

**MINUTES**  
**SELECT BOARD**  
**TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH**  
Tuesday, September 15, 2015 – 5:00pm  
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

**Present:** Barbara Miller, Ed Juengst, Tyler Ward

**Also Present:** Pamela Brenner, Rodney Bartlett, Nicole MacStay, Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla, Peter Throop, Carol Ogilvie, Jeanne Dietsch, Irene Jenks, Liz Thomas, Loretta Laurenitis, Will Phillips, Cynthia Nichols

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

**John Kieley – Proposed Pipeline**

John Kieley began by describing the Marcellus Shale operation in Pennsylvania that has polluted wells in the area, and has produced more gas than it can sell. He went on to describe that in Europe and Asia, there is a shortage of natural gas. He explained the proposal by Kinder Morgan to construct two pipelines, one from Marcellus Shale to New York, and another from New York to New Hampshire. The original proposal was for a 36 inch pipeline, but has been reduced to a 30 inch with the possibility of reverting to the original plan of 36 inches. He went on to explain problems with the travel path and the 200' width needed for the pipeline along its route. This path would trespass over 36 pieces of conservation land, land that would be taken by eminent domain in order to construct the pipeline, two miles of the Rhododendron State Park taken, 70 waterbodies would be crossed, 440 acres of wetlands, 18 miles of pipe would cross aquifer/water supplies, 28 miles of farm soil, 24 miles of wildlife habitat, more than 1000 wells, over 600 properties would be taken by eminent domain, and affected by the pipeline. It would carry 1.2-1.3 billion cubic feet of gas per day, under 1460 psi. This gas is under high pressure, and consequently intense heat. Because we are in a rural area, the federal government allows the thinnest walled pipe installed and would be running through the region with safety valves every 20 miles. Kinder Morgan's history of frequency of incidents are on average more than once per month. Compressor stations are the 'engine' behind this pipeline, moving the gas along the pipeline. This would be the largest compressor station network ever built by Kinder Morgan. He explained how stations must be relieved from excess pressure by release of gases, yet are exempt from the Clean Air Act, releasing the gases and chemicals into the environment, including methane, and other greenhouse gas emissions, as well as being extremely loud, comparable to a jet engine. He explained the negative impact on human health due to the relief system of compressor stations, citing documentation. He went on to remind the Select Board that the Temple elementary school stands 1500 feet away from a proposed compressor station. He explained the troublesome nature of this proposal. He asked why should Peterborough care about this issue. He explained that air quality would suffer from greenhouse gas releases, human safety concerns, conservation issues, pressure on fire and police departments during incidents, as well as affecting the economy and diminishing the attraction of the region, and suppressing home values in the area along the pipeline.

Chair Miller opened the select board to questions. Mr. Juengst asked how many of the incidents were regarded as serious. Mr. Kieley explained that the incidents usually include fire, human death or human injury and were usually serious in nature. Mr. Juengst also asked if there is a demand for gas in our area. Mr. Kieley explained that there are very few companies interested in this gas and that the price of natural gas will increase according to the federal government's own studies. Mr. Juengst continued to rhetorically ask how a regulatory agency can trust in this process when our current federal administration has been focused on preserving and supporting the environment.

Mr. Ward expressed that the Select Board may have been misquoted recently in the paper. He explained that the Select Board did not make a statement against or for the pipeline. Mr. Juengst explained that last time this was presented, he wanted to get more facts before making a statement, but admits that he has strengthened his position after hearing about the details of the pipeline today. Mr. Ward expressed his position on this issue in that he is the liaison to the Conservation Commission and is against the pipeline and has been following this issue closely. His position on this issue is that it is not an environmentally responsible way of bringing energy to this area.

Chair Miller opened the floor to questions. Irene Jenks who lives at Nubanusit neighborhood informed the Select Board that a compressor station is proposed to be located next to organic cattle farm in Temple, and as thus, would no longer be able to continue as an organic farm due to the presence of the pipeline. She urged the Select Board to oppose the pipeline.

Liz Thomas, former Select Board member, also expressed that she opposes the pipeline and she believes this is the single most significant issue that the board has ever addressed.

Jeanne Dietsch mentioned that the reason the utility wants to put this infrastructure in, is that will lower their marginal cost, and consequently alternative energies will have higher prices as they compete with this inexpensive source of energy.

Loretta Laurenitis asked Mr. Kieley about the risk and history of incineration zones. Mr. Kieley explained that Kinder Morgan refuted the concept of an incineration zone but he understood it to be formula-derived area that is affected in an explosion. Chair Miller asked the Select Board if the board would like to take any action. Mr. Ward suggested taking action and discussing it at an upcoming retreat and the issue was tabled.

#### **Nicole MacStay – Carbon Challenge Update**

Chair Miller requested to pass over Ms. MacStay's presentation as meeting was behind schedule. The Carbon Challenge Update was tabled and put on the agenda for the next Select Board meeting in October.

#### **Carol Ogilvie – Public Information Session on Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

Ms. Ogilvie presented the committee and the timeline of the process and explained that the first step was identifying the natural and manmade hazards to which Peterborough is most susceptible, as well as past hazards, including flooding, ice jams and severe weather. She went on to explain that the next step was the risk assessment of these hazards. She then prioritized mitigation strategies in order to deflect these hazards. Chair Miller asked about the interconnectivity between the police and fire department. Ed Walker said it is in process but is soon to be completed. Chair Miller asked about other town wide communications, in addition to the Nixle system. Ed Walker explained a system is needed that would allow communication internally between departments, not just the public.

Mr. Ward asked about the large gap of time when it seemed that there were no issues according to the timeline in the presentation. Ms. Ogilvie explained that the events related to federal disasters were categorized separately during that time frame so it appears that there weren't any issues, when in fact there were.

Jeanne Dietsch asked if there was a question or two that the Hazard Mitigation group might want to ask the public as an upcoming survey was being put in place in the near future by the EDA. Ed Walker responded that the Town's Emergency Operations Plan is being updated and will collaborate with regard to this information. Mr. Throop added that they are finalizing the survey by the end of the month.

#### **Troy Brooks – Parker House Coffee Roasters**

Chair Miller explained that Mr. Brooks was not present, after being asked to be put on the agenda for this meeting. Ms. Brenner asked the Select Board to respond in his absence in order to have it on record. She explained that Mr. Brooks expressed his concern that the neighborhood was being poisoned by toxic fumes due to the coffee roasting and grinding process across the street from his home at Parker House Coffee Roasters.

Ms. Brenner explained that the Select Board has no jurisdiction to terminate a local business enterprise. She went on to express that it appears that there is little or no evidence of risk to the public. She said that Mr. Brooks has filed another action in the court system, with a hearing on October 15 of this year. She asked the Select Board to agree to a motion to cease verbal communication between Mr. Brooks and staff, should he attempt a manner of violent or aggressive communication. She expressed that she found it disheartening and that staff should not be subjected to the aggressive tones from Mr. Brooks. Will Phillips, an attorney, spoke on behalf of the Cobbs, owners of the building in which Parker House Coffee is located. He explained that no injunction has been granted in the case. Chair Miller explained that the Town has no authority in this matter, and Ed Walker sent Mr. Brooks a DES air quality complaint form should he care to take it up with Environmental Services. Mr. Juengst made a motion to accept Ms. Brenner's request, and all were in favor.

#### **Jeanne Dietsch – Broadband Working Group Update**

Ms. Dietsch presented the EDA's subcommittees: Strategic planning and Enhanced broadband (EB). She explained that EB committee met with four different broadband providers and have planned a community

engagement survey, created a mission statement, and a vision statement. She revealed that most plans de-emphasize the uplink portion of their services. The EB committee want to recognize who the big players are in our economy and suspects that there is a large need in homes, not just businesses. After the survey is completed and the data is tabulated, the EB committee will help EDA to select the plan that will work best. They plan to develop hiring justification for a Director of Economic Development for a two year position to follow up recommendations and to help other industries by cross marketing. She explained in 2018 there will be a Thornton Wilder event, bringing in literary experts worldwide, and the EDA is expecting a community promotion around this event with the anticipation to create economic growth. Mr. Ward asked about the idea to solicit a foreign partner with regard to outsourcing. Peter Throop responded that the process was to understand the incumbents, as well as the need in recognizing the different models, and challenging analysis before recommendation.

Mr. Ward directed a question to Mr. Throop asking if EDA was aware of the Sunnyfield Farm situation. Mr. Throop responded that the EDA has not pursued a discussion about the farm's situation. Mr. Ward expressed his concern about the loss of the only dairy farm in Peterborough.

Cynthia Nichols asked about considerations about green practices with regard to events like the Thornton Wilder event. Ms. Dietsch expressed her and the EDA's support of green initiatives.

**Vote on Proposed Donation of Land – Field and Bross parcels**

Chair Miller expressed the recommendation from the Conservation Commission. Mr. Ward made motion to accept the Field and Bross parcels. Mr. Juengst seconded.

**Boards and Committee Appointment – Megan Roy to the Agricultural Commission**

Chair Miller made motion for Megan Roy to be accepted to Agricultural commission. Mr. Juengst seconded.

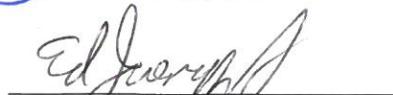
**Review and Approval of the Minutes of September 1, 2015**

Mr. Ward made motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Juengst seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla, Department Assistant

PETERBOROUGH  
SELECT BOARD:

  
Barbara A. Miller, Chair

  
Ed Juengst

  
Tyler Ward

**ACTION ITEM PENDING LIST**

