

NEW DURHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN
New Durham Town Hall
December 11, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Final Approved 01-08-18

Present:

Chair David Swenson
Selectman Cecile Chase
Selectman Rod Doherty

Also Present:

Scott Kinmond, Town Administrator
Cathy Orlowicz, resident & Boodey Farmstead Committee
David Bickford, resident
Clayton Randall, resident & 1772 Meetinghouse Restoration Committee
Ron Uyeno, resident
Sherry Cullimore, Boodey Farmstead Committee
Tatiana Cicuto, Boodey Farmstead Committee
Bill Kendrick, resident
Bob Chase, resident
Will Chase, resident
Frances Frye, Boodey Farmstead Committee
Scott Drummey, resident

Call to Order

Chair Swenson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Appointments/Announcements

None.

Public Input

David Bickford, resident, stated he provided to Town Administrator Kinmond a 2012 report from Municipal Resources, Inc. to the Town of Weare regarding the K9 program. Mr. Bickford also stated he filed an ethical complaint against an elected official and asked for an update. Chair Swenson replied the Board of Selectmen is aware of the complaint and advised him to follow up with Town Administrator Kinmond after the meeting.

Agenda Review

Chair Swenson added under New Business: Health Insurance Cost Update.
Chair Swenson added under Old Business: Follow-up on Joint Meeting with Boodey Farmstead / 1772 Meetinghouse.

Town Administrator's Report

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting
December 11, 2017*

Town Administrator Kinmond distributed for review by the Board the consent manifest for dates 11/27/17 and 12/11/17.

Town Administrator Kinmond distributed for review a purchase for winter sand. He explained the Town previously had a three year contract but upon checking the status in preparation for obtaining for 1,200 tons of sand it was determined the Town had not done the purchases in succession and the contractor was not going to honor the contracted price. Town Administrator Kinmond stated the Highway Department obtained prices from three vendors and the recommendation from the DPW Director was presented.

Selectman Chase made a motion to approve purchase order #2427 to Ossipee Aggregates of Ossipee, NH in the amount of \$14,160 for the purchase of 1,200 tons of winter sand delivered to the New Durham Highway Facility, said expenditure to come from account 01-4312-10-663. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Town Administrator Kinmond distributed for review a copy of the 2018 Holiday Schedule for Town facilities and departments. The dates of July 4, Thanksgiving, and Christmas were noted as being closed days for the Solid Waste Facility and Town Administrator Kinmond suggested the dates of Easter Sunday, Veterans Day, and New Year's Eve day to ensure those employees receive 11 holidays as well.

Chair Swenson made a motion to approve the 2018 holiday schedule as proposed. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Town Administrator Kinmond stated per prior motions of the Board of Selectmen, they hired Jenifer Thompson to be the regular part time Office Clerk in the Town Hall, Meghan Bickford as a regular part time Facility & Grounds Maintainer, and John Vatalaro as a full time Light Equipment Operator in the Highway Department.

Tax Abatements

Town Administrator Kinmond distributed abatement requests which resulted from clerical errors. He explained the taxes were paid but they need to make the bookkeeping adjustment. The abatements are for Map 243, Lot 45 \$835.73 due to current use designation/credit; Map 238, Lot 43 in the amount of \$500 due to approved veterans credit that was unapplied.

Chair Swenson made a motion to approve the abatement for Map 243, Lot 045 in the amount of \$835.73. Selectman Chase seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Chair Swenson made a motion to approve the abatement for Map 238, Lot 043 in the amount of \$500. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Chair Swenson stated that during the budget review meeting of October 26, the Board of Selectmen did an adjustment to Account 4195 Cemeteries for line 10-610. However, when the approval was made the reduction was not calculated.

Chair Swenson made a motion to rescind the original Board of Selectmen approval for Account 4195 Cemeteries in the amount of \$9,340 and approve the new amount of \$8,840. Selectman Chase seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

Town Administrator Kinmond distributed adjustments made by the Finance Officer for wages, notes, and bonds. These were reviewed by the Board of Selectmen. He stated the Budget Committee has set the dates for the public hearings and stated the Board of Selectmen needs to give him direction regarding the warrant articles. A meeting was set for December 20 at 9:00 am to review Warrant Articles and determine recommendations.

Health Insurance Update

Chair Swenson noted they had initially budgeted for a 12.8% increase in health insurance premium costs based on quotes from the current provider. Following that action two more quotes were received and it was determined there may be some savings with other vendors. Town Administrator Kinmond provided comparisons on a spreadsheet and noted the current vendor has rescinded their initial increase and agreed that New Durham costs will remain flat for 2018. He also explained the various features of different plans and stated it is his recommendation to remain with the current vendor.

Chair Swenson made a motion to rescind the prior action which had a 12.8% increase with New Hampshire Interlocal Trust for health insurance and approve a new agreement with New Hampshire Interlocal Trust in which the rates do not increase from current 2017 levels. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Selectman Chase made a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the contract with New Hampshire Interlocal Trust to provide health insurance to the Town of New Durham. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Old Business **K9 Program**

Chair Swenson stated the Board of Selectmen had discussions on October 2 and 19 2017 and at that time the discussion and motion to decline the K9 program was tabled based on a request for more information. Selectman Chase stated considering all the information obtained including the Chief being a salaried employee, funds for care of the K9 is funded from the drug forfeiture account and fundraising, she is in support of continuing the program. Chair Swenson noted the costs for training are about \$12,000, the time used from a full time position for required training, etc. making the Police Chief essentially part time, and, therefore, Chair Swenson has a hard time justifying the program at this time. Selectman Chase noted they have cut so much in budgets this year and she is hearing that people of Town want this program and feels the \$0.03 tax rate increase is worth it. Selectman Doherty noted there is not necessarily an increase in costs for the training but really it's the time the Chief is away. Police Chief Bernier gave numerous examples of the opportunities for the use of a K9 to be utilized in the Town of New

Durham. He also clarified that even when he is away is training, he is always available 24 hours for service in the Town.

Chair Swenson made a motion to bring off the table the motion from October 19, 2017 to decline the K9 program. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Motion brought off the table to decline the K-9 opportunity was then voted. Motion failed 1-2-0.

Selectman Chase made a motion to reinstate the Police Department K9 Program with the handler being Police Chief Bernier, with said program being reevaluated in March of 2018. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Chair Swenson clarified that the motion has, as part of its action, that the issue will be reviewed again in March 2018.

Tax Deeded Properties

A list of prior Board of Selectmen actions from 2015 and 2016 for tax-deeded properties were reviewed and a spreadsheet was reviewed of properties for possible further action. The Board reviewed and discussed the properties. It was agreed to again allow abutters to indicate interest. Chair Swenson noted four of the properties have existing offers from a couple of years ago but no action had been taken further and it is not clear whether those that made the offer retained an interest in continuing their offer.

Chair Swenson made a motion to have the Town Administrator confirm the offers received for the four properties per the list of the Board of Selectmen meeting of December 11, 2017, to confirm offers were from abutters and contact them to determine continued interest in the properties. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

The Board will continue to review the list and discuss further at a meeting in January.

Woodlot Status Properties with Structures

Town Administrator Kinmond presented information regarding a lot that was clearly released from woodlot status on 12/27/84. However, it was never updated on the tax card.

Chair Swenson made a motion to confirm the releasing of Map 244, Lot 065 by the Planning Board action of 12/27/1984 and confirm that has been released from woodlot status to structure status. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Town Administrator Kinmond explained other woodlots involve subdivisions that were clearly built but the updates were never done. He stated it would require some more research before action can be taken.

Chair Swenson noted a workshop is scheduled January 24, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Community Room for the purpose of further discussion of the Town's Human Resource Policies & Procedures.

Follow up to Joint Meeting with Boodey Farmstead / 1772 Meetinghouse

Chair Swenson stated it was requested by the Board of Selectmen to have the groups work together to solve some of the issues and noted members of the Boodey Farmstead were present.

Cathy Orlowicz, Boodey Farmstead, provided copies of minutes from the joint meeting and felt it was a good meeting to clarify misunderstandings. She gave examples of ways they came up with to coordinate fundraising events, etc.

Chair Swenson stated an email was received from the 1772 Meetinghouse Committee as no members were able to be present.

It was noted there is an opening on the Boodey Farmstead committee and Ms. Orlowicz stated they have an individual who has expressed interest in joining. She stated the committee made a motion at their meeting tonight to appoint Scott Drummey to the Zachariah Boodey Farmstead committee.

Selectman Chase made a motion to appoint Scott Drummey to the Zachariah Boodey Farmstead Committee. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Approval of Minutes

Meeting of November 13, 2017 – Edits were made. **Selectman Chase made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Selectman Doherty seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-0.**

Meeting of November 27, 2017 – Edits were made. **Selectman Chase made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Selectman Doherty 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 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary