

MINUTES  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
OCTOBER 26, 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 Wheeler, Charles Cheney, Karl Kelly and Peter Laufenberg. During the work session of the meeting the Board signed the manifest and reviewed the bills. They signed 1 Intent to Cut, 11 Quitclaim Deeds and a support letter to the Conservation Fund concerning Beebe River Conservation land.

Members of the public who attended the meeting were Police Chief Christopher Warn, Brynn Brotzman, Robert Bain, Carina Park, Suzanne Silvestri, George Wright Mary A. O'Brien, Tom Mullen, Arthur Evans, Nancy Donahue, Joanna R. and Robert A. Tuveson, Jim Wagner, Patrick McDermott, John Kayer and Donna Keeley.

While the Board was in work session, Chair Davis called for a review of the minutes of October 19, 2015. After two revisions made by Selectman Cheney and Selectman Laufenberg, Chair Davis called for a Motion to approve. The Motion was made by Selectman Laufenberg to approve the Minutes as revised. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Wheeler and with a roll call vote, the Minutes, as revised, were unanimously approved.

During the work session, Chair Davis called on Ann Marie to review correspondence. Ann Marie informed the Board that a thank you note was received from Mrs. Dussault, Campton's payroll service provider, for flowers sent to support her through the loss of her husband.

Mid-State Health Center will be holding their 2015 Annual Meeting on Friday, November 6, 2015 p.m. at 101 Boulder Point Drive, Plymouth, NH. Ann Marie indicated that an RSVP was needed by October 28, 2015.

A thank you letter was received from Anne and Rick Formalari directed to the Board and Robert "Butch" Bain, Road Agent, concerning the paving of Donovan Farm Road. They expressed that they appreciated the time, effort and expense that was put into paving and grading, even though budgets are tight.

Ann Marie distributed copies to the Board of the Campton/Thornton Fire Rescue Intergovernmental Agreement with the changes identified in red. She indicated that the Ellsworth Select Board has approved the amendment for revisions to the agreement and they are still waiting for a decision from the Thornton Select Board.

Ann Marie stated that the Town Clerk/Tax Collector has provided her a list of the properties that were deeded, totaling five properties. Two out of the five properties are rentals. Ann Marie stated that the attorney for the rental property in Red Sleigh will be in

to discuss issues with the Board. One other property owner has promised that she will be in to pay the entire tax amount in full; however, at present, she has not done so.

A notice was received regarding Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District Public Hearing on Thursday, November 19, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss its 2016 Operating Budget. The hearing will be held in the Gold Room located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in the Plymouth Town Hall.

Ann Marie indicated that she spoke with Cheryl Perkins, at Commerford Nieder Perkins, Town Assessors, and after a conversation concerning no more extensions and delays in the Town's assessing needs can be tolerated, Ms. Perkins, assured Ann Marie that the reciprocal work will be completed by the end of the year, and the data collectors will be starting this Thursday in Campton.

Chair Davis informed the Board that she and Selectman Laufenberg attended a DOT Ten Year Improvement Plan meeting. Chair Davis indicated that in District #1 there is road work planned for Osgood Road, Ellsworth Hill Road, Owl Street, Old Waterville Road, a small portion of Route 175 and Mad River Road.

Chair Davis then called on Donna Keeley, from Eversource to discuss Northern Pass. Mrs. Keeley indicated that she has three gentlemen with her from Eversource to talk about the Northern Pass project and she introduced them as John Kayser, Patrick McDermott and Jim Wagner. Mrs. Keeley advised that on Monday, October 19, 2015 the Northern Pass revised application was filed with the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC). Mrs. Keeley distributed a packet of information prepared by Eversource with regards to the Northern Pass project pertaining to:

- the new proposed underground route (52 miles) and the new proposed overhead route (132) miles;
- maps showing the route; information on the underground construction process; information listing benefits of the project;
- information on the public participation process; and
- information explaining the composition of the Site Evaluation Committee, its duties and time line for holding public information sessions in each county.
- A list of where, when and time of scheduled public information sessions.
- An illustration of Northern Pass Transmission Local Property Tax Payment benefits simulated over 20 years.

Mrs. Keeley introduced Mr. Kayser who gave a project overview for Campton. He explained the needs for this project; i.e. New England has highest energy rates, in the future, fossil and oil energy fuel will not be available; and the limited lines of natural gas. Mr. Kayser suggested the solutions are the need for more and diverse energy sources, need more natural gas lines, more solar and more energy efficiency.

Mr. Kayser stated that the benefits of Northern Pass will lower energy costs for New Hampshire; will provide \$30 million new tax payments; will provide 2,600 temporary jobs for New Hampshire residents with an electrical worker training program being offered and will provide clean energy. He also stated there will be a commitment to hiring NH residents first.

Mr. Kayser informed the Board that Mr. McDermott will explain the construction specifics in Campton. Mr. McDermott distributed copies of maps of the route to Board members for review and indicated the maps were available on the Northern Pass website. He indicated that all of the route in Campton will be underground and he described in detail the construction and cable protection and stated the anticipated construction would commence April, 2017. There will be two construction seasons running from April 1 to November 1. He described the ongoing work involved with landowners on the impact. Mr. McDermott also stated it is anticipated that 100 to 150 feet of lines will be completed each day and anticipate one lane of traffic on Route 3 will be open at all times. Mr. McDermott then turned discussion over to Mr. Jim Wagner who is part of the Community Outreach program.

Mr. Wagner explained the means of communication available to the public regarding Northern Pass. On the Northern Pass website you can type in questions and his job, (along with his assistant) is to respond to these questions. There is also a 1-800 hot line number for inquiry. His team has also responded to 125 letters to landowners in Campton. His team has had actual site visits done, which involved discussion of the route and the jobs available besides construction, such as traffic control and concerns about emergency egress and traffic control for those particular jobs. He explained that his team has been very busy informing the public and answering questions. This concluded the presentation.

Chair Davis explained that Eversource's presentation was a presentation to the Board of Selectmen, and was not established as a public hearing and that any questions (by the public) could be addressed at the public hearings to be scheduled by the SEC. Tom Mullen inquired if a few questions could be answered this evening by the public. Chair Davis inquired if the representatives were prepared this evening to answer a few questions. Mrs. Keeley acknowledged that they were prepared. Chair Davis then stated, that because of time restraints, questions and answers would be limited to 5 questions or no longer than 10 minutes. Chair Davis called on Tom Mullen who inquired if the new route has been approved. The response was that the new route was submitted, not approved at the present time. Tom Mullen also spoke about high rates as an energy problem that Mr. Kayser mentioned; however, Mr. Mullen expressed concern that the CEO of Eversource is paid \$19 million dollars a year. Mr. Kayser stated that this does not have any impact on the issue at hand. Mr. Mullen also inquired how the number of jobs increased from 1,200 (previously quoted) to 2,600 jobs. Mr. Kayser expressed that the 52 miles of underground installation will require more people to complete the job. Mr. Mullen also expressed concerns for neighbors north and south of Campton, where the proposed lines are not anticipated to be installed underground and he expressed this is not

acceptable and it was his opinion that the entire route of 192 miles needs to be put underground.

Chair Davis then called on George Wright who stated that before filing with SEC, there is supposed to be control of the route with the SEC. Mr. Kayser responded that the SEC has 60 days to decide whether to accept the application wherein they would approve the route at that time. It was confirmed that no permits have been approved. Chair Davis then confirmed that the Board needed to move on to the agenda. The Board thanked Mrs. Keeley, Mr. Kayser, Mr. McDermott and Mr. Wagner for their presentation.

Chair Davis then called on Lisa Ash, Parks & Recreation Director regarding the Parks and Recreation Proposed 2016 Budget. Mrs. Ash distributed the proposed budget to the Board and she reviewed it line per line comparing with 2015. Mrs. Ash presented two option scenarios for 2016. One with an extra week of after school summer programs and one without. The difference in the bottom line is \$48,369.00 (Town Cost without an extra week) and \$49,569.00 (Town Cost with the extra week). Mrs. Ash expressed the need for the program, the problems expressed by parents when school is out and 93% of the parents express an interest in the additional 5<sup>th</sup> week of the program. Chair Davis called on Carina Park, who inquired if the extra week would be in the beginning of the summer or at the end of the summer. Mrs. Ash confirmed it would be at the beginning of the summer. After discussion, the Board's consensus was that a 5<sup>th</sup> week would be favorable; however, it was reminded by Selectman Cheney that nothing is solid until after public budget hearing and Town Meeting. The Board suggested Mrs. Ash have parents available at the budget meeting to express the impact on their families. Chair Davis thanked Mrs. Ash for her hard work in preparing the detailed proposed budget and presentation this evening.

Chair Davis proceeded with Other Business – Public Input. Chair Davis called on Robert “Butch” Bain who stated he would like to discuss the possible backhoe purchase for the Highway Department. The Board agreed that the best time for Mr. Bain to come in and discuss the backhoe proposals would be at the time he presented his 2016 proposed budget.

Mr. Bain also reported that the paving has been completely finished. He also informed the Board that the pitch on Kevin Coburn's property has been corrected and the driveway drainage issue has been alleviated, together with only 50% of the water going down his property by redirecting the water flow. Mr. Bain stated that Mr. Coburn appears to be happy with the corrections. Mr. Bain had nothing more to bring before the Board.

Chair Davis then continued with Other Business by stating that the Board needs to set the proposed employee percentage increase for compensation for the 2016 Budget. Chair Davis stated that a 2% increase would increase the budget \$22,095.00 and a 3% scenario would increase the budget \$31,000.00 (the amount includes retirement figure calculations). After discussion, Chair Davis called on Selectman Cheney who made a motion for a 1 ½% merit increase. (It was acknowledged that there is no COLA increase

this year). After further discussion, no member seconded the Motion and the Motion died.

**Chair Davis then called on Selectman Laufenberg who then made a Motion to set a 0% to a 2% maximum merit raise for the proposed 2016 budget for employees. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Wheeler, and the Motion was approved.**

Chair Davis inquired of each Board member if there was any Selectmen's Input. There was none.

**Chair Davis then made a Motion to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II(c) concerning a personnel matter. The Motion was seconded, and with a roll call vote: Selectman Davis – aye, Selectman Wheeler – aye, Selectman Cheney – aye, Selectman Kelly – aye, and Selectman Laufenberg – aye, the Board went into Non Public Session at 8:15 p.m. The Board came out of Non Public Session at 8:30 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 roll call vote: Selectman Davis – aye, Selectman Wheeler – aye, Selectman Cheney – aye, Selectman Kelly – aye, and Selectman Laufenberg – aye, the Non Public Minutes were sealed.**

There being no further business Chair Davis declared the public meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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