TOWN OF NEWFIELDS SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY APRIL 26, 2022

At 6:43 pm, The Select Board, by motion of Select Board Member Sununu, seconded by Select Board Member Silvani and in accordance with RSA91-A:3 (II) (a), to enter into a non-public session for purpose of personnel matter [RSA91-A3(II)(a)]. By roll call vote the Board passed the motion: Harmon-Affirmative; Silvani-Affirmative; Sununu-Affirmative

A motion to leave non-public session was made Select Board Member Sununu and seconded by Select Board Member Harmon. The motion was passed and at 7:00 a public session reconvened.

Select Board Present: Hoby Harmon, Jacquelyn Silvani & Michael Sununu
Others Include: Ray Buxton, Sara MacGregor, Deb Pawlendzio, Deb Rimbaud & Chief Young

Call to order at 7:00 pm.

The Select Board reviewed and approved the following items:

Checks Dated 04/29/22: Accounts Payable Manifest $32,409.70

Sarah MacGregor was invited by Jacqui to discuss mosquito situation again. Sarah expressed her concerns with the Town not spraying the salt marshes and provided the Board with additional literature. Saltwater takes up more of her resources as it is done from April through October. 80% of their product is used for the saltwater marshes with the remaining 20% for freshwater. Sarah said that they are still doing the freshwater basins. Michael expressed that while he appreciated the information, the Board is unable to spend any funds on spraying as the saltwater mosquito prevention was specifically cut during the deliberative session by residents.

Michael informed the Board that he provided the Water & Sewer Department (WSD) with a Purchase and Sale Agreement. WSD will meet on May 2nd to discuss it. This agreement will provide the town with a “right to purchase” if WSD decides to sell the property in the future. This provision was put in place by a resident during the Deliberative Session.

Ray Buxton and Deb Rimbaud came to discuss Deb’s request to place a bench, in memory of her parents, at the town landing. Deb provided the Board with a picture of the intended location and indicated that it would be installed professionally. Deb added that her father, Vernon Glass, the longest living resident in Newfields, worked near the river most of his life. The bench would represent the lifetime of service her parents made to the Town. Deb believes her request is reasonable and should be allowed.

Michael felt that there should be a policy in place for the Town Landing/Dock area and will reach out to the Town of Newmarket to view their policy. The Board will have a decision by the May 10th meeting.
Michael informed the other Board members that the winter storm damage to the Town Dock was repaired and that Primex insurance has agreed to reimburse the Town for the repairs.

The Board received a resident’s email concerning property at 399 Piscassic Road that is causing a rat infestation to neighboring houses. Michael said that this property is basically abandoned with taxes in arrears. If the taxes are not paid by June, the town may take control of the property. At that point, the house would be sold.

Hoby suggested contacting the resident to clean up the property in the meantime. Hoby will contact the health officer and coordinate a letter to the homeowner.

Jacqui motioned, seconded by Hoby, to approve a $20.02 tax abatement for Map 207/6 for a lien fee charged in error. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Michael brought Jacqui, who was not in attendance at the last meeting, up to date on the Hazell situation.

Jacqui motioned, seconded by Hoby, to grant the Garden Club $4,931 from ARPA funding to fund the Woodland Path proposal on Summer Street. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Michael reminded everyone of the Spring Cleanup on Saturday, May 7th from 8:00am to 12:00pm located at the Water and Sewer Department on Hervey Court.

Hoby mentioned that he has a point of contact for the railroad cleanup and should have some guidance by the next meeting on the 10th. He also stated that the military voting issue that is in the NH Senate is making its way through. This will allow military personnel to receive their ballots via email for local elections. They will still be required to return the completed ballot by mail.

Hoby asked Michael if something can be done with the cemetery on Hutchinson Sealings property. It is in complete disarray, with headstones and various tree branches lying on the ground. Michael suggested Hoby reach out to the Cemetery Committee to see what can be done as it is privately owned.

Michael motioned, seconded by Hoby to approve the 4/12/22 Select Board Meeting Minutes as drafted. All were in favor and the motion carried.

At 7:48 pm, Michael motioned, seconded by Jacqui, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kisha Therrien