

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
Tuesday, March 22, 2011 – 7:00pm
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Present: Joe Byk, Barbara Miller

Also Present: Pam Brenner, Nancie Vaihinger, Fash Farashahi Nicole MacStay

Chair Byk called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

IT Update – Fash Farashahi

Mr. Farashahi, IT Coordinator, demonstrated the new assessing database. He explained that all assessing information will now be on the town's website, and accessible from anywhere. The database is being hosted by the software vendor, which with licensing, is cheaper and easier than hosting it on a town-maintained server. He demonstrated that the site is searchable by parcel ID number, owner name or street address. The parcels are updated quarterly to semi-annually.

Mr. Farashahi then provided an overview of the town's network, including the remote office connections. He explained that his department is in the process of virtualizing servers which saves the town money in both hardware and operating costs without impacting the level of service the town is able to provide. **Chair Byk** asked about the town's backup protocols; **Mr. Farashahi** explained that all files are backed up daily, and once a week a full backup is copied onto a mobile drive and stored at the Police Station. **Mr. Farashahi** then showed the Board the aerial flyovers provided through a collaborative project between NH DOT and the USGS. The Board thanked **Mr. Farashahi** for his presentation.

Agricultural Commission Petition Warrant Article

Ruth Holmes, lead petitioner, explained that the intent of the proposed Commission was to support farmers and agricultural activities in Peterborough. **Chair Byk** explained the Deliberative Session procedure. **Ms. Brenner** expressed her concerns about how difficult it is to get enough members to serve on other committees. **Duffy Monahan** said that it would not be hard to get members for this Commission because there is a lot of public interest. She said that there are already farmers markets, slow food groups and the Grange operating locally. The Commission could help to organize all of these activities. There was further discussion about what **Ms. Holmes** should be prepared to talk about at the Deliberative Session.

Carbon Challenge – Nicole MacStay

Ms. MacStay began by explaining that the Select Board had first issued a challenge in 2007 to reduce the Town's carbon emissions by 5% by 2010. She was pleased to report that the town had reduced emissions by 22% across eleven town buildings. To meet the challenge town staff explored every avenue of energy savings available. Then using the Portfolio Manager software program provided by the Environmental Protection Agency on their website, town staff tracked all of the town's electricity, heating oil, wood pellet and propane usage in all of the town's facilities. The software is capable of taking the usage data and facts about each facility and quickly providing an analysis of the greenhouse gas emissions and energy usage of each of the buildings.

In all town buildings, second light bulbs were removed from fixtures and thermostats were lowered in the winter and raised in the summer. In the Town House the heating and air conditioning system was fine-tuned, directing heat and air conditioning to the parts of the building where they needed. In the Library, where a wood pellet furnace had been installed prior to the challenge, Public Works staff were able to better balance the wood pellet system and the oil back-up system to obtain the greatest efficiency. In the Highway Garage, Public Works employees installed a wood pellet stove to heat the break room, and constructed a wall to close off the bays and prevent heat loss when the garage doors open in the winter. The most dramatic gains came at the Recreation Department with the shuttering of the Arts and Crafts building during the off season months; this move alone almost made-up the entire 5% reduction goal alone – before any of the other improvements were accounted for.

Town staff has also implemented a number of changes that couldn't be tracked in the EPA's Portfolio Manager Software, including:

- the Anti-Idling Policy
- The Police Department's Wood Pellet Furnace, which went online at the end of 2010
- The Green Purchasing Policy
- Double-sided printing which reduced paper
- LED street lighting in West Peterborough

and many more changes which were implemented as early as 2001.

In addition to saving energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, all of these changes have had the added bonus of saving the taxpayers of Peterborough thousands of dollars a year. In addition to the changes that have been implemented, the town is also looking to install a wood pellet boiler in the Town House to replace the aging oil boilers. Energy efficiency design elements have been engineered into the wastewater treatment facility currently under construction. She added that at every turn the Town of Peterborough is looking to take advantage of new technology and grant opportunities that can give us not only an energy saving, greenhouse gas averting benefit, but also save the town money in the process. There followed an extended discussion of the various projects the town has undertaken, as well as those at the Town House and the Wastewater Treatment Plant which are currently underway. **Chair Byk** said that he would like **Ms. MacStay** to return in a few months with ideas for future work.

Armory Special Revenue Fund

Motion:

Chair Byk made the following motion:

Whereas, the Town of Peterborough has obtained the Armory Building on Elm Street, Peterborough, NH 03458 for use as a Community Center; and

Whereas the Select Board wishes to establish a special revenue fund for accounting purposes only, to report for the revenues derived from grants, donations, and other miscellaneous revenues, and for expenditures for the purpose of renovating the Armory Building only. The special revenue fund shall be named the Armory Renovation Fund; and

Whereas, the money in said fund shall be allowed to accumulated from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the Town's general fund accumulated surplus. The town treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund, and shall pay out the same pursuant to the policy developed by the Town; and

Now therefore be it resolved by the Select Board of the Town of Peterborough that the said fund called the Armory Renovation Fund is hereby established for accounting purposes only. This

Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption and shall be rescinded when the renovations are complete. **Ms. Miller** seconded.

Vote:

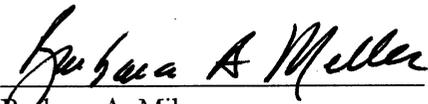
Chair Byk and **Ms. Miller** voted in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

As there was no further business, **Chair Byk** made a motion to adjourn; **Ms. Miller** seconded. All in favor, the meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.

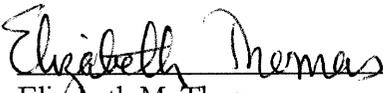
Respectfully Submitted,
Nicole MacStay, Assistant to the Town Administrator

PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:

Joe Byk, Chair



Barbara A. Miller



Elizabeth M. Thomas

ACTION ITEM PENDING LIST

- 1.

