

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON
New Boston Select Board Meeting

August 28, 2023

APPROVED

In attendance at New Boston Town Hall: Kary Jencks and William McFadden
In attendance remotely: Donna Mombourquette

A. CALL TO ORDER: A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Kary Jencks at 6:32PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda- The Selectmen reviewed the August 28, 2023 consent agenda.

Bill McFadden moved to approve the August 28, 2023 consent agenda items including payroll, Accounts Payable and other signed official documents. Seconded by Donna Mombourquette.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Bill McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

1st PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kary Jencks 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 Maralyn Segien, Executive Assistant, who will contact the Select Board to answer your concern, 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 that agendas be made available to members of the public during Board meetings.

Donna Mombourquette noted that, regarding the first few items on the agenda, these are not part of a public hearing or forum, and questions about these items will not be addressed this evening.

Seeing no additional public comment, Kary Jencks closed the first session.

APPOINTMENTS

Item 1: Josif Bicja and Benji Knapp-Gregg Mill and Tucker Mill Road Bridge Projects

Josif Bicja explained that he, Donna Mombourquette, and Benji Knapp previously met with the NH DOT project manager for these projects. There was discussion regarding combining the projects and awarding the bids to one contractor. This would be more efficient and likely lead to cost savings.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve the construction of a temporary bridge on Dougherty Lane to maintain the traffic control during construction of the Tucker Mill Road bridge. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Bill McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

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The Board discussed potentially expediting the design and engineering for these projects. Mr. Bicja explained that construction will likely begin between 2025-2026. There will be additional public outreach to abutters and likely another public forum.

Item 2: Recreation Director Mike Sindoni-Annual Halloween Proposal

Mike Sindoni reviewed the proposed schedule for Halloween. Halloween is on a Tuesday this year and Trick-or-Treating is proposed from 6pm-8pm. There is a request to close the Town Hall parking lot to the public at 4pm to allow for a Trunk-or-Treat, and to limit traffic around the village. Scarecrow Alley is proposed to be setup on October 2nd on the Common, which will be removed by October 30th.

There was consensus on the Board to approve these requests.

Item 3: Police Chief Brace-Proposal For Enhanced Police Services and Grant Award

Chief Brace explained that this grant is through the New Hampshire Highway Safety Department for a number of initiatives, including speed, distracted driving, seatbelts, and DWI enforcement. New Boston was awarded \$8,200 to conduct these enhanced patrols in an effort to make the Town safer.

In response to a question from Bill McFadden, Chief Brace explained that this will not be used for sobriety checkpoints, but instead as random patrols focusing on statistics from high volume and high instance locations.

There was consensus among the Board to move forward with this grant as presented.

Chief Brace explained that earlier this year, he the Space Force engaged in initial conversations regarding partnering on a canine program that would serve the Town's and Space Forces' security interests. A canine would be specialized in the detection of bombs or firearms. On August 10th, the Space Force provided him with a proposal for enhanced police services, which would provide funding from the Space Force to the Town over the next five years. Since then, the Department worked to find a dog, necessary training, equipment, etc. Some of the costs for this item could come from unanticipated revenue through a training contract with the Town's officers in which there are excess funds. The Space Force's funding has been held up a bit, and it is now anticipated that the FY24 funding could come through in early spring or summer. The Space Force has stated that it is fully committed to resolving the funding issues for this project. A contingency of \$5,000 would likely be needed to be added to the Department's budget in order to cover the program. There is one officer that has been identified as a potential candidate to go through this training program at this time.

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Bill McFadden moved to accept, in principal, the agreement with the Space Force, contingent on the completion of their side of the agreement. Seconded by Donna Mombourquette.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Bill McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Donna Mombourquette moved to utilize the funding from the unanticipated revenue of the training reimbursement to be used toward the canine program. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and Bill McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Item 4: Employee Time Cards

Bill McFadden discussed having salary workers log their hours on timecards. Kary Jencks stated that she has never heard of salary employees logging their hours. Donna Mombourquette noted that there is no rule stating that salary employees cannot fill out a timesheet; this could be decided by the Board. The Board discussed that the Policy Committee could review this item. Bill McFadden agreed to research this item through the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Item 5: Select Board Meeting Schedule-Change Date of October 11 Meeting-Conflict with CIP

The Board agreed to change its meeting date to October 9th.

Old Business

Item 6: Approval of Public Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2023

Bill McFadden moved to approve the August 14, 2023 meeting minutes, as submitted. Seconded by Donna Mombourquette.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Item 7: Fire Department Budget Discussion

The Board agreed to delay discussion on this topic until a later date.

Item 8: Town Administrator Search Update

Kary Jencks explained that interviews should begin around September 20-21, 2023. There are four potential interview candidates. There will be a Board member present in each one of the round robin interview groups.

Item 9: Proposal for Additional Iron Sampling-Bill

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Bill McFadden suggested that Envirotrac submit its July 2023 monitoring report to DES. The Board would then wait to hear from DES regarding what additional sampling may be needed, prior to engaging in additional sampling proposals. There was consensus on the Board for this recommendation at this time.

Item 10: Mill Street Lighting-Bill

Bill McFadden explained that a light fixture on Mill Street was previously removed, due to a brightness complaint from an abutter. There is now a complaint from another resident regarding reinstallation of the light for security reasons.

Chief Brace explained that he is not in favor of removing streetlights anywhere in Town, due to safety concerns. Removal of streetlights based on abutter's requests could also open up a can of worms.

The Board agreed to consider this further and discuss it at a future meeting.

Reports

Item 11: Select Board Reports

Kary Jencks stated that she has been working on the Town Administrator search process. She has also worked with Rita Donaldson regarding Department budgets.

Bill McFadden reviewed a number of committee/commission meetings that have occurred recently. Regarding the RFP for landscaping, he continues to work with Maralyn Segien and will send a draft to the Board before sending it out for quotes. He stated that he would like to have a longer future Board discussion regarding the history of the Dougherty Lane bridge and monies previously expended. He also recently met with Jim Dodge regarding traffic concerns on Route 77.

Donna Mombourquette explained that she has been conducting regular business activities, including but not limited to reading/answering/writing emails, both internal and external, reviewing documents, and conversations with staff and citizens. She stated that she has been named as the New Hampshire Municipal Association representative to the State stakeholder group to address utility poles and attachments. She also attended the Piscataquoag River Local Advisory Committee meeting, of which she is a member.

2nd PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kary Jencks 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 Maralyn Segien, Executive Assistant, who will contact the Select Board to answer your concern, or

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potentially schedule your appearance before the Board at a later date. The Board appreciates your understanding and cooperation.

Karen Scott, 110 Dane Road, asked about the public having access to agenda documents. Kary Jencks asked Ms. Scott to send an email to Maralyn Segien requesting which documents she would like access to.

Karen Scott stated that she believes the Dougherty Lane bridge item should be discussed in public. Donna Mombourquette noted that this will be addressed at a future Board meeting. She explained that the cost associated with this bridge was estimated at \$800,000 and the Town found that it needed to have another nearby bridge redone as well. It then made no sense to ask the taxpayers for \$800,000. Bill McFadden explained that his issue is with the \$250,000 that was allocated for this project. He would like to have further clarification on this.

Seeing no additional public comment, Kary Jencks closed the second session.

Request for Non-Public per RSA 91-A: 3, II (b)

Kary Jencks moved to enter into Non-Public per RSA 91-A: 3, II (b) at 8:06pm.

Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve the hiring of a part-time Officer, Megan B. Carignan to begin as soon as tomorrow, August 29, 2023. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Request for Non-Public per RSA 91-A: 3, II (a)

Kary Jencks moved to enter into Non-Public per RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) at 8:20pm.

Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Donna Mombourquette moved to exit Non-Public session at 9:58pm. Seconded by Kary Jencks.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Bill McFadden moved to seal the Non-Public meeting minutes for five years. Seconded by Donna Mombourquette.

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218 **Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William**
219 **McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.**

220
221 **ADJOURNMENT**

222
223 **Kary Jencks moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:58pm. Seconded by Bill McFadden.**
224 **Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William**
225 **McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.**

226
227 Respectfully submitted,
228 Kristan Patenaude

229
230 **Next Scheduled Meeting: September 11, 2023**