

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
Tuesday, January 29, 2013 – 5:00pm
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Present: Joe Byk, Barbara Miller

Paul Sullivan, Roland Patten, Bob Lambert, Gordon Kemp, Susy Mansfield, Leslie Lewis, Steve Jones

Also Present: Pamela Brenner, Carol Ogilvie, Nancie Vaihinger, Rodney Bartlett, Leo Smith

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. She introduced the Board and staff, and welcomed everyone present as well as the people who might be viewing the meeting from home, thanking them also for taking the time to attend the meeting in person or by cable. **Chair Miller** then stated that she wished to take a moment to acknowledge the terrible news this week of the untimely and shocking deaths of Rick and Duffy Monahon. She spoke to the many and varied contributions the couple had made, not only to Peterborough, but the larger community as well. **Mr. Byk** concurred with the Chair's comments and described his own sense of loss and what he sees in the built environment in Peterborough that speaks to him of their vision. **Chair Miller** then called for a moment of silence in honor of the Monahons.

Police Officer Appointment

Chief Guinard was present to introduce a newly-hired full-time police officer. He explained that the Department had a recently-vacated position, for which he immediately advertised. George C. Xenakis applied for the position, went through the interview process and will be starting his duties tomorrow. The Chief explained that Officer Xenakis graduated from Franklin Pierce in 2011 after which he attended the NH Police Academy, and was working for the Hancock Police Department when he applied for this job. **Chair Miller and Mr. Byk** welcomed him to the Department, with **Mr. Byk** noting that he had once sat through an interview process for police officers, and he was confident that if Officer Xenakis had survived that, he would be fine.

School Resource Officer

Chair Miller noted that there was a new petition to fund a School Resource Officer at ConVal and asked Chief Guinard if he would like to speak to this. **Chief Guinard** explained that he and Ms. Brenner had worked very hard over the last four years – the last two in particular – to get this position funded. But while the article passes overwhelmingly in Peterborough, it has consistently failed to get enough votes in the other district towns. The **Chief** noted that the attitude of many is that this is a Peterborough problem, since the school is in Peterborough. This year Fran Chapman has submitted this petition and he will be speaking to it at the deliberative session next week. The Board, Ms. Brenner and Chief Guinard discussed whether Ms. Brenner and the Chief should expend much effort on this year's petition. **Ms. Brenner** stated that she might feel more inclined to do that if she felt they were even close on a vote; but with the vote historically being so low, and with no support from the School Board or the Selectmen's Advisory Committee, she questioned the value of such an effort. That being said, she and the Chief will be at the deliberative session. Further discussion followed about the reasons and the need for a school resource officer at ConVal.

Fundraising Proposal for Community Center Kitchen

Mike Klein and Carol Nelson appeared before the Board to present their proposal to raise matching funds to complete the kitchen renovations at the Community Center. Mr. Klein and Ms. Nelson are offering their services at no cost to the Town, other than reimbursement for miscellaneous expenses. **Mr. Klein** began by providing background information on himself and Ms. Nelson relative to their respective previous and current marketing and community organizing experience.

Mr. Klein stated that they expected to launch their campaign in February, since DPW Director Bartlett expects to start the actual construction in June. He spoke to the Charitable Foundation grant of \$70,000 that the Town had just received, which is what has prompted the need for the Town to raise a match of \$70,000. The Town has \$26,000 in other funds available, leaving a goal of \$44,000 left to raise. **Mr. Klein** explained that he and Ms. Nelson would not be seeking compensation for this for several reasons, including the short time frame involved, but primarily because they see the Center as a community enterprise, very important to the Town.

Ms. Nelson spoke to their understanding of the varied groups that are already using the Community Center, and she and Mr. Klein's expectation for other groups to be involved, especially when the kitchen is functional. Their plan is to reach out to all of the stakeholders, current and potential, so that they all have a vested interest in the future of the Community Center. She stated that while they plan to reach out locally, they also intend to extend beyond the town borders. She also suggested thinking about naming rights for the kitchen. Finally, she mentioned kickstarter.com as a potential fundraising approach.

Ms. Nelson asked if the Select Board saw any problems with naming rights for the kitchen. **Mr. Byk** said he would like more detail on that before he could answer that question. **Mr. Klein** stated that they will be looking for long-term relationships with potential donors in order to secure the sustainability of the Community Center. **Chair Miller** noted that the Select Board had, in fact, assured the public that there would be no tax dollars spent on the development of the Community Center.

Chair Miller and Mr. Byk thanked them both for their efforts and wished them well.

Select Board Minutes

On a motion by **Chair Miller**/second by **Mr. Byk** the Select Board approved the minutes of January 8, 2013, with all in favor.

At 5:45 pm **Chair Miller** called for a break before the start of the joint Select Board/Budget Committee meeting at 6 pm.

Joint Select Board and Budget Committee Meeting

At 6:00pm the Board was joined by members of the Budget Committee

Highway Budget

	FY 2013	FY 2014	% Inc. or Dec.
Net Operating	\$1,405,559	\$1,380,810	1.8%
Net Capital	\$55,000	\$236,000	329.1%
Net Special Article	\$185,000	\$59,000	-213.6
To be raised through taxation	\$1,645,559	\$1,675,810	1.8%

Mr. Bartlett presented the Highway Budget, noting that the operating expenditures are down 0.5%. Decreases in costs largely reflect milder winters. There is a new request for \$100,000 in the infrastructure line for engineering of the North Dam and replacement of street lights on the Grove Street bridge, which are original to the bridge, and can no longer be repaired since the parts are no longer being manufactured. Overall the budget is up 1.8%, primarily due to a reduction in revenue. There was a discussion about the continued funding of the Highway Block Grant, which does not appear to be under threat at this time. \$90,000 has been allocated for refurbishing nine mechanically-sound trucks. Regarding overtime, **Ms. Brenner** credited Ron Dubois for carefully managing overtime by sending people home early and only calling in people needed.

Mr. Bartlett said that after the mild winter last year some money was set aside for engineering of the reconstruction of Union Street. That engineering is essentially complete. During the CIP process the construction was talked about in phases, or all at once. The question is how it should be financed. **Mr. Kemp** agreed that the work does need to be done, whether it gets bonded all at once or is bonded in phases. **Mr. Lambert** asked how much it is estimated at; **Mr. Bartlett** said that it has been estimated at \$2,655,000. There was discussion about how the project could be planned and financed, and the complexity of the construction.

Motion:

Mr. Byk made a motion to support a bond to finance the Union Street reconstruction project as a single bond; **Chair Miller** seconded.

Vote:

The Select Board and Budget Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

There was a discussion about the impact that this project will have on the CIP and to the tax rate for years to come.

Water (Enterprise Fund)

	FY 2013	FY 2014	% Inc. or Dec.
Operating	\$947,103	\$942,940	-0.4%
Capital	\$30,000	\$38,750	29.2%
To be raised through taxation*	\$0	\$0	-0%

*All expenses are offset by user fees

Mr. Bartlett said that the proposed budget for FY 2014 is up 0.5%, primarily in the operating budget. Since going to a contract service we have better learned how to allocate time and resources between both water and sewer lines. Most calls and complaints that we receive are about water and repairs of the water system, so salaries have been reallocated for the three utilities workers to 50% water, 40% sewer and 10% highway. There is an increase for equipment repairs for the pump stations. Other expenses are as predicted. He noted that the bond payments have been reduced thanks to the work Ms. Vaihinger did refinancing the bond. **Mr. Bartlett** said that there may be some rate increases, but those should be minor, less than 5%. There was some discussion about the rates and the rate model. **Mr. Bartlett** noted that all increases are directly related to the nearly \$5,000,000 of system improvements that were completed over the last few years. He said that next year the Board will need to begin discussing the wells, which need some rehabilitation to continue providing the flow rates that the town requires.

Ms. Lewis asked how Peterborough's rates compare to other communities of this size; **Mr. Bartlett** said that it depends on whether or not they receive state aid, but generally our rates are similar to

other communities of the same size. There was then a discussion of the legislative efforts to fund the state aid grant program.

Sewer

	FY 2013	FY 2014	% Inc. or Dec.
Operating	\$1,248,455	\$1,234,993	-1.1%
Capital	\$30,000	\$30,000	0%
To be raised through taxation*	\$0	\$0	0%

*all expenses are offset by user fees

Mr. Bartlett said that the proposed budget is down -1.1% but this still includes payments towards the bond out of the \$1 million which was appropriated at Town Meeting. These figures have been loaded into the rate model, and will be used to plan the future sewer rates.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Ogilvie, Office of Community Development Director
Nicole MacStay, Assistant Town Administrator

PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:


Barbara A. Miller, Chair


Joe Byk


Elizabeth M. Thomas

ACTION ITEM PENDING LIST

- 1.