. Selectman Laufenberg also stated that he will also be present.

There being no further correspondence or discussion presented by Ann Marie, Chair Davis continued the meeting with Other Business – Selectmen’s Input.

Chair Davis stated that in regard to Northern Pass and the discussion presented by Tom Mullen this evening, she would like Ann Marie to do some research of the Annual Town Meeting Minutes pertaining to the vote of the Town regarding Northern Pass. Ann Marie will research and get back to the Board.

Chair Davis called on Selectman Cheney who had a question on timesheets which was explained by Ann Marie.

Chair Davis called on Selectman Laufenberg who informed the Board that he attended the Grafton County Economic Development Council meeting. Selectman Laufenberg expressed that he was pleased that everything is moving forward aggressively.

Chair Davis called on Selectman Kelly who informed the Board that he was approached by Hannah Joyce, Town Clerk/Tax Collector regarding the Loss Safety Committee. Selectman Kelly stated that he informed Mrs. Joyce that Karen Rienzo should respond in writing to the Selectmen’s memo to Karen concerning the Loss Safety Committee Secretary nomination.

Selectman Kelly also mentioned to the Board a complaint pertaining to a mailbox being knocked down by the Highway Department 4 times within the past 3 years. Selectman Kelly discussed the matter with Butch Bain and he did not recall that the mail box was knocked down so many times; however, this last occurrence he acknowledged (after speaking with his staff) and he will take care of the matter.

Selectman Kelly also informed the Board that he received a cell phone call from an anonymous property owner. The property owner did not leave his name or phone number to be called back. The individual was complaining about the construction being done on Bog Road. The construction is due to ditching in order to prepare for the paving on Bog Road. Selectman Kelly was able to verify the phone number by checking back in his cell phone records and he DID return the call, however, the individual still would not give his name. Selectman Kelly addressed this complaint with Butch Bain.

There was no further Other Business – Selectmen’s Input by Board members. Chair Davis then made a Motion to go into Non Public session under RSA 91-A: 311(c) regarding consideration of the hiring of any person as a public employee. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Laufenberg and with a roll call vote: Selectman Davis – aye, Selectman Cheney – aye, Selectman Kelly – aye, and Selectman Laufenberg – aye the Board went into Non Public Session at 8:20 p.m. Selectman Laufenberg, Ann Marie Foote and Ellie Dewey were excused from the Non Public Session. The Board came out of Non Public Session at 8:25 p.m.

Chair Davis continued the public meeting by making a Motion to seal the Non Public Minutes. The Motion was seconded and with a unanimous roll call vote, the Non Public Minutes were sealed.

Chair Davis asked Board members to review the two sets of Non Public Minutes of the September 14, 2015 meeting. After review, a Motion was duly made and seconded, and the Non Public Minutes were unanimously approved as written.

There being no further business, Chair Davis declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor M. Dewey
Office Assistant to Ann Marie Foote, Town Administrator