

Adopted

Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting October 16, 2017

PRESENT: Joe Constance Selectman
Rodney Towne Selectman
Christine Quirk Selectman
Peter Flynn Town Administrator

Item 1: Request for Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A; 3, II, (a), (e)-Personnel and Legal

Joe Constance made a motion to go into Non-Public session per RSA 91-A: II (a) and (e) at 5:30 PM with Christine seconding the motion. All were in favor. 3-0-Poll Vote: Rodney-yes, Joe-yes, Christine-yes. The Board then entered non-public session.

The Board exited Non-Public Session at 6:05PM

Public Session

Road Agent Dick Perusse, Transfer Station Manager Gerry Cornett, School Board Chairman Wendy Lambert, Police Chief James Brace, Cyndie Wilson, Ken Lombard, Keith Gentili, Leigh Bosse, Glen Dickey, Karen Scott, David Litwinovich and Kaleb Jacob of the public were present for all or part of the meeting.

A. CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Rodney Towne at 6:10PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joe Constance moved to seal the Non-Public Minutes for five years seconded by Christine. All voted yes, 3-0.

Consent Agenda-The Selectmen signed the consent agenda. Joe moved to approve the consent agenda. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

B. PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

C. APPOINTMENTS:

Item 2: Keith Gentili-Introduction of "New Boston Beacon"-A New Boston Newspaper:

Keith Gentili of Summit Drive was present to introduce himself as he is working with Glen Dickey, planning to launch the New Boston Beacon monthly New Boston newspaper in January. He began working with Brandy and Jack Mitroff from the New Boston Bulletin last year to transition but it did not work out at that time as Brandy decided to go back to publishing and produced a few more issues. Glen contacted Keith again recently to see if he was still interested.

Keith and Glen are working together to raise money, raise awareness and engage the business community. Keith began meeting with town officials and businesses last week to let them know he is going to work hard to make this happen. He has lived in New Boston for seventeen years, his children have gone through the school system and his wife works at the school, so he feels like he has roots here and he is not going anywhere. He has worked in Massachusetts for the last thirteen years, has not been very involved with the town but knows and appreciates the value of the New Boston town newspaper. He expects this endeavor to be a challenge but he is up for the challenge and plans to work at this full time beginning in January and plans a surprisingly impactful paper. He said the newspaper won't be successful without advertisers. He knows New Boston residents are visiting businesses outside of town and he plans to go to these places for potential advertising in the paper but the core advertisers are in New Boston. He has reached out to previous writers for the New Boston Bulletin as he can't do this alone. He is looking for contributors and articles, if anyone has expertise, hobbies or interests they would like to write about and include in the paper.

Glen Dickey of McCurdy Road was present as an organizer. He said a town paper supports property values, showcases the town and binds the community together in a helpful and positive way. This is falling into place with Keith. Keith has editorial experience. Glen is starting a GoFundMe campaign as startup costs are needed. He has no financial interest in this. A paper covering mainly local issues that is free to all town residents will cost a few thousand to start. Glen and Keith have researched startup costs. They will be able to begin the paper in three months if they can raise the money and then hope to continue the paper indefinitely. The New Boston Bulletin did not end because it was not viable, it ended after doing a wonderful job for the town because the editor moved on and wants to do other things with her life.

The Selectmen thanked Keith and Glen, wished them luck and are looking forward to the paper.

Cyndie Wilson of Mason Drive asked if the paper would have a political editorial stance. Keith said he is registered as an independent voter, will not write editorials for or against any side. He does not expect to "break" any stories as it is a monthly paper in a 24 hour news cycle. He is not coming from a political background. He plans to provide the paper on a monthly basis to entertain and be a resource, not an editorial publication. Cyndie asked if he would accept articles residents. Keith said he would accept contributions from residents as he wants to publish a local paper put together by local people. Glen noted Keith is taking the biggest risk, planning to leave his current employment, and is not inclined to offend anyone in town.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 3: Adoption of Public Minutes of October 2, 2017: The Selectmen reviewed the Public minutes of October 2, 2017. Joe moved the Public minutes of October 2, 2017 be accepted as presented. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Item 4a: Continued Discussion Re: Saunders Hill Road Cemetery: Rodney reported he is working with Cemetery Trustee Clete Peirce and reviewing the file. This will be discussed again at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Item 4b: Gerry Cornett-Continued Discussion Re: Temporarily Elimination of Brush Pile Services from the Transfer Station: Transfer Station Manager Gerry Cornett was present to meet with the Selectmen to discuss the status of the Transfer Station brush pile. This is the first time in twelve years the brush pit has been closed. It was closed periodically prior to that. He said the Road Agent has agreed to help move this project along. Craig Heafield has taken the material in the past and agreed to take a load at this time with no future guarantees as his yard is full. Craig wants to continue his relationship with the Transfer Station. The market for this material has frozen. With completion of the project planned at the Transfer Station in next couple years more brush will be able to be stored for a longer period of time. The pit is expected to reopen by November 1 once it is cleared. Gerry said brush can be burned but there is additional cost to burning brush as it is considered hazardous waste, the ash needs to be tested and then trucked to a secure facility per regulations for licensed facilities. The Transfer Station has a long history of burning brush but the procedure never went well and was hard to manage. The new procedure is better and safer. Transfer Station markets, regulations and operations are constantly changing.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 5a: Request For Grade and Step Adjustments-Peter Flynn: This was discussed in non-public prior to the meeting.

Item 5b: Resignation-Highway Department: Peter reported Brett Martin resigned from the Highway Department to take over the Hancock Highway Department as of October 27, 2017. The Selectmen thanked Brett for his work during his time at the New Boston Highway Department. Joe moved to accept Brett Martin's resignation effective October 27, 2017 with regret. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 6: Review Of Town's Expenditures and Revenues: Peter reported the budget and revenues are doing well. Revenues from motor vehicle registrations and properties coming out of Current Use are more than expected. Of the revenues from properties coming out of Current Use, 40% goes to the municipal budget and 60% goes to the Conservation Commission.

Item 7: Town Administrators Report:

- One Side of Painting at Town Hall: This is done including the vestibule and some areas on the other side in preparation for painting in future years. Erik Fey did a very good job.
- Cleaning of War Memorial Monument: Peter spoke to the contractor who hopes to do the work this year but if he is delayed to next year the funds will be encumbered.
- Hiring Of A New Town Mapping Person: Sandford Engineering and Avitar are expected to provide quotes and give presentations.
- Budget Prep for Finance Committee and Selectmen: Department budgets are coming in. Finance Committee books for Committee members are expected to be ready for distribution on or about October 26.
- CIP Report: Peter could not attend the last meeting. The School District and Fire Department presented. The School District brought in plans for an addition for 2019. The Fire Department is moving forward with a request for a fire station at \$2.5 million as

well as its other regular CIP and CRF items. The Highway Department will present at the next CIP meeting on Wednesday.

- Non-Public Items: Some legal information came in today and was given to the Selectmen.

Item 8: Selectmen’s Reports:

- Joe reported he participated in the Bob Todd Town Forest dedication on Saturday. It was a nice, well attended ceremony. Bob Todd has dedicated his library and tools to the town and the town is very appreciative of this and all his work on behalf of the town over the years.
- Rodney reported he attended the Planning Board meeting where John Neville discussed further use of his property on Route 114. It was a very productive meeting. Canine Commitment completed its site plan after seven years and a sitewalk was held yesterday. The process is going fine and this is expected to be approved at the next meeting.

G. PUBLIC FORUM:

Karen Scott of Dane Road asked if the Police Department shooting range on Old Coach Road can be opened to the public. Police Chief James Brace was present and said it is town property and opening it to the public would open the town to liability. There are also concerns of damage to town property at the shooting range and safety of the public who may be in the area at the ballfield, walking trails and Transfer Station. The Selectmen agree with the Chief’s decision and don’t agree to unsupervised shooting at the range. Non-Police Department personnel are only allowed to shoot there after completing a waiver process and proving it is law enforcement related.

Item 9: Request for Non-Public per RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) (b) and (c): Joe made a motion to go into Non-Public session per RSA 91-A: II (a) (b) and (c) at 6:48 PM. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0-Poll Vote: Rodney-yes, Joe-yes, Christine-yes. The Board then entered non-public session.

The Board exited Non-Public Session at 7:20PM.

Return to Public Session

Christine moved to seal the Non-Public minutes for five years, seconded by Rodney. All voted yes, 3-0.

Joe moved to appoint Officer Andrew Vollaro as a Temporary Full Time Officer Effective December 3, 2017, and a Regular Full Time employee effective December 31.

All Voted in Favor 3-0

ADJOURNMENT: Christine made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25PM and Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien