

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
Tuesday, October 1, 2019 – 5:00 PM
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Present: Tyler Ward, Karen Hatcher, Bill Taylor

Also Present: Rodney Bartlett, Alison Kreutz, Chief Ed Walker

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 PM.

Appointment of William “Bill” Reinhardt to the Capital Improvements Plan Committee

Chair Ward welcomed Bill Reinhardt. Bill said he was honored to have the opportunity to serve on the CIP Committee, and said that keeping roads, water and sewer, and public buildings in good condition is the most critical service Peterborough provides its citizens, and he “hopes to be helpful in meeting that challenge.” Mr. Reinhardt said he has been researching and writing about public works infrastructure for 45 years, initially with Engineering News Record Magazine, then with McGraw Hill Weekly, and then for 32 years with Public Works Financing Magazine, of which he was the founding editor and publisher. He has been living in Peterborough for five years (previously resided in New Jersey) and has been active in the community during his time here.

Ms. Hatcher, who serves as the Select Board liaison to the CIP Committee, thanked Mr. Reinhardt for sharing his background and for volunteering.

Motion: Mr. Taylor made a motion to appoint William “Bill” Reinhardt to the Capital Improvements Plan Committee.

Vote: Ms. Hatcher seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to Reappoint Cy Gregg as an alternate member of Downtown Peterborough Tax Increment Finance Advisory Board

Motion: Chair Ward made a motion to appoint Cy Gregg as an alternate member of Downtown Peterborough Tax Increment Finance Advisory Board.

Vote: Ms. Hatcher seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Riverview Apartments Connection Fee – Ed Walker, Fire Chief

Chief Walker said the Riverview Apartments consist of wood frame buildings that were built back in the 70’s, and no fire sprinklers were installed at that time. On March 13, 2019, PFR responded to a fire at 87 Pheasant Road, #70 in the Riverview Apartment complex. Subsequent inspections of the complex identified several life safety deficiencies within the buildings, including alarm system and egress issues with bedrooms.

After a series of meetings with the Keystone Management (property owner), the Town of Peterborough, and the State Fire Marshal, it was determined that the most efficient way to address these life safety issues was through the installation of automatic fire sprinklers. With sprinklers, three-bedroom units can remain three bedroom units, which are very hard to find in Peterborough, and stairwells would not require additional costly changes. There are many elderly residents, children, and residents with functional access needs, and sprinklers would provide a level of protection they would not have otherwise.

One of the costs incurred for the project is connecting to the community’s water source. There would be six connections, one for each of buildings, made with 2-inch pipe. Keystone Management has applied for and been granted a permit to install automatic fire sprinklers in all six buildings in the complex. Total cost of

connecting the buildings is \$19,800, and the cost for installing the sprinklers is about \$240,000. Keystone is making a quarter of a million dollar investment in the safety of their residents.

The Chief said that, while going through the process and investigating various options to meet the requirements of the fire code, he had a discussion with Mr. Bartlett about the possibility of the Town waiving the connection fees if it was determined that fire sprinklers were the best solution. At that time Mr. Bartlett indicated that he would support that request.

The addition of the sprinkler system will not only bring the buildings into compliance with the current life safety code, but greatly increase the safety of the residents in all 96 units. It would also use far less water than the Fire Department would in the instance of needing to extinguish a fire in the building, and would reduce long-term environmental impacts related to run-off into the river, which runs along the length of the complex.

Chief Walker requested that the Select Board waive the connection fees for the automatic sprinkler system in the Riverview Apartment Complex.

Ms. Hatcher asked Chief Walker to confirm the water usage would be fully accounted for. He confirmed, and said the waiver was purely for the one-time connection fee (\$3,300 per connection line, 6 connection lines).

Mr. Taylor said if Keystone was willing to make that kind of investment in the residents of their low-income housing, he would be glad to make the motion.

Motion: Mr. Taylor made a motion to waive the connection fees for the automatic sprinkler system in the Riverview Apartment Complex.

Vote: Ms. Hatcher seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of the Minutes of September 17th, 2019

Motion: Chair Ward made a motion to approve the Minutes of September 17th, 2019

Vote: Mr. Taylor seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Other Business

Regarding the Selectman's Advisory Committee to the Board of Education, Ms. Hatcher said they are working currently on a district-wide broadband project, with a meeting was held two weeks ago and another last night. The select boards of the nine towns in the district are working together and investigating how the district might fill in the gaps where broadband is missing. The group is putting maps together, and a district-wide map will be compiled to identify those areas that cross town lines. Multiple-town bonding is now allowed, so the doors are open for cross-municipality work to be done.

Ms. Hatcher shared that a state budget was finally signed, and it included education funding. A lot of it was one-time funding, but our district will receive 1.2 million dollars in relief, which should hopefully lower the tax bill.

Ms. Hatcher said the Community Task Force on Housing will be kicking off at 5:30 PM on Friday, October 4th. The group will reconvene on at 8:30 AM on Saturday morning and work until noon. "Things are progressing really nicely."

Chair Ward shared that the Heritage Commission is working with the New Hampshire Department of Historic Resources to renovate the Elizabeth Yates McGreal House, which is the white cape that sits next to Shieling Forest. A new trustee was sympathetic to the disrepair of that building, and piqued the interest of the NHDHR. A sign has been put up at the site, and hopefully there will be some noticeable improvements soon.

Ms. Hatcher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:21 PM. Mr. Taylor seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alison Kreutz, Department Assistant

PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:



Tyler Ward



Karen Hatcher



Bill Taylor

ACTION ITEM PENDING LIST

- 1.

