

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

**Wednesday April 20, 2022**

**Special Meeting**

**Town Hall**

**6:30 PM**

**Select Board members present:** George Willard, Bill Ezell, and Ken Caisse

**Other Attendees:** Interested abutters and residents.

Meeting called to order by Ezell at 6:30 PM.

**Chairman Comments:**

*Ezell stated that this meeting was a special meeting to review recommendations from town counsel regarding the ongoing Marsh litigation and to take the appropriate actions. Ezell added that the 3 attorneys involved were in the Annex room trying to reach an agreement and noted we will have to wait until they are finished before proceeding.*

**Public Comments:**

*While waiting for the lawyers, Ezell allowed John Kieley to give an overview of the history surrounding the Marsh case. Kieley briefed the audience with the timeline from 2014 when the Marshes purchased the property on West road, to present day noting that the junk collection started in 2015. Kieley added that the select board issued a cease and desist order in 2016 which was ignored. As time went on, the addition of trailers and other old machinery were added to the property. The Marshes filed for a special exception which was denied by the ZBA. The Marshes re-applied and were denied a second time. Kieley noted that the town filed suit in the 2018-2019 time frame and were eventually told by the court in 2021 to try the mediation process. After delays from COVID, a court date was also scheduled for August 2022. Kieley went on to say that in February of this year, the select board voted to approve a settlement but later rescinded that vote. Kieley indicated there is a long list of issues that need to be included in this document including runoff and water testing, a bond to ensure proper clean up if any contamination, etc. Christine Robidoux suggested that maybe a site walk prior to 2017 would have been beneficial and maybe we can learn something from this experience. It was noted that the select board has not signed any agreement to this point and the document is still in draft form. Additional concerns from the Conversation Commission were discussed including potentially dangerous materials from the equipment on top of the hill washing down the steep slope when it rains, the town Aquifer, etc.*

*At 7:15 the lawyers came into the room and the town attorney recommended that we table the meeting until next week. Ezell moved to table the discussion on the Marsh case until next week's select board meeting on Tuesday at 6:30. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*

- **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:17 PM. Motion by Ezell, second by Willard, all were in favor, motion passed.

**Next Select Board Meeting:** Tuesday April 26, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the town Hall. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Singelais

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