

Approved

Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting January 2, 2018

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

School Board Chairman Wendy Lambert, Susan Carr, Lyn Lombard, Keith Gentili, Cam Prolman, Sylvia von Aulock, 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 6:00PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 1: Cam Prolman-SNHPC-Presentation of “Becoming Age Friendly Program”:
SNHPC Planner Cam Prolman and Executive Director Sylvia von Aulock were present to meet with the Selectmen to discuss the Becoming Age Friendly Program. Sylvia and Cam said SNHPC received a grant in 2015 to work with their 14 communities to become age friendly as the NH population is aging and young people are moving away. They held a forum in New Boston in 2015, attended by 25 people, focusing on transportation and accessibility, housing trends and affordability, zoning, recreation/quality of life and business and economic development. They are also working with AARP. They had community conversations and an online survey. New Boston seniors were concerned with walking downtown during rush hour. An assessment prepared by SNHPC was reviewed. This program is now in Phase II as SNHPC obtained more funding and can work on a pilot program with three communities and ten businesses to focus on an age friendly strategic plan. They have discussed this with all 14 communities and are here to invite New Boston to be a pilot community. This is a free planning service where SNHPC would come in and help the town plan becoming age friendly in coming years. The board can direct the Town Administrator to provide SNHPC with a letter of interest that is due January 19. Five communities have expressed interest so far.

Joe asked how the changes/solutions would be made. He noted the Planning Board is working on potential zoning for 55+ housing. Sylvia said the trail system in New Boston is popular and practical partially funded by grant money and the rest through donations. She suggested grant

money could be available for solutions and some solutions would not cost too much money. These plans could also help guide the next Master Plan.

Joe asked how a place like New Boston could encourage commercial development and what kind of assistance SNHPC could provide. There is an economic development component to this as it involves seniors and young people but not sure how businesses could be attracted to New Boston, perhaps with tax incentives. Ed Carroll from New Boston is also working with a SNHPC economic development strategy committee. The Selectmen recently heard but have not confirmed that there is new legislation to allow New Boston to encourage business such as tax incentives that might be the direction New Boston could take.

Joe noted if the Air Force Tracking Station property became available, the development used in Burlington, MA in the 1950's could be a good example for New Boston in this instance.

Rodney noted concern about taking property by eminent domain to create sidewalks in New Boston and said New Boston would not do those types of things. There are many roadblocks to the program suggested as New Boston has state roads and properties close to the roads that would prohibit building sidewalks, etc. The lack of sewer and water will always be an issue to businesses moving to New Boston.

Lyn Lombard of Pine Echo Road suggested adding fog lines on roads could help. Rodney noted many New Boston roads are minimum width so 3' would have to be added to each side of the roads, ditches would have to be redone, etc. but could be done in some places.

Lyn Lombard asked about trails but Rodney noted the trails are not maintained for all seasons.

Susan Carr of Roby Road was present and asked how communities would be chosen for the pilot program. Sylvia said a group of stakeholders will help SNHPC decide and criteria will be established such as commitment shown to the project. Then they hope to get funding for Phase III.

Planning Board member David Litwinovich was present and noted the Planning Board has discussed these issues and found there are limitations in New Boston for young couples to move in and for commercial development. Joe also noted workforce housing is not being built in New Boston. Rodney noted there could be ways to force contractors to build workforce housing.

The Selectmen and Planning Board will discuss the Becoming Age Friendly Program again before the January 19 deadline and decide if New Boston will submit a letter of interest to SNHPC.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 2: Adoption of Public and Non-Public Minutes of December 20, 2017: The Selectmen reviewed the Public minutes of December 20, 2017. Joe moved the Public minutes of December 20, 2017 be accepted as presented. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 The Selectmen reviewed the Non-Public minutes of December 20, 2017. Joe moved the Non-Public

minutes of December 20, 2017 be accepted as presented. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Item 3: Review Of Year End Spending And Revenue Report: Peter reported that the reports are current as of December 27, more bills are coming in and the books are expected to close by mid-January. The report should be more final next week. Some departments are close to being totally spent but overall some money should be leftover. Revenues are more than anticipated this year especially for motor vehicle registrations and land use tax penalties. Peter will send 2018 estimates to the NH DRA as required.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 4: Encumbrance Authorization To Carry Over To 2018: Peter reported there are five requests for encumbrances from the 2017 budget to be carried over to 2018. These require a vote by the Selectmen. The Selectmen reviewed all applicable invoices. Joe moved to approve the request to encumber Legal-\$30,000 for ongoing cases, Transfer Station-\$14,840 for storage containers, Selectmen-\$3,510 for Document Systems Technology, Town Clerk-\$5,600 for Records Retention and Government Buildings/Groundskeeping: \$1,500 for fertilizing to be carried over to 2018 from 2017. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 5: Town Administrators Report:

- The status of a legal case is provided in the Selectmen's meeting materials along with a letter in the Correspondence section that is legal related.
- The Forestry Committee is seeking guidance of how to spend its money, how much they can raise and if a Warrant Article is needed. They are currently limited to a \$50,000 account balance. The Committee is meeting Monday and Joe will get a consensus from the Committee.
- The Finance Committee will have a busy meeting January 11 when it will perform its voting. This is not a joint Selectmen and Finance Committee meeting as noted on the Selectmen's agenda. Joe will provide the Selectmen's vote at the meeting.
- The Public Budget and Bond Hearing is January 16. This meeting has been properly posted and advertised in The Messenger. The Selectmen do not have to vote at that meeting, they can call a meeting and vote any time before the Deliberative Session.
- The Deliberative Session is February 5 at 7:00 PM at the school gym. The School Deliberative Session is February 6 at 7:00 PM at the school gym.
- Planning Coordinator Shannon Silver asked Peter about the Selectmen opinion or vote on a petition Warrant Article for a zoning ordinance amendment to make sure it is properly worded. It has been checked and the wording is appropriate. The Town Clerk checked the names and addresses and all qualified. Joe moved to approve the wording of the petition Warrant Article for a zoning ordinance amendment. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 Planning Board member David Litwinovich noted the Planning Board attempted to survey the neighbors in the area. Many did not respond and responses that were received were not positive.

Item 6: Selectmen's Reports:

- Joe reported the Planning Board is working on the Master Plan.
- Joe reported cleanup of a property on River Road is proceeding through Selectmen cooperation removing stored metal, wood, 300-400 tires and a specialized company will be called in to remove oil as weather allows. Kaleb Jacob of Fraser Lane was present and asked if this came about due to non-payment of taxes. The Selectmen said the property owners are behind approximately 2.5 years on taxes but are on a payment plan. This process has nothing to do with back taxes. Kaleb asked how much this process is costing the town. The Selectmen said they are not sure yet, some salvage will be sold and the property owners are responsible for all costs.

G. PUBLIC FORUM:

Keith Gentili of Summit Drive was present as Editor of the New Boston Beacon. He updated the Selectmen on the paper's progress toward publication. The first issue is expected to be in all resident mailboxes January 30. It will be a traditional paper containing wide ranging subjects. Advertising is slowly coming in. Reporters might be contacting the Selectmen. There is a lot going on in town and the paper has challenges reporting due to publication deadlines with a monthly paper.

Item 7: Possible Request for Non-Public per RSA 91-A:3, II(a)(b)(c): None.

ADJOURNMENT: Joe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 PM. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien

**Next Scheduled Meeting: Budget and Bond Public Hearing - Town Hall Conference Room
on January 16, 2018 (6:00 PM)
7 Meetinghouse Hill Road- New Boston, NH 03070
Phone: (603) 487-5504-www.newboston.gov
Handicap Access available**