

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON
New Boston Select Board

January 31, 2023

APPROVED

In attendance at New Boston Town Hall: Donna Mombourquette, David Litwinovich, and Jennifer Brown

Staff present: Paul Branscombe, Town Administrator

A. CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chair Mombourquette at 6:01PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda- The Selectmen reviewed the January 31, 2023 consent agenda.

David Litwinovich moved to approve the January 31, 2023 consent agenda items including payroll, Accounts Payable and other signed official documents. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Jennifer Brown – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

1st PUBLIC COMMENT:

Donna Mombourquette stated that this is a business meeting of the New Boston Select Board. Comments and feedback are welcomed but because this is not a public forum or public hearing, comments will be on the agenda items only. Dialogue or answering of questions will not be part of the meeting. Should you have an issue you wish to discuss, please communicate with the Town Administrator who may resolve your issue or potentially schedule your appearance before the Board at a later date. The Board appreciates your understanding and cooperation.

Karen Scott, 110 Dane Road, noted that, per the Board's policy, agendas for meetings are to be posted on the Friday prior to the next meeting. The agenda for this meeting was not posted until Monday and it is unclear why it was not posted earlier.

Seeing no further public comment, Donna Mombourquette closed the first session.

B. APPOINTMENTS

Item 1: Ballfield Drainage Repair Design And Permitting – George St. John

George St. John explained that three Christmas' ago, the ballfield and catch basin between the schools experienced flooding. It was thought this was simply due to rain and melting snow, but there was more flooding later in the summer. In the fall of that year, staff explored the area and found a 2' long clay pipe in the hill on the school property/Recreation Department property line, which was ruptured and plugged. There was no idea as to the cause of this issue, as there do not seem to be any maps showing this area. While some of the water in this area was coming off Meetinghouse Hill Road and Cemetery Road, the Town was also partially at fault for making separate changes to those roads. He and Benji Knapp, Road Agent, scoped the pipe and found one entrance to it, located between two houses at the Bedford Road/Meetinghouse Hill Road/Molly Stark Lane. This then runs down through private property, through the field on

January 31, 2023

APPROVED

Molly Stark Lane, onto Town-owned property, and into the ballfield. It was initially decided to create a retention pond in this area, but during decent rain events there is still an issue with flooding. The broken pipe was mostly cleaned out last fall, but there is still a large plug in the pipe which cannot be reached. Large water flow still brings down rock and debris, filling the catch basin, and then running into the drainage system for the Town. There is also a 30' long concrete pipe, located between the school and the grandstand, with a huge boulder discovered 8'-10' down the pipe. If these pipes back up, the Town center area could be flooded.

George St. John explained that he is developing a plan with Benji Knapp to dig up the clay pipe and replace it with concrete. Unfortunately, there is wetland area around the pipe and so it cannot simply be easily replaced. The current recommendation is to replace the area of pipe from the broken section down to the catch basin. There is currently a 2' section of open pipe located near the playground which is a safety hazard. Staff will eventually work to develop a plan to replace the entire pipe, but this will require wetlands permits and additional funds. The full length of pipe is unknown but could be approximately 120' long. The State may consider expediting the permits if this is considered an emergency situation, but it will likely still take approximately 75 days for the permits to be approved. The estimated cost for this project is \$16,000.

Town Administrator Branscombe noted that this would be a stop gap for the 2024 project on the ballfield. He recommended that the Town pursue a five-year wetland permit at this time.

In response to a question from Jennifer Brown, George St. John explained that there is a piece of plywood currently covering the open pipe area near the playground. There is still a concern because there is the potential to fall into the open retention pond area and then into the catch basin. A grate will be kept over the area and staff will continue to monitor it.

In response to a question from Donna Mombourquette, George St. John stated that he suggests proceeding with the wetland permit application at this time, while also seeking exact costs for the repair. Town Administrator Branscombe stated that the Town Engineer will be asked to expand the scope of the project and submit a potential cost based on the information at hand.

George St. John noted that the project may not be able to take place until some of the snow melts.

There was a consensus of the Board to move forward with further negotiating and planning for the ballfield mitigation flooding item, as discussed this evening.

Item 2: Review and Vote on Community Power Aggregation Committee Plan – Daryl Luter and Committee

Daryl Luter, Chair of the Community Power Aggregation Committee (CPAC), explained that the group worked closely with Standard Power on this proposal. Two informational public hearings were held. A draft plan was created and unanimously approved by the Committee. The plan intends to save all Town residents money on their electric bills. There is no cost to join the

January 31, 2023

APPROVED

program and there will be an opt out option. One core benefit of the community voting in favor of this program is that, even if one person does not want to participate, a vote in favor will allow their neighbor to join the program.

In response to a question from Jennifer Brown, Daryl Luter stated that there was no opposition to the program heard during the public hearings.

Emily Manns, Standard Power, explained that some residents may be concerned as to how this program will interact with Eversource. Eversource no longer owns its own supply assets, and instead purchases supply contracts. Eversource will still maintain all wires and poles, as this is how the company makes its money. There will be no backlash to residents who wish to join this program. There will be no change to residents' service, aside from the price they pay.

David Litwinovich asked about the opt out process. Emily Manns explained that customers currently on Eversource's supply will be eligible for automatic enrollment in this program. All other electric meters in Town can still opt in and will be notified as to how to do so. Those on a competitor's supply should review their contract for potential early termination fees. Those who are eligible will receive two mailings. The first will contain the opt out notice, with the associated rates and choices for the program. Residents then will have the choice to opt out prior to the beginning of the program. If this option is not exercised, residents will be automatically enrolled in the program. There is an extensive outreach program included that will try to reach everyone in Town.

David Litwinovich moved to accept the Community Power Plan for New Boston, as updated on January 22, 2023. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Jennifer Brown – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Item 3: Acceptance of Donation to the Fire Dept Building from the Baudreau Estate – Brandon Merron

Brandon Merron gave a history of Bud Baudreau and his passion for the Fire Department. The intention for Mr. Baudreau's estate was to leave 40% of it to help fund the New Boston Fire Station. The other 60% was donated to the St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

David Litwinovich moved to accept a donation from the Baudreau Estate to be utilized for the New Boston Fire Station building in the amount of \$274,342.79. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Jennifer Brown – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

C. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 4: Vote to change Meeting Time to 6:30 PM

January 31, 2023

APPROVED

David Litwinovich moved to change the New Boston Select Board meeting start time to 6:30pm, effective at the next meeting. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Jennifer Brown – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Item 5: Announcement [Fire and Police Station Public Informational Forum](#) and additional presentation at the Town Deliberative Session

Donna Mombourquette explained that the Finance Committee requested additional information on the Fire Station warrant article before taking a vote on it. At the request of the Finance Committee, an information session will be held at 4pm on Sunday February 5th, prior to the Deliberative Session, to hear information on the Fire and Police Station plans.

Item 6: Announcement [Town Deliberative Session](#) February 6, 2023 at 7:00 PM at New Boston Central School, Snowdate February 8, 2023

The Board announced the dates for the Town Deliberative Session.

Item 7: Announcement [School Deliberative Session](#) February 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM at New Boston Central School, Snowdate February 9, 2023

The Board announced the dates for the School Deliberative Session.

Item 8: Acceptance of Donation to the Police Department

Police Chief Brace explained that the Rose Meadow Group issued a donation check in the amount of \$500 to the Police Department as a thank you for the partnership between the two groups. This is proposed to be used to help fund the DARE program, which will begin to be run again in full scope as of February 6th.

David Litwinovich moved to accept the \$500 donation from the Rose Meadow Group to be applied to the New Boston Police Department DARE Program, with the Board's thanks. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Jennifer Brown – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Chief Brace noted that the Department also received a \$50 donation from a resident of Town, as part of an annual practice for that person. He is suggesting this also be used toward the DARE program.

David Litwinovich moved to accept the \$50 donation from a resident of New Boston to be applied to the New Boston Police Department DARE Program, with the Board's thanks. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

January 31, 2023

APPROVED

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Jennifer Brown – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

In response to a question from Jennifer Brown, Chief Brace explained that the DARE program costs approximately \$1,200-\$1,600 to run.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 9: Approval of Public Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2023, January 16, 2023, and January 17, 2023

David Litwinovich moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 11, 2023, as amended. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Jennifer Brown – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

David Litwinovich moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 16, 2023, as submitted. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Jennifer Brown – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

David Litwinovich moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 17, 2023, as amended. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Jennifer Brown – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Item 10: Revise Public Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2022 for Grant Purposes

The Board noted that, per a request from the State DOS, revised wording for grant purposes is needed for a motion from the meeting minutes of December 19, 2022. Thus,

David Litwinovich moved to amend the motion to accept the Emergency Management Performance Grants made on December 19, 2022, to reflect that the town is responsible for a 50% match for both projects. This match requirement will not be an additional financial cost to the town, and the town will meet this match requirement by using expenses already paid by GOFERR funding. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Jennifer Brown – aye; and Donna Mombourquette – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

E. INTERNAL REPORTS

Item 11: Select Board Reports: Donna Mombourquette, David Litwinovich, Jennifer Brown

January 31, 2023

APPROVED

The Board reviewed the Select Board Reports. It was noted that David Litwinovich was appointed to the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission as an alternate. Mark Suennen was appointed to be the main representative to the Commission and serve as Vice Chair.

F. 2nd PUBLIC COMMENT:

Donna Mombourquette stated that this is a business meeting of the New Boston Select Board. Comments and feedback are welcomed but because this is not a public forum or public hearing, comments will be on the agenda items only. Dialogue or answering of questions will not be part of the meeting. Should you have an issue you wish to discuss, please communicate with the Town Administrator who may resolve your issue or potentially schedule your appearance before the Board at a later date. The Board appreciates your understanding and cooperation.

Karen Scott, 110 Dane Road, asked why there was not a Town Administrator report during this meeting. Town Administrator Branscombe noted that he was away for 10 days and has nothing to report at this time.

Seeing no additional public comment, Donna Mombourquette closed the second session.

G. Requests for Non-Public: per RSA 91-A: 3, II (b), (a), and (l)

David Litwinovich moved to enter Non-Public Session, per RSA 91-A: 3, II, (b) and (a) at 7:14pm. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Jennifer Brown – aye; and Donna Mombourquette – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously

David Litwinovich moved to approve the hire of River Marmorstein as a full-time officer, as indicated by Chief Brace. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Jennifer Brown – aye; and Donna Mombourquette – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board moved into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A: 3 II (l) at 7:20pm

David Litwinovich moved to exit Non-Public Session at 7:34pm. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Jennifer Brown – aye; and Donna Mombourquette – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously

H. ADJOURNMENT

David Litwinovich moved to seal the minutes of both Non-Public sessions for five years. Seconded by Jennifer Brown.

Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Jennifer Brown – aye; and Donna Mombourquette – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON
New Boston Select Board

January 31, 2023

APPROVED

264 **David Litwinovich moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm. Seconded by Jennifer**
265 **Brown.**

266 **Roll Call Vote: David Litwinovich – aye; Jennifer Brown – aye; and Donna**
267 **Mombourquette – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.**

268
269 ***Public Forum: Immediately following the Select Board meeting on January 31, 2023, a public***
270 ***forum will be held in the Town Hall conference room for a presentation related to the recent***
271 ***purchase of a pick-up truck by the Fire Wards.***

272
273
274 Respectfully submitted,
275 Kristan Patenaude

276
277 **Next Scheduled Meeting: February 6, 2023 Deliberative Session**
278