

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
Tuesday, June 9, 2015 – 5:00pm
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Present: Barbara Miller, Ed Juengst, Tyler Ward

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

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Rodney Bartlett – Project Updates

Union Street Bridge. Mr. Bartlett said that the bridge is on the DOT's Red List. Only the deck needs to be replaced, so it was designed and put out to bid this winter, however the bids all came back high, and it has become clear that the work cannot be done with the money set aside in the capital reserve fund. We recommend taking the project through the 2016 budget process and use funds available in the West Peterborough TIF District.

Main Street Bridge/Retaining Wall. There will be an information session in the Select Board Meeting Room on June 16th which will update the public on where we are in the process and review proposals for pedestrian access and a better alignment of the bridge with Main Street. We expect to have the bidding complete in 2016, with construction scheduled for the 2017 season. Mr. Juengst asked if there will be any talk about the Route 202 improvements; Mr. Bartlett said that there is some detail regarding the alignment of Pine Street to keep the trucks off of the sidewalks. Chair Miller asked if there were any renderings of the pedestrian bridge; Mr. Bartlett described the bridge, saying that the goal is to have the bridge cross the river at the north side of bridge, and that it will look similar to the bridge proposed to connect the Riverwalk parking lot with Depot Square.

Transcript Dam. The Transcript Dam is such a low hazard that the State doesn't inspect it. We will be looking at the cost of rehabilitating it and get cost estimates for any options for discussion at a future meeting, including basic renderings of what it would look like if the dam is breached. All of this is incorporated into the Main Street Bridge and Retaining Wall project timeline. Chair Miller noted that this is going to be an emotional issue, and that there are many people who feel strongly on both sides of that issue; it will be a difficult decision.

Library Project. The survey and boundary work have been completed, and will be on the Planning Board's agenda on the 15th. Our request is for a boundary line adjustment where we would acquire 1,400 square feet from Fairpoint, which sets the stage for what comes later.

Town House/Upper Hall Renovations. We have responded to the Moose Plate grant group in regards to the \$10,000 they have awarded us for a study of the Town Hall, and will be working with Scully and Associates to develop concept drawings, specifications and cost estimates for the 2017 budget. An application going to the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation asks for \$20,000 with \$15,000 in in-kind services towards the work. Mr. Ward said that the Town House looks great with its fresh coat of paint. Mr. Bartlett said that we spent \$11,000 inside the copula repairing weather-related damage. The same firm cleaned out the downspouts from the gutters, and replaced the copper elbows.

Union Street. The work should be completed by the end of July.

Solar Array. Mr. Bartlett said that they have run into a plethora of paperwork, and are sorting through it with SunEdison, who will be buying the array from Borrego. Should everything go smoothly, the startup will be after July 4th. Chair Miller said that there will be a taping of All About Town at the solar array. Mr. Ward asked about RGGI funding in the state budget; Mr. Bartlett said that the Senate restored \$50 million to the

renewable fund, and restored RGGI funding, which go towards smaller projects, including decision-grade energy audits and building envelope assessments. Ms. Brenner said that those grants create local jobs, and have helped Frothing Energy flourish. Mr. Bartlett said that he took a call from the City of Concord, who want to build the same type of array.

Land Donations

Mr. Bartlett explained that the 1833 Society has gone through the effort to acquire half of the Fairpoint property, including completing a survey and boundary line adjustment. The purchase and sales agreement that was negotiated provides enough time to do that, and the 1833 Society has remained in constant contact with Patrick McCue, Vice President of Fairpoint Communications, through the entire process. Part of the process for the Select Board to acquire or sell property is a request for input from the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission, and to hold two public hearings not less than ten days but not more than fourteen days apart. The Select Board agreed to set the public hearings for June 23rd and July 7th, and to schedule the follow-up meeting for July 21st. Mr. Bartlett then described a second piece of property being donated by Carol Dell, located at the intersection of Route 202 and Old Jaffrey Road. He said that the area is very wet, and is the site of regular flooding. If in the future changes are made to the road to deal with the flooding it would be helpful if the town already owns the property. Last is a parcel located on Granite Street that was taken for taxes; this property does not have to go through the same 41:14-a process, however we would like input from the Planning Board and Conservation Commission with regards to what to do with the parcel.

Police Cruiser Bid Opening

Chair Miller opened and read out the following bids:

Bidder	2009 Cruiser Bid	2010 Cruiser Bid	2011 Cruiser Bid
Bay Ridge Motors	\$1,455.00	\$1,758.00	\$2,459.00
Jersey One Auto Sales	\$1,136.00	\$1,136.00	\$1,636.00
Chicago Motors, Inc.	\$1,007.00	\$1,607.00	\$3,207.00
A & Silver Auto Sales	\$1,158.00	\$2,358.00	\$3,058.00
Grace Quality Used Autos	\$1,256.00	\$1,765.00	\$2,858.00

Motion:

Mr. Ward made a motion to give Chief Guinard the authority to award each bid to the highest responsive bidder; Mr. Juengst seconded.

Vote:

Mr. Ward, Mr. Juengst and Chair Miller voted in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

Dog Waste in Public Spaces

Ms. Brenner said that the Parks Committee has not yet spoken on this issue, and that Jason Bergeron, a student at South Meadow School, has a recommendation for the Board to consider. Ms. Brenner said that she, Chief Guinard and Mr. McLean have worked with Ms. Von Mertens to draft a code that closely follows Claremont's, and recommend that a handout be developed to be distributed to people who register dogs, a PR campaign be launched, and that the Board also consider installing waste bag dispensers at high traffic locations. Chair Miller said that she spoke with the operations director of the Cathedral in the Pines, who said that since installing a bag dispenser there has been a remarkable reduction in waste.

Dr. Michael Gordon of the Parks Committee said that there are signs in a lot of parks about dog waste, and said that the committee likes the idea of having the signs be smaller and more attractive; he said that he also likes the idea of reminding dog owners of their responsibility when they register their dogs. However he said that the committee does not like the idea of adding kiosks and large signs when it is the dog owners responsibility to figure all this out. Dr. Gordon said that he was in favor of informing owners when they register their dogs and revisit the issue in a year.

Jason Bergeron proposed having SMS students patrol parks and trails handing out information packets to dog owners as part of their school's community service program. He said that he had spoken with the principal, who said that she thought it is a good idea.

Terry Reeves, member of the Parks Committee, said that she agrees with Dr. Gordon and does not like the idea of having bag dispensers in the parks, but said that they may be more effective at trail heads where owners are more likely to be irresponsible. She suggested that placing one at a trail to try it for a year might be a good test.

Francie Von Mertens said that she took many photos of trails and parks, and said that Teixeira Park was the most dramatically abused of the parks, in part because Town Staff had cleaned Depot and Putnam parks ahead of Children in the Arts day. She said that the ordinance that will be proposed will require that if a person is walking a dog they must be carrying a means of cleaning up the dog's waste. A public hearing on the proposed change to the ordinance was scheduled for July 7th.

Dr. Gordon suggested that the bags could be made available in the same locations as the recycling bags. He also noted that discarded cigarette butts are more of a problem in most parks than dog waste, and added that there are no signs at Teixeira Park reminding owners to clean up after their dogs. There was some further discussion about how SMS student volunteers could distribute information, the location, and the most advantageous times of day and days of the week. The Board instructed staff to develop a brochure that could be handed out to dog owners as they register their dogs, pilot a bag dispenser installation at the beginning of the rail trail, and install signs at Teixeira Park that are in keeping with the park's aesthetics.

Parks Committee Update

Dr. Gordon said that Carmen Duhaime stepped down as chair of the Parks Committee a year ago; she had been chair since 2000. The Committee maintains Teixeira, Depot and Putnam parks, as well as the Nubanusit Terrace and Boccelli Garden. Each of the parks has a mission statement; Depot is the city park, Putnam is the old park, Teixeira is the funky wild park, the Terrace is the elegant park, and Boccelli is a garden. The plantings reflect that. Recently there has been a very successful public/private partnership, thanks largely to the assistance given by Ms. Brenner. The Committee meets every Wednesday morning at 7:00am and does clean-up and planting. Dr. Gordon then reviewed a number of recent grants and private investments, as well as a new endowment that have helped the Parks Committee in their mission. Dr. Gordon said that they couldn't do any of their work without the support of the Public Works Department, particularly Mr. Bartlett, Dave Croumie and everyone in the Buildings and Grounds department who assists with regular maintenance. He also thanked Ms. Reeves and Ms. Odgers for all their work as members of the committee. There was some discussion about the history of the parks in the downtown and the Parks Committee; Dr. Gordon noted that Ms. Von Mertens was one of the biggest early developers of the beautification program when she challenged the shop owners to create and maintain their window boxes.

Dr. Gordon went on to say that the Committee gets a lot of requests from people who want to put monuments in a park to remember a loved one who has passed. The New Hampshire Supreme Court has said that towns have the ability to say no to such requests. To that end, the Committee would like to amend the ordinance governing the parks so that the Parks Committee would have selective receptivity for gifts based on a specific guideline, which will include aesthetic reasons. Ms. Brenner added that Wilder Rotary Park has been established as a place for memorials, and that people may be directed to place their memorials there. Dr. Gordon said that he would provide draft language that could be heard at the same public hearing to be scheduled for July 7th. The Board thanked the Parks Committee for their dedication and hard work keeping the parks so attractive.

Minutes of March 17th, May 7th and May 19th, 2015

Motion:

Mr. Ward made a motion to accept the minutes with minor corrections to the March 17th minutes and all others as presented; Chair Miller seconded.

Vote:

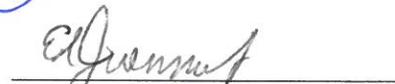
Mr. Ward, Chair Miller and Mr. Juengst voted in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

As there was no further business, Mr. Ward made a motion to adjourn; Chair Miller seconded. All in favor, the meeting adjourned at 6:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicole MacStay, Assistant Town Administrator

PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:


Barbara A. Miller, Chair


Ed Juengst


Tyler Ward