



**SELECT BOARD MEETING AGENDA
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH**

Tuesday, June 4, 2013 – 5:00 PM
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

APPOINTMENT

5:00pm – Chief Scott Guinard - Cruiser bid opening

5:15pm – Rodney Bartlett – Water and Wastewater Rate recommendations for FY14/FY15

5:45pm – Senator Sanborn – Legislative Update

NEW BUSINESS

1. GAR Hall – Memo Update
 - John J. Ratigan email
 - Excerpt from Preservation Easement
 - Draft RFP for Real Estate Services
2. Board and Committee Appointments

CONSENT AGENDA

Correspondence:

May 30, 2013 – Neal Cass email re: Flood Control from Hopkinton Select Board Chair Jim O'Brien

May 30, 2013 – Thank you letters from Wayne and Dee Thomas for Memorial Day Parade assistance

Building Permits:

1. BP13-25; MacDowell Colony; 100 High St; Remodel Baetz Studio.
2. BP13-43; Cathleen Duerig Rev. Trust; 47 High St; Attached 24'x26' garage.
3. BP13-44; Garland Family Realty Trust; 360 Middle Hancock Rd; 20'x30' barn.
4. BP13-45; Rodney Christy; 36 High St; 24'x30' detached garage.
5. BP13-46; George Achille; 75 Jaffrey Rd; Paint booth and electrical.
6. BP13-47; Eric Blackmer; 56 Grove St; Fix barn roof and damage.

ADJOURN

Unless a Public Hearing is scheduled, all times should be considered approximate

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
Tuesday, June 4, 2013 – 5:00pm
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Present: Joe Byk, Barbara Miller, Liz Thomas

Also Present: Pamela Brenner, Rodney Bartlett, Chief Scott Guinard, Nicole MacStay

Chair Byk called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

5:00pm – Chief Scott Guinard - Cruiser Bid Opening

Chief Guinard reported that the Town received four bids for the surplus cruiser. **Chair Byk** explained that the Board will open these, and the Chief will chose from the highest responsible bidder.

1. Chicago Motors, \$2,807
2. Grace Quality Used Autos, \$3,056
3. William Ducette Auto Sales, \$2,727.00
4. Bay Ridge Motors, \$2,189

Motion:

Chair Byk made a motion to empower Chief Guinard to make the award to the highest responsive bidder; **Ms. Thomas** seconded.

Vote:

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

Rodney Bartlett – Water and Wastewater Rate recommendations for FY14/FY15

Mr. Bartlett said that he would like to begin with a recommendation on the water rate - we utilize a rate model to arrive at the rate that the Town needs to charge users to meet the budgeted expenses of the department. The water department budget this year is up 0.64%. **Mr. Bartlett** said that the options before the Board are a 0% increase this year and 4% next year, or a 2% this year and 2% next year increase. The 2%/2% has the least potential loss, and so he recommends that option.

Chair Byk said when you do the budget you are in a predictive mode, and asked when you do these budgets, how do you extrapolate the increase in costs; **Mr. Bartlett** replied that we build in a 2.5% COLA increase each year, to make sure that we do not underestimate in the out years. The actual numbers in 2014 are those passed at Town Meeting. **Chair Byk** asked why do we want to set a rate for FY 2015 and beyond before the budget process? Is there a compelling reason to do it that way? **Mr. Bartlett** said that it works for the wastewater budget, which is based largely on the state aid grant program and the biennium budget, so we carried it over to the Water Department's budget.

Leslie Lewis, Budget Committee member and Chair of the Capital Improvement Plan Committee, said that when the town restructured the department and made cost savings in 2013 and asked if that is that why we have a large surplus in 2013; **Mr. Bartlett** said that the 2013 figures are actual expenditures; 2014 are the actual budget figures passed, with a 0.34% increase over the prior year. **Ms. Lewis** if the 2% the goal so that you don't have to increase as much; **Mr. Bartlett** said that three years ago we sat down to create this model with a consultant who recommended that we have one year's budget in surplus - we do try to keep our revenue and expenditures even.

Mr. Bartlett then turned to the wastewater rates, saying that our principal and interest payment from the Rural Development bond is one third of the budget. He stated that in 2006 Town Meeting approved the

expenditure of \$1 million from the General Fund to buffer the cost of the construction of the plant - we have been able to put that into a surplus for wastewater, and we will continue use funds from that to buffer that impact. When state aid grants were not funded in 2009, the increases we projected were based on that impact. He then presented the Board with two recommendations: the first assumes that without a reinstatement of State Aid Grants rates would have to be increased by 12% for FY14 and 12% for FY15. The second assumes that the State Aid Grants will be reinstated, which will allow the rates to stay flat, while at the same time a surplus could be accumulated. If the proposed state budget passes with funding for SAG grants for the next two fiscal years, we will have a surplus by 2016. In the event that SAG grants are not funded in the 2016/17 biennial budget, we will have that surplus buffer to draw on. **Mr. Bartlett and Ms. Brenner** then explained how the rate increases were calculated, and how the Town has been using the \$1 million to buffer the increased costs from the bond. Ms. Lewis summarized by saying that this gets us to the rate we would be paying with the bond payments - gradual increase to meet the actual cost; **Mr. Bartlett** agreed with her statement.

Senator Andy Sanborn said that he would ask you to have some caution - if the Senate budget does not come to agreement with the House, then we would have to go to a Continuing Resolution with the budget, and we could lose \$30,000 a month from the budget. **Chair Byk** asked why wait for 60 days to make a decision on the rates; **Ms. Brenner** said that if we don't get the grants or some portion, then we need to raise our rates or we lose money big time beginning July 1st, the beginning of the 2014 fiscal year.

Motion:

Chair Byk made a motion to approve wastewater rate increases of 12% for FY 2014 and 12% for FY 2015 if the State Aid Grants are not reinstated in the State's next biennial budget, and 0% increase in both FY 2014 and FY 2015 if the State Aid Grants are reinstated; **Ms. Thomas** seconded.

Vote:

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

The Board revisited the previous discussion regarding the water rates. After a brief discussion, it was decided that the Board would accept the 0% in the first year recommendation, and revisit the water rates in one year to determine if a 4% increase would be necessary.

Motion:

Ms. Miller made a motion to approve water rate increase of 0% for one year and revisit the rates again in one year; **Chair Byk** seconded.

Vote:

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

Senator Andy Sanborn – Legislative Update

Senator Sanborn stated that I hate downshifting with a passion - I am here report a couple of benefits to your community - I have included in the budget full funding of the flood control reimbursement in FY14/15 and pay the State's contractual obligations. SAG money is also very important to me - there are 127 projects around the state the state made a commitment to participate in. The Senate included the entire appropriation of \$4.6 million each year in the budget. This will be voted on Thursday, then it will go into compromise - they can concur with the Senate budget, say no, or say no and try to find a way to compromise. The Committee of Conference typically lasts a week or two. Then it will go to a vote, and it goes to the Governor for her signature. Twice in recent history we have done a CR and operate under the prior budget. No one is suggesting this year, but I feel obligated to explain way may or may not happen. On one side I am comfortable and confident that that my promises can be kept, and those will stay in the budget.

In regards to the budget - the existing budget was approved at \$10.3 billion - it looks like our true spend will be \$10.1 billion. The budget presented by the Governor included a number of large issues which were \$11.6 billion in "behind the curtain" numbers; we brought it down to \$10.6 billion. We are increasing spending by

almost \$600 million without raising taxes because we believe that the economy is coming back and there will be more federal money coming in. This is a budget with something for everyone to like or not like. We are fully funding the community college program, and restoring the Unique college program for low-income families going to state schools, and fully funding charter schools. Senate budget restores LCHIP money, and increases MQuip money- assistance for nursing homes. There are a lot of things that we have tried to do to decide what to invest in. We passed four bills specifically to encourage the business community to grow and expand - the bills were to do with taxation programs, which the Governor suspended. These would allow businesses to take a tax credit on business investments. We passed three bills for the job training programs outside of the budget process. We also put back in the R&D tax credit.

Ms. Lewis asked if these incentives revenue neutral, by bringing in revenue from other sources; **Sen. Sanborn** replied that those bills would have reduced revenue by \$13 million initially assuming there was no growth - overall our revenue projection numbers will increase by 1.7% per year. **Ms. Lewis** asked if that tied to the casino; **Sen. Sanborn** said no, the casino related revenue was outside the budget. It was estimated it would bring in \$20-45 million a year in revenue and was passed in the Senate but failed in the House.

Sen. Sanborn continued, LLC income tax movement - the state has looked to collect taxes on tips from the business - clearly this is against federal law, and it has been in our rules that taxation is based on the business a business does - this is a pretty big leap. We put clarifying language in the budget to prevent that - we believe that it is inappropriate. Medicaid expansion: we have three committees overseeing implementation - I am the only legislator who sits on all three committees. there has been a bit of misinformation on it - in our budget we are not saying no to the expansion of Medicaid - we are saying that no one did the job - it's a complex question and a lot of things need to be discussed, but no one put a bill in so that we could discuss it, and we never talked about how. Twenty-three states said no, twenty-one said yes, and nine are considering it - should we try to accept the money as a block grant and try to manage it ourselves? Should we do it as a voucher system? Should we take the money and buy insurance for that demographic? Some states have asked for a ten year guarantee on the money and we'll do it. We are specifically not saying no, but we feel strongly that we didn't do our job, and we need to do that and ask the questions. There followed an extended discussion of Affordable Care Act and its implications on the state and local level.

Chair Byk, speaking to **Sen. Sanborn**, said we owe you - I know that it is easier to kill a bill than to get it passed - you fought to get flood control and SAG back, and it has a profound impact on taxpayers.

GAR Hall Update

Ms. Brenner began by saying the Board received a memo that is pretty self-explanatory - we feel that first we need to go about hiring a real estate company - the email from Attorney Ratigan which explained the two ways of going about that - a non-exclusive agreement, and exclusive agreement through an RFP process - we recommend the second, because the question is who oversees the sale process? Who do they call to answer questions and doing walk-throughs? This way we assign it to one agent; they put a lock box on it, schedule appointments and show the building. **Ms. MacStay** found an RFP that may suit our needs and is working to adapt it.

Three further questions remain before the Board:

1. Listing price - we believe that fair market would be \$172,000 minus commission - Attorney Ratigan is confirming that with the Attorney General's Office.
2. Conditions of the sale - I recommend that the Board give the preservation easement back to the Heritage Commission and have them look at it again. There is also a question on who holds the easement; I would recommend that the Board ask the Heritage Commission to opine on that.
3. Should you require a good faith deposit?

Ms. Miller said that she feels that requiring a good faith deposit makes sense. **Chair Byk** and **Ms. Thomas** agreed.

Ms. Brenner continued to review the memo, and said that Attorney Ratigan will be soon be filing the cy pres petition, and then will request a stay until a buyer is found.

Mose Olenik of the Heritage Commission said that she thinks this looks very good, and asked when does the clock start ticking; **Ms. Brenner** replied when it is formally listed. **Ms. Olenik** that she thinks we are ready to do our job.

Motion:

Chair Byk made a motion to proceed as the memo dictates; **Ms. Miller** seconded.

Vote:

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

Board and Committee Reappointments

Motion:

Chair Byk made a motion to appoint the slate as presented; **Ms. Thomas** seconded.

Vote:

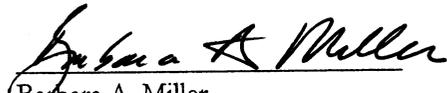
Chair Byk, Ms. Thomas and **Ms. Miller** voted in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

As there was no further business, **Ms. Miller** made a motion to adjourn; **Ms. Thomas** seconded. All in favor, the meeting adjourned at 6:31pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicole MacStay, Assistant Town Administrator

PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:


Joe Byk, Chair


Barbara A. Miller


Elizabeth M. Thomas

ACTION ITEM PENDING LIST

1. State Aid Grants – continues to remain in the State budget
2. Dispatch Center Grant – N. MacStay to follow up on possible grant for dispatch center – NH Dept. of Safety Homeland Security Grants are not yet available for 2013 - <http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/homeland/homelandgrants.html>
3. Backflow Prevention Ordinance – R. Bartlett to include the Backflow Prevention Ordinance in his review of other utilities ordinances
4. Annual review of the community center accounting.
5. Check on the potential solar install at the wastewater plant.
6. Six-month review of Select Board retreat goals and objectives progress.

7. Three months review of status of Guernsey building.
8. Follow steps in GAR Hall memo and issue an RFP for real estate services