

Adopted

Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting April 18, 2016

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

Fire Chief Dan MacDonald, Police Chief Jim Brace, Kaleb Jacob, Brandy Mitroff, Ben St. Amand, Road Agent Dick Perusse, Adam Smetana and four other members of the public were present.

A. CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Christine Quirk at 6:00PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda-The Selectmen signed the consent agenda. The Consent Agenda included the appointments of Richard Jardine as a Library Trustee, Willard Dodge to the Road Committee, Gerry Cornett as a Conservation Commission Alternate, and Calvin Young to the Foot Traffic Safety Committee. Rodney moved to approve the consent agenda. Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

B. PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

C. APPOINTMENTS:

Item 1: Ben St. Amand-Introduction As Applicant For The Forestry Committee: Ben St. Amand was present to meet with the Selectmen about his interest in becoming a member of the Forestry Committee. He has lived in New Boston his entire life, volunteers on the Fire Department, went to school for Forestry in New York, now works as an Arborist in Concord, and owns his own tree business. He holds several certifications and wants to help preserve the forests in town. Joe noted Ben attended and participated in the recent Forestry Committee meeting with good comments and has a good background. Joe recommended Ben be appointed to the Forestry Committee. Joe moved to appoint Ben St. Amand to the Forestry Committee for a term of three years. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Item 2: Adam Smetana-Introduction As Applicant For The Conservation Commission: Adam Smetana was present to meet with the Selectmen about his interest in becoming a member of the Conservation Commission. He has lived in New Boston for four months and it will be his first time on a Conservation Commission. He has a background working professionally on trails for the AMC in ME and NH and wants to help maintain trails. Peter noted he is highly recommended by the Conservation Commission. Joe moved to appoint Adam Smetana to the

Conservation Commission for a term of three years. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Item 3: Chief Dan MacDonald-Requests Grant Acceptance from CMC for Lucas II Heart Compression Device: Fire Chief Dan MacDonald was present to meet with the Selectmen to request approval of a grant for a Lucas II Heart Compression Device. This device will allow CPR to be done automatically while a patient is in the ambulance. It is worth \$14,000 and requires Selectmen approval. New Boston is 30-40 minutes' drive from any hospital which is a long time to work on a cardiac patient and it is dangerous doing CPR while going around corners, etc. Captain Gina Catalano identified a need and put a proposal together and presented it to CMC along with Dan and others from the Fire Department. CMC is very concerned about pre-hospital care and commented it was one of the best presentations they have seen. CMC replied four days later that they are in favor of the proposal and will award the \$14,000 Lucas II Heart Compression Device as of June 1, 2016. Christine noted that she was involved with the rescue squad and there is a lot going on in the ambulance during a cardiac event. There are several people working back there and this will be a great benefit. Rodney noted Weare and other communities have this device and they are a great asset to the rescue squads. There are many benefits to them including a steady rhythm and other factors. Joe moved to accept the \$14,000 Lucas II Heart Compression Device from CMC for the rescue squad. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 4: Adoption of Public and Non-Public Minutes of April 4, 2016: The Selectmen reviewed the public minutes of April 4, 2016 and noted some changes. Joe moved they be accepted as amended. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

The Selectmen reviewed the non-public minutes of April 4, 2016. Joe moved they be accepted as presented. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 5: Discussion Re: Consumer Based Health Insurance Proposal: Peter reported the town switched to School Care/Cigna for employee health insurance a year and a half ago for similar coverage to what they were getting before with Blue Cross at a lower premium. Rates are now going up. The premium the town pays stayed the same from initial setup but the cost for employees would be going up a considerable amount. The coverage remains the same. There is a less expensive option with higher deductibles that will be explained in a presentation at the next Selectmen's meeting. This won't cost the town or employees any more. Many municipalities are moving to this type of plan. Instead we are moving to a Consumer Driven Health Plan. It is an advantage to towns and employees. Peter requested from the Selectmen to continue the process and review it with employees and spouses. Schoolcare/Cigna representatives will meet with employees April 20 at noon and April 26 at 5:00. Peter met with Laura Bernard who handles Human Resources and Chief Brace who has a lot of experience with this to review the plan. The Selectmen approved moving forward to the employee presentations.

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 6: Town Administrators Report:

- Update Re: Taxpayers' Association Requests: Peter received a couple e-mails from Mr. Sears requesting a copy of revenues, budgets and expenses from the last five years. Peter retrieved this from the computer but it is in a different format than Mr. Sears requested. Peter doesn't have access to that format and it would require a long time to manually input five years of data. There was also some question about the terminology of rebates. The town received some rebates from the Health Trust and some discounts from Staples. Peter is not sure if he can provide the information in the format requested but every dollar spent, budgeted and leftover is available for anyone that requests it in the town format. The Selectmen said the town can give the information to them and they can input it into the format they need. An e-mail was sent but the file was too large. Instead a meeting will be planned. Peter and Christine will attend.
- Footbridge Update: The Foot Traffic Safety Committee met today to discuss the project with the Road Agent regarding his assistance to clear the site and bring equipment. The Road Agent relayed town gravel prices to them but the Committee is better off using bid process for this. The Road Agent provided engineering information and will dig test pits and meet with the engineer tomorrow. He reviewed maps with the Committee. The Committee was thrilled with his advice. The bids were opened and the Committee will choose a contractor soon.
- All Boards Meeting Update: An All Boards meeting requested by the Superintendent of Schools is scheduled for April 20 at NBCS where the Department Heads, Selectmen and Planning Board are invited to discuss economic development policies and population planning.
- Highway Safety Committee-Review of Possible Traffic Reroute during Downtown State of NH DOT Bridge Construction: Police Chief Jim Brace was present representing the Highway Safety Committee and noted the Committee will meet to review traffic in the village while DOT is working on the bridge and the possible opening of Depot Street during the project. Jim noted the town ordinance restricts travel on Depot Street and he is concerned about the legality and complexity of opening the road. He asked if the Selectmen felt it was feasible to open Depot Street for northwest traffic during the daytime hours when the bridge is being worked on. The project is expected to begin May 16 and could interfere with traffic the last month of school and during the Fourth of July parade. The largest safety issue is the left view going up Depot Street and speed on Route 136. Rodney said detour is the best way to work with the ordinance. Christine was concerned about thru trucks using Depot Street. Jim said it could be posted "no thru trucking." Traffic control will also probably be needed. A proposal is expected for the Selectmen at their next meeting. Brandy suggested contacting WMUR about the impact on the parade from DOT's decision to work on this project at this time of year but the Selectmen said DOT has been planning this for years and their concern was to complete this project before school starts. The bridge won't be totally closed. An 11' width should be ok for parade vehicles and there will also be a 3' walkway that could possibly be used during the parade for wide vehicles.

Item 7: Selectmen's Reports: Joe reported the recent Forestry Committee meeting was positive after the revised draft of the Selectmen's letter discussed at the April 4 Selectmen's meeting was sent to them. The committee discussed focusing on the charge and purchasing tools to monitor diseases. Tom is doing fieldwork, Kim working on organizing documentation, they

need a map cabinet & other file cabinets, Joe will donate some. They plan to make the forest part of the American Tree Farm system. Committee officers were elected. It was a very productive meeting. The program will begin in the Follansbee Forest and another small forest. Transfer Station Manager Gerry Cornett is putting out an RFP for trees to be removed near the Transfer Station that is part of the town forests. Rodney recommended the Forestry Committee coordinate this with removal of other trees in the area Tom looked at and thought they had red rot. The Forestry Committee has \$27,000 and can purchase needed equipment. Carter may have some GIS and other equipment he will donate to the Committee. Joe will continue taking minutes.

Public Forum: None.

Item 8: Possible Request for Non-Public Per RSA 91-A:II: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Joe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 PM. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien