

NEW DURHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN
New Durham Town Hall
November 13, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

Final Approved 12-11-17

Present

Chair David Swenson
Selectman Cecile Chase
Selectman Rod Doherty
Scott Kinmond, Town Administrator

Also Present: (Attending the Public Session at 6 p.m.)

George Gale, 1772 Meetinghouse Committee
Cathy Allyn, 1772 Meetinghouse Committee
Clayton Randall, 1772 Meetinghouse Committee
Cathy Orlowicz, Boodey Farmstead Committee
Sherry Cullimore, Boodey Farmstead Committee
Tatiana Ciaito, Boodey Farmstead Committee
Frances Frye, Boodey Farmstead Committee
Timothy Goodwin, Wolfeboro Community TV
Macia Eldredge, Wolfeboro Community TV
Dot Veisel, Resident
David Bickford, Resident

Call to Order

Chair Swenson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Chair Swenson made a motion to enter into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) – the dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee; (b) – the hiring of any person as a public employee; (c)- matters which, if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. Selectman Chase seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Roll Call: Selectman Chase – Aye; Selectman Doherty – Aye; Chair Swenson – Aye.

The Board entered nonpublic session at 5:33 p.m.

The Board reentered public session at 6:05 p.m.

Chair Swenson stated while in nonpublic session the Board discussed personnel hiring and the upcoming meetings with the Boodey Farmstead Committee and the 1772 Meetinghouse Committee.

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting
November 13, 2017*

Chair Swenson gave excerpted comments he wrote a few years ago relative to maintaining civility in social and personal interactions during a meeting.

Chair Swenson stated the purpose of this meeting is to help the Board of Selectmen and the Town understand seemingly continuing discrepancies between the two historical committees. Selectman Chase concurred and a small community needs to look at the projects cooperatively in order to potentially move forward with both. Selectman Doherty stated he has been on various committees over the years and there used to be a sense of togetherness and he wants to see both projects come to fruition.

Cathy Orlowicz, Chair of the Boodey Farmstead Committee, stated the reason for their request of a joint meeting is the committee wants to hear any concerns or issues regarding the project and if there are any misunderstandings, to clear those up.

Clayton Randall, resident, stated he has connections with both projects and he has strong feelings on both.

Selectman Chase stated when she began her term the Board of Selectmen met with the 1772 Meetinghouse Committee at the site for a walkthrough and discussed plans and focus. They discussed keeping the historical value and not try to be all things to all people.

Cathy Allyn, 1772 Meetinghouse Committee, stated restricting use can negatively affect obtaining grants.

George Gale, 1772 Meetinghouse Committee Chair, noted the flexible use of the building has been the purpose of the committee all along and grants will be needed to fund this project. There was discussion of the planning and work the committee has done over the years with little progress on the project in some years due to varying levels of Select Board support.

Ms. Orlowicz gave an overview of the Boodey Farmstead project over the last few years. She stated this project doesn't qualify for many of the grants and funding as the Meetinghouse and explained all the buildings are either a part of the original farmstead or similar in structure and design.

Selectman Chase stated the Board of Selectmen is extremely supportive of the 1772 Meetinghouse Committee and have asked for a well-defined business plan and encouraged working with the Boodey Farmstead to help both projects move forward.

There was discussion of where the purpose of this meeting originated and differing opinions on priorities. Mr. Clayton and Ms. Allyn questioned why this meeting was called and were unaware of problems between the committees.

Selectman Doherty stated the Town is privileged to have multiple historical buildings and all are valuable assets to be preserved.

Chair Swenson stated the Board of Selectmen has been aware of some discrepancies between the two committees which necessitated this meeting and encouraged the committees to discuss things openly between them.

Selectman Chase stated the Town is supportive of both projects and wants there to be a commitment to working together and less negativity.

There was further discussion of the similarities and differences between both projects.

Chair Swenson stated he would like to see a progress report from the committees for the December 11 meeting.

Public Hearing - Solid Waste Facility Proposed Changes

Chair Swenson opened the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

Town Administrator Kinmond distributed a copy of the previously amended proposed ordinance for review and discussion. He stated the proposal is for a biannual decal for \$10 and used for the transfer station and the Town beach. Currently it is a lifetime permit for \$2. Selectman Doherty asked how they would charge commercial haulers. Town Administrator Kinmond explained the proposed process for ensuring they are only dumping trash collected from New Durham residents. He explained the process is to be “policed” by the transfer station and gave further explanation of the ordinance.

David Bickford, resident, questioned the placement and costs of the sticker. There was discussion and revision of the ordinance regarding placement and display of the sticker.

Dot Veisel, resident, asked if there will be a sign posted at the station indicating the color of the current sticker. She asked what happens if people have more than two vehicles. It was clarified permit stickers will be transferable between vehicles if the resident / taxpayer so chooses.

Mr. Bickford stated he is opposed to the \$10 biannual fee and thinks they should use taxation instead of collection of fees. TA Kinmond replied the fee helps offset the costs of the sticker. It was clarified this ordinance would go into effect January 1, 2018.

Chair Swenson closed the public hearing at 7:57 p.m.

Town Administrator Kinmond confirmed the consensus of the Board is to look at doing biannual decals. Chair Swenson reiterated it would be the responsibility of the transfer station to enforce ordinances regarding recycling and collecting fees.

Wolfeboro Community TV

Timothy Goodwin, Executive Director Wolfeboro Community TV, gave a presentation in hopes of continuing and growing cable access services with the Town. He stated they are a nonprofit organization and have a vision of collaborating with Metrocast and TDS in

providing services to the Town. Mr. Goodwin stated they have agreements from both companies for the collaboration and explained the two channels New Durham has in their contract with TDS are currently unused. The Board discussed the proposal and availability of the channels. Mr. Goodwin explained the problems encountered with live streaming on the channels and the technical drawbacks with transmitting the Town Hall recording, noting the feed needs complete recoding. He explained the process needed to broadcast meetings and also explained the opportunities with local broadcasting. Mr. Goodwin then distributed a summary of the different service packages available for the Town.

Public Input

David Bickford, resident, stated he is aware of three revolving accounts, one for Parks and Recreation and one for the police department and one can be used for the transfer station. He stated it is his understanding the money is tied up and doesn't think that's a good thing when running tight on the TAN and suggests keeping money available for moving around.

Town Administrator's Report

Town Administrator Kinmond distributed the consent manifest from October 16 – October 29 for review by the Board of Selectmen.

Town Administrator Kinmond distributed a contract from the current vendor offering the current contract price for brush grinding to be extended for a three-year period. He stated every year it has been difficult getting three bids for this service and there are not many who offer this service.

Chair Swenson made a motion to approve a three year contract with Tom Huckins, LLC for annual brush grinding services of the accumulated brush at the Town of New Durham Solid Waste Facility. Said agreement subject to funding annually. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Hazardous Waste Disposal

Town Administrator Kinmond stated it is helpful to have a day for everyone to collect and dispose otherwise they have to take it to Rochester or Wolfeboro on select dates and pay for disposal. Chair Swenson stated he doesn't see a need for this as there are options for disposal. The Board discussed the options for disposal of hazardous waste as well as the costs. Chair Swenson requested TA Kinmond to research if the Town has done this agreement with Rochester in the past.

Strafford County Tax Bill

Chair Swenson stated the amount of the bill is \$1,189,492 and asked if this is to be applied to the 2018 tax rate. Town Administrator Kinmond explained this is payment for 2017 taxes.

Chair Swenson made a motion to issue an acknowledgment and payment of the 2017 Strafford County tax portion in the amount of \$1,189,492. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

IT Contract Extension

Town Administrator Kinmond stated modifications for a renewable clause was added and he discussed this with Spaulding Hill Networks; this will be the second year and the cost remains the same. He explained the services of the last year and the issues that have come up and been handled well by the company.

Selectman Chase made a motion to enter into a one year extension of the contract with Spaulding Hill Networks for 2018 for the contract amount of \$20,700. Said contract subject to funding and authorize the chair to sign. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Old Business

Property Posting

Chair Swenson stated after some additional public input they are revisiting the decision to post the property of the 1772 meetinghouse for no hunting. The Board discussed the opinions made by the public. Chair Swenson stated he hasn't heard anything that changes his decision at this point as the initial action was done from a public safety perspective. Selectman Doherty stated he confirmed the posting restricts hunters passing through to other property as well but doesn't want the Town to be responsible if something happens on the Town property. There was discussion if the property is considered a Town park. Ms. Orlowicz stated at one time there were two separate committees for the park and the building/property. Selectman Doherty suggested Fish and Game making a presentation on the legality and liability.

New Business

Conditional Offers of Employment

Chair Swenson made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to issue a conditional offer of employment to Candidate 1 of New Durham for Facilities and Grounds Maintenance at an hourly rate of \$15 per hour said hire upon completion of satisfactory background checks, pre-employment physical and drug testing with a tentative start date of November 27, 2017. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Selectman Chase made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to issue a conditional offer of employment to Candidate 1 for the position of Office Clerk at an hourly wage of \$14.60 per hour with said hire upon completion of satisfactory background checks, pre-employment physical and drug testing with a tentative start date of November 27, 2017. Chair Swenson seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Selectman Chase made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to issue a conditional offer of employment to Candidate 1 for the position of Light Equipment

Operator at an hourly wage of \$16.50 per hour with said hire upon completion of satisfactory background checks, pre-employment physical, DOT testing and drug testing with a tentative start date of November 27, 2017. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Approval of Minutes

Postponed.

Public Input

David Bickford, resident, stated he did some tax analysis of Strafford County municipalities and explained the local education tax rate is the lowest in New Durham, and New Durham's total tax rate is the second lowest.

Chair Swenson made a motion to enter into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) – the dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee; (b) – the hiring of any person as a public employee; (c)-matter which, if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Roll Call: Selectman Chase – Aye; Selectman Doherty – Aye; Chair Swenson – Aye.

The Board entered nonpublic at 9:34 p.m.

The Board reentered public session at 10:19 p.m.

Chair Swenson stated while in non-public session the Board discussed various personnel issues.

Chair Swenson made a motion to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session of November 13, 2017. Selectman Chase seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Adjourn

Chair Swenson made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary