

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

Present: Barbara Miller, Ed Juengst, Tyler Ward
Roland Patten, Ron McIntyre, Gordon Kemp; Bob Hanson, Donny Parker, Steve Jones, Paul Sullivan, and Ed Henault

Also Present: Rodney Bartlett, Nancie Vaihinger, Nicole MacStay, Elizabeth Marsh, Peter Throop, Scott Guinard, Ed Walker, Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla

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

5:00pm – Public Hearing to consider the installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Union Street easterly, Elm Street, High Street and Main Street

Chair Miller opened the public hearing, and explained that the new stop sign has been in place temporarily to gauge its effect on traffic; the Select Board agreed the stop sign was traffic calming and a safety issue. Leandra McDonald, a resident of High Street, asked about the placement of the stop sign on Main Street. Chief Guinard explained that the stop sign was in place already and assured her that there will not be an additional sign installed.

Motion:

Chair Miller made a motion to accept the installation of the stop sign; Tyler Ward seconded.

Vote:

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

Review and Approval of Minutes of August 4, August 18, October 14, October 28, and November 3, 2015

With regards to the August 18th minutes, Mr. Ward asked to make an amendment to add the words ‘an educational opportunity’ in reference to Prime Alternative Treatment Centers partnering with the local schools, and also in the August 18th minutes, the title should say ‘Riverwalk Park Update’, instead of ‘Rodney Bartlett update’.

Motion:

Mr. Ward made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; Mr. Juengst seconded.

Vote:

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

Discussion of Elementary School Closings

Chair Miller explained that the Select Board advisory committee two years ago took a vote and wanted to support keeping all the elementary schools open. Chair Miller opened this to discussion. Mr. Ward expressed that no one has approached him with this issue, but understood the problems and nuances of local towns not having the elementary school open in their town and the transportation issues involved. Mr. Juengst expressed the issue of cost and the low enrollments in the district. He further stated that the statistics indicate that we don’t need two middle schools and the smaller elementary schools have very low enrollment. He feels something should be done with regard to this issue. Chair Miller expressed the sentiment of bringing some of the older students back to the elementary schools and then explained that 70% of the tax bills subsidizes the

schools. Mr. Juengst expressed support in combining or consolidating the schools. This item was tabled for further discussion.

5:15pm – Public Hearing to Consider Changing the Name of Grove Street Extension to Morison Road

Chair Miller explained that RSA 39-3 can allow a change of name of a street with regard to fire and rescue safety. Chief Walker explained the primary goals of first responders. In 2010 a survey of street names and numbers was conducted by the Department of Safety which revealed potential conflicts or confusion for first responders. One of the areas specifically addressed was the transition from Grove Street as it changes to Morison Road without an intersecting road. He felt with the work being done around the intersection with Jaffrey Road (Route 202), this would be a good time to change the name, and asked for the implementation date to be March 1, 2016. He continued to explain that State 911 and the U.S. Postal Service works together, and that the change would affect thirteen addresses, including five businesses.

Mr. Ward asked Chief Walker who would be financially responsible for updating personalized address posts as seen on Grove Street; Chief Walker responded that the owners of each residence would be personally responsible for their own changes. Chair Miller asked Chief Walker if the street numbers would change and he explained that they would change, starting at the intersection of what would be the new Morison Road and Route 202, which currently is labeled Grove Street.

Chair Miller then opened up this item to the public. Lillian Grant distributed a letter and a map and explained that she spoke to all the businesses on this road and expressed that the business owners expressed that it would be a difficult transition to make the changes for their business. She explained that the name Grove Street is associated with Peterborough, all paperwork and address changes will take a large amount of personal effort to change. The sign is obscured and at the 101/202 intersection there is no sign that says Grove Street. She asked Chief Walker how many homes the fire department has not been able to find; Chief Walker responded that they have had problems with homes that have multiple numbers at one residence, but there are none like that on this stretch of Grove Street. She asked to reconsider changing the name.

Fred Gove at 151 Grove Street elaborated in that he has had at least four address changes and consequently postal delivery frustration in the 43 years of living at this residence. He expressed that there is a lot of work involved in making the paperwork changes to his address if it gets changed. He explained that with current technology and GPS that the leaving it as is should not be a problem.

Nathan Grant explained that for job search issues, changing the address would appear as temporary and unstable, as well as the monumental task and hardship of making this change of address.

Jim Martens of the Bagel Mill expressed that changes to legal documents and advertising would be a large task and asked if the address could be Grove Street Extension, which is what he thought his address was. Chief Walker explained no change to the street name could be made without renumbering the street.

Bob McDonald suggested that we get new signage that is easy to read, and since we are in a digital age and GPS will provide the information for finding the addresses. He expressed that this simple solution of creating signage would solve the problem.

Leandra McDonald asked if the Basket Company had a Grove St address, and offered up that the back entrance into Peterborough Plaza doesn't have a sign to direct people to that entrance.

Ray Cote offered up simple cost benefit analysis and whether or not that is actually a problem here. People who work for the town know where these roads are. The cost for making this change for individuals is high.

Chair Miller explained that we have heard from only one business and five families and suggested that an effort should be made to contact the other property owners who would be subject to the change. Mr. Juengst expressed that the suggestion of better signage might be the solution. Chair Miller asked Chief Walker for his

opinion on new signage and he said it would make it better; Chief Walker replied that he could not recommend any changes that would not agree with the recommendations of the Department of Safety's study. Mr. Ward noted the overwhelming response of the residents affected and said he agrees with Mr. Juengst and sees the burden put on the homeowners and business owners. He agrees that signage would help and expressed that he would vote against the name change. Mr. Juengst agreed with Mr. Ward.

Motion:

Mr. Ward made a motion to not accept the recommendation with the stipulation that we agree to better signage; Mr. Juengst seconded.

Vote:

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

Beth Marsh – Tax Deeding

Ms. Marsh explained that every year the town is required to tax deed properties for past due taxes (3 years). There are 10 properties paying on 2012 property taxes, 6 on payment plans. We are required a deed waiver if we are not going to deed these properties tonight. Of the other four residential homes, one is vacant. Deed date is Dec 17th and she will be back after this date to decide if these properties will be tax deeded. Mr. Juengst asked if there is a way for residents to catch up on their taxes. Ms. Marsh explained that she is trying to create a payment plan for each to help them get caught up. Mr. Juengst asked about interested rates. Ms. Marsh explained that it's 18% once we place the lien on the property and 12% once they are past due up to the point of the lien.

6:00 pm – Joint Select Board and Budget Committee Meeting

Capital Improvements Plan Committee Report

Leslie Lewis, Chair of CIP Committee presented highlights from the CIP, including a Fire Department request for SCBA equipment for 2017; tennis courts which are cracked and unsafe; the load-all for recycling center which had been delayed to 2017; Town House refurbishment and engineering plan since 2018 will be the year of its 100th anniversary and debt related to Pumper #2.

Ms. Lewis asked the Budget Committee and Select Board to recognize that in the future there will be decisions based on new construction and new municipal assets instead of just repair of current assets. Potential long term debt service would include town house rehab, a new library, broadband, a safety facility and a public works facility.

Police

	FY2015-16	FY2016-17	% Inc. or Dec.
Net Operating	\$1,540,407	\$1,668,389	8.3%
Net Capital	\$131,000	\$33,000	-74.8%
To be raised through taxation	\$1,973,911	\$2,011,173	1.9%

Chief Guinard highlighted the most significant lines. Heating increase as they've seen an increase in the use and price of wood pellets and the propane-operated generator they received from the recycling plant uses more propane than the previous small generator. For the Building Maintenance account, three overhead bay doors installed in 1964 are falling apart and need to be replaced. He continued with the Equipment repair and Maintenance line. Their laptop with Windows 95 in their radar trailer is out of date for traffic volume collecting data and needs to be replaced. Dues and Publications is seeing an increase. Some line items have decreased, including gasoline.

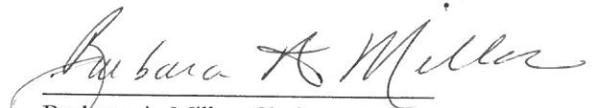
Salary increase is the most significant increase as they are struggling to keep up with day shift calls since call volume is up. Demands for services during the day are increasing, like more visibility in neighborhoods, and

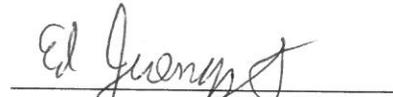
caseloads in between calls. The Police Department has not added any positions in 22 years. They used to share a joint effort with Jaffrey for prosecution, but saw significant increase in cost over time. They have since pulled out of that program, using one of our officers for prosecution. Chief Guinard continued in that they are requesting a new full time officer and four part time officers. Special officers are on an on-call basis.

Chair Miller requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Patten seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla, Department Assistant

PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:


Barbara A. Miller, Chair


Ed Juengst


Tyler Ward