

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
Tuesday, April 19, 2011 – 7:00pm
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Present: Joe Byk, Barbara Miller, Elizabeth Thomas

Also Present: Rodney Bartlett, Nicole MacStay

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

Peterborough Rotary Club – Wilder Park Proposal

David Drasba, Secretary of the Peterborough Rotary Club, presented the proposal. He explained that they have been working with John Kaufhold and Pam Brenner to create a park at the Wilder Thermometer site located adjacent to the North Dam along Route 202 and adjacent to Hunt Road. **Mr. Drasba** then presented a slideshow which demonstrates the location and still existent structures which were related to the Wilder Thermometer Factories and original bridge. The project has a few different elements; first to improve parking along Hunt Road, to create a portage for canoes and kayaks, and a more defined entrance from the parking area into the park.

The Rotary Club does not see this as a one-time project, but rather as a long-term commitment. Both the Conservation Commission and the Heritage Commission have asked that a minimalist approach be taken with the paths, and it has been decided that stone dust paths will only be installed if the grass becomes more worn than it can handle. **Mr. Drasba** said that the Club is looking to remove sand and debris from around the bridge abutment and under the arch, and to reestablish the drainage channel from the Factory basement. There will be benches installed on the bridge abutment and at the foundation, and whatever railings are necessary to preserve safety and signage that would show some of the history of the site.

Ms. Thomas asked if the pathways will be ADA compliant. **Mr. Drasba** said that he believes that the pathway to the center of the site can be made level. He said that as things are now, a person can probably maneuver to the top of the dam and to the foundation on most days. Ms. Miller asked what the financial commitment from the Club is. **Mr. Drasba** said that they have set aside \$5,000 this year and next to cover most of the expenses other than the parking portion of the project, which the Town will complete. **Mr. Bartlett** said that there is \$5,000 in the present budget, with labor coming from the Highway Department staff. **Mr. Bartlett** reviewed the history of the site, highlighting the EPA cleanup which was funded by a Brownfields grant.

Linda Guyette – Special Election Request

Chair Byk stated that with the resignation of Mr. Crowley from his position as State Representative, there is a vacancy. **Ms. Guyette** said that she spoke with the Secretary of State's office, who said that the Town has two options; either the Board can ask for a special election, or the seat can remain vacant. She explained that any Select Board of any of the four towns can ask for a special election, and the other three towns will be obliged to follow through. She then explained the timeline and process, and said that it would cost the Town about \$3,500. She said that if it is left vacant, the seat will be filled in 2012, and the Secretary of State's office has encouraged the Town to leave it vacant.

Chair Byk asked what the neighboring towns have planned to do. **Ms. Guyette** said that New Ipswich would rather leave it vacant, as would Sharon, and Greenville said that they will go along with Peterborough's decision. **Ms. Miller** said that it is her understanding that the State's budget has already passed the house, which is the most important reason to have representation. **Mr. Spratt**, former Representative from Greenville, said that the budget has been passed in the House, but the Senate will make modifications, and ultimately will be voted on again. **Chair Byk** noted that even if the vote were postponed to July, the Special Election could not be held until September, and could not serve on this budget. **Mr. Leishman**, former Representative from Peterborough, said that the towns do deserve a representative, and it is unfortunate that they will have to wait almost a year until someone is put in that position.

Kath Allen said that she understands that it is a lot of money, but she is concerned about having more representation, and supports the Special Election. **Fran Chapman** said that he didn't think that Peterborough should force the other towns to hold a Special Election. There was further discussion about the issues involved.

Motion:

Ms. Thomas made a motion to not request a Special Election due to its unbudgeted cost and the position of New Ipswich and Sharon against holding such an Election; **Ms. Miller** seconded.

Vote:

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

Chief Guinard – School Resource Officer

Chair Byk noted that the SRO warrant article failed at the school meeting; as such, he and Ms. Brenner have asked Chief Guinard to update the SAU on Peterborough's status. **Chief Guinard** said that the call volume has jumped 11.3% in the last year, and our resources are stretched thin. He said that the High School should be notified that the Police Department is experiencing delays responding to non-emergency calls, and it is getting to the point where something has to give. **Ms. Miller** asked how calls are prioritized; **Chief Guinard** said that a judgment call is made by senior officers on a call-by-call basis. He said that if the officers are tied-up, the caller is told that it may be two or three hours before an officer can respond, and there are times where there may not be follow-up until the next day. There was some discussion of examples of calls which may be put on hold, as well as a discussion of a dramatic response to the High School involving two young ladies who were followed by a man wanted in both Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Craig Hicks, lately Chair of the School Board, said that he has been pushing for an SRO in ConVal. He said that he is glad that the letter the Chief has composed and the letter before the Board for their signature focus on the safety side of this issue. He said that if something serious happens at ConVal, no one wants to wait for an officer to come from the other side of town. There was further discussion about the safety and liability issues. Suzanne Holden said that she works in another school district where there is an SRO, and spoke with enthusiasm about the value of the position. There was further discussion about the possibility of having an SRO position in the FY 2013 School District budget.

Presentation of Sustainable Landscaping Method for EMS Landfill Site

Mr. Bartlett said that a couple of weeks ago **Greg Bingham** and his daughter came and asked about the possibility of grazing sheep on the EMS Landfill site. **Mr. Bartlett** then reviewed a

slideshow which demonstrated how the sheep would be tended on the location. **Mr. Bartlett** said that Goffstown has had sheep on their landfill for a number of years. **Mr. Bingham** spoke, explaining that he and his family would care for the sheep, and explained that he has a cousin in Peterborough who would help make sure that they have enough water. **Mr. Bartlett** said that this will be a trial period, and if it is viable, they may look at this for the Scott Mitchell land fill. The Board voiced their support for the project.

Water Resource Advisory Committee – Request to Reduce Membership

Dick Freeman, Chair of the Water Resource Advisory Committee, said that there have almost never been seven members of this committee, and there is sometimes difficulty in making sure that all four members are present to make a quorum. **Mr. Freeman** reviewed the recent history of Water Resource Advisory Committee projects.

Motion:

Ms. Thomas made a motion to reduce the membership of the Water Resource Advisory Committee to five; **Chair Byk** seconded.

Vote:

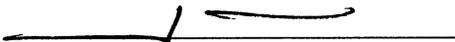
Ms. Thomas, Chair Byk and **Ms. Miller** voted in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

Chair Byk read from a letter sent by Andrew Manns, Chair of the Trustees of the Trust Funds, explaining that Gregg Alexander has been required to resign as a Trustee. Since this happened after the filing date, Russell Picard has put his name forward as a write-in candidate.

As there was no further business, **Chair Byk** made a motion to adjourn; **Ms Miller** seconded. All in favor, the meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicole MacStay, Assistant to the Town Administrator

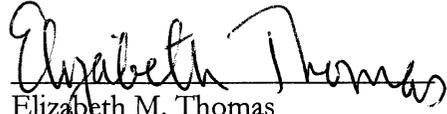
PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:



Joe Byk, Chair



Barbara A. Miler



Elizabeth M. Thomas

ACTION ITEM PENDING LIST

- 1.