

**TOWN OF NEWFIELDS SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY MAY 12, 2020**

Select Board Present: *Chris Hutchins, Michael Sununu & James Thompson*

Others Include: *Tom Bassett, Arlon Chaffee & John Hayden*

Call to order at 7:15 pm.

Checks Dated:	05/01/2020:	Accounts Payable Manifest	\$ 10,232.76
		Accounts Payable Manifest	\$ 8,611.82
		Payroll Manifest	\$ 20,375.48
	05/08/2020:	School Tax	\$506,441.60
	05/15/2020:	Payroll Manifest	\$ 25,100.08

This was the first meeting utilizing Web Ex. We had several attending via the internet - Bobby Kelly, Lesley Steinhauser, Robin Marcotte, Sue McKinnon & two others via the phone line. The Board welcomed those attending in person, Tom Bassett, Arlon Chaffee, John Hayden and those via Web Ex.

John Hayden informed the Board of the hearing regarding Pawtucket Land Holdings which will take place on June 29th at the Rockingham County Court House. John stated that he has not heard from the Town's Attorney, Derek Durbin. Michael stated that he assumed that the Town will be contesting Pawtucket Land Holdings and asked John if it is the intention of the Planning Board to represent the Town against Pawtucket or will they concede to the wishes at the hearing. In John's opinion, this deposition against the Town is not something the Town should acquiesce to. He feels the Planning Board had reason to deny the application. The application was denied without prejudice which goes against what Mr. Peterson presented in his litigation to the court. Michael asked if they should have Attorney Durbin reach out to the Planning Board to get a full understanding of the matter, presuming Durbin will represent the Town on June 29th at the Court. Michael believes it would be best for the Attorney to meet up with the Planning Board to get a full understanding of the issue prior to the hearing. John's understanding is that Sue McKinnon compiled a record of events that had taken place and was given to Attorney Durbin already. Michael stated he will follow up with Attorney Durbin to ensure that everyone is on the same page and that he receives everything that he will need to represent the Town properly. John also stated that Mr. MacRitchie, Pawtucket's Engineer, submitted another application for exactly the same property but with different engineering for the subdivision. As such, the Planning Board is forced to act on the initial application because for the Board to entertain both applications at the same time is not possible. So this is why the Planning Board chose to deny, without prejudice, the initial application.

Jamie initiated a discussion on the signage for the Dexter Estates. He asked John to advise the Board of the issue. According to John, the Planning Board, some years ago, chose not have signs for subdivisions. Deertrees and others, who once had signs, chose to remove them. When the

Planning Board approved the Dexter Estates, they had no knowledge of signs in their landscape plans. If they had, they would have been asked to have them removed as per the Town's regulations. At this time, the signs are already installed. John requested the Select Board notify the developers of the Town's ordinance and request removal of the sign. Michael asked if the Planning Board submitted a formal request for this action by the Select Board. Jamie stated that the Planning Board is making the formal request at this time, through him, as the sitting Select Board member for the Planning Board. Michael motioned, seconded by Jamie, to initiate a letter stating the ordinance and request the removal of the sign. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Arlon Chaffee, a Newmarket resident, attended to discuss a parking area for the Rockingham Junction. According to Arlon, this is the third time that he has seen parking discussion come up through the Bureau of trails. DOT owns the parcel. Arlon stated that now seems to be the best opportunity for the parking lot to become a reality. Shawn McGowen is the current owner of Rockingham Junction, the adjacent property, is in full support of allowing access through his property to the proposed parking area. But if the property was ever sold, this may be a future issue if the property is sold. The current parking is on the Newmarket side, but may go away with the development of the Depot property. Therefore there may be a need for additional parking. The ownership of the proposed parking area is DOT, but they do not want the responsibility so they are giving it to the Bureau of Trails. The Bureau of Trails said they do not have the capacity to create the parking lot, but they can help with funding through grants or financial assistance. DOT needs assurance from Newfields they will be responsible for patrolling the area. He stated that the costs associated with tree removal, grading and other costs needed to create the parking lot would not be incurred by the Town of Newfields. Trash collection would be another responsibility of the Town of Newfields, but he believes this will not be an issue for Newfields as most people are respectful of the property and signs can be posted to carry out one's trash. He believes the Bureau of Trails may take care of the plowing for the Town. In his opinion, a parking lot will relieve some parking pressure from Old Lee road and Halls Mill road by containing the parking to Rockingham Junction. Arlon replied to Michael's question that approximately fifty parking spots would be available. Arlon advised the Board that he will need to submit the grant application to create a parking lot by the middle of June. This grant would most likely be done through a non-profit organization. Arlon stated that he doesn't want the Town to have any direct expense. Chris stated that he would like to see the DOT language as well as speak with Chief Liebenow. Arlon received support of the Board for the parking lot and will provide the DOT information to Board as soon as possible.

The Select Board opened the only mosquito bid received. It was by Dragon Mosquito for \$32,400. Chris motioned, seconded by Michael to accept the bid. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Select Board received and opened four bids for Storm Water Management. VHB Engineering, Hoyle & Tanner Associates, Dubois & King, Inc. and Wright-Pierce Engineering. VHB was the least experienced of the four. The other three have relatively the same experience. Michael expressed that he was inclined to go with Hoyle and Tanner as they were the ones who brought this forward to the Board and Town. They have also, previously, worked with the Water & Sewer District. He opened it up for discussion among the Board. Chris concurred with Michael, giving

2016 & 2017 dates where Hoyle and Tanner worked for the Town in some aspect. Jamie was also in favor of Hoyle and Tanner. Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to accept Hoyle and Tanner for the Stormwater Management grant and the work associated with it. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Select Board acknowledged receipt of the Rockingham Commissioners Report.

The Select Board rescheduled the Spring Cleanup to October 17th.

The Select Board received correspondence from the State informing the Town of funds available through the CARES Act funds for expenses incurred between March 1, 2020 and August 31, 2020 due to Covid-19 up to an amount of \$40,606. The Board requested that Chief Buxton, Tom Conner, Brian Knipstein & Chief Liebenow be informed and asked to submit a list of any expenses they have incurred. Chris asked Bobby Kelly, the Town Health Officer, if he had any expenses. Bobby mentioned the Newfields' school may need some support come fall as the kids and teachers re-enter school. (Any other discussion was inaudible to the secretary, Kisha)

Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to accept the tax collectors warrant for the fiscal year. All were in favor and the motion passed. Property Taxes will be due July 1, 2020.

The Board received and approved a request from Holly Price, a member of the Newfields Garden Club to hold a plant sale on May 23rd at the Town Parking Lot.

The Board was informed by Lesley Steinhauser that the Summer Solstice was cancelled by Charotte Legg.

The Board was informed of a resident at 90 Old Lee Rd who requested a speed bump be placed on his street near his house. Sue informed the Board that this issued came up before and the Road Agent was not in favor of them due to issues with plowing. The resident is also in favor of a temporary one that can be removed in the winter months. Jamie mentioned that his employer has temporary ones which have worked well for them. Chris will follow up with Nate and Brian.

The Board was given the Health and Human Services Donation requests. The Board decided to table this discussion until next meeting so they can take the spreadsheet home to review.

Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to approve Henrik Strand's appointment to a full-time Police Officer. All were in favor and the motion carried. They also resigned Kathleen O'Brien's appointment as the original had been misplaced.

Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to approve Deed for Cemetery Plot 65C for \$500.00. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Chris motioned, seconded by Michael, to adopt the Pole License which was previously adopted, pertaining to placement of telecommunication poles.

Michael motioned, seconded by Jamie to approve the abatement for Map ULILIT-07 for \$40,100. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Board reviewed the April Expenditure.

Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to approve and signed the Internet Policy as written. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Michael motioned, seconded by Chris, to approve the 4/21/20 minutes as drafted. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Chris asked Michael if he will be able to confer with Attorney Durbin regarding the Hazell property by the next meeting on May 26th. Michael stated that he would speak with the attorney about Hazel, as well as, the court hearing. Thirty days have passed since Hazell was served. So Attorney Durbin should be able to move forward in the process with the court. Which will allow the Town to clean the property & place a lien on the property for the expense.

Jamie mentioned the need for a future discussion regarding the Evergreen Court Circle. The Board would like to have the Road Agent attend the next meeting to discuss what to do with this area as it is starting to deteriorate.

Chris thanked those attending via Web Ex and asked if they had questions or comments. Chris addressed those with questions/comments. Unfortunately, those comments were inaudible to the secretary (Kisha).

At 8:18, Chris motioned, seconded by Jamie to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kisha Therrien