SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday January 11, 2022 Town Hall 6:30 PM

Select Board members present: George Willard, Bill Ezell, and Ken Caisse Other Attendees: Connie Kieley, Dana Nowell, Tim Fiske, Boo Martin, Bill McDonnell, Keith Charlton, Gail Cromwell, Christine Robidoux and Jessica Hipp.

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

Chairman Comment:

• None

Public Comment:

- Connie Kieley asked if the select board will consider requiring mask usage in all public buildings in town through the end of January like Peterborough is doing. The board indicated they were following CDC guidelines.
- Robidoux noted that there are several elected positions up for re-election at the same time and she wondered if they should be staggered.

Old Business:

- Marsh Litigation Update: No new update.
- **Dark Sky Complaint Update:** It was noted that the new owners have moved in and the lights have not been turned on since then.
- <u>Code Enforcement Officer:</u> Ezell commented he is still working on this.
- Parking follow up: No new update.
- Background checks: No new update.

New Business:

• <u>Community Advisory Committee Update:</u> Robidoux reported she is working on a document of the open elected positions for 2022 which she would like reviewed before sending out via e-news. Hipp provided a broadband update noting the bond interest rate is lower than expected. Hipp also added that she has more paperwork for the select board and the treasurer to sign. Hipp added that the Consolidated Communications fiber build is 98% complete and the next phase has begun in many areas noting the project is on schedule. Hipp also presented a warrant article draft document that the CAC committee from being dissolved by the select board noted Hipp. Caisse noted he was not in agreement with the wording

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and Willard suggested moving forward with a petition warrant. Robidoux suggested some wording changes and it was agreed she will present a revised version to the board. Robidoux also reported that the CAC committee had some thoughts on updating the town website.

- <u>Adopt RSA 41:14:</u> Cromwell noted that the town adopted RSA 80:80 in 1995 which allows the town to sell tax-deeded land and she noted that this RSA is the legal basis for selling the lots on Route 45. Cromwell added that the town at present has no authority to buy or sell any other kind of property. The adoption of RSA 41:14-a would allow that to happen and therefore she asked the select board to put this on a warrant article for town meeting vote. Fiske agreed this is a good idea considering they are working on securing other property deals.
- <u>Appoint Brandy Urbon Library Trustee:</u> Ezell motioned to appoint Brandy Urbon as library trustee to replace Rebecca Van Dam thru term ending March 2022. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed. Caisse added that the board would like to thank Rebecca for all the work she has done over the years.
- <u>Town Report Dedication:</u> *Ezell noted that it was suggested that the town include a dedication to Priscilla* Weston in this year's town report. The board agreed and will reach out to Linda Bollinger for input.
- <u>Storage in the Town Hall:</u> Ezell noted that a lot has been cleaned up upstairs but there are still 4-5 cabinets that need to be moved. The board will notify the band that their items need to be moved within 2 weeks. Caisse noted another option would be to get a storage container for storing items which could also be used to store our generators as well. Cromwell added she would not like to store the holiday lighting boxes there.
- <u>Town Meeting School rules</u>: Ezell updated that we will be able to use the Elementary school for town meeting in March and we will have to follow their rules which include a mask requirement, 3 feet spacing and proper cleaning. Caisse motioned to complete the required paperwork to secure the school for our town meeting and to let them do the cleaning as they proposed for \$100. Willard seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.
- <u>Renege Certificate of Occupancy Krapf West Rd.:</u> Ezell noted the certificate was signed and issued in error adding that in 2019 the town health officer notified the resident that their current septic system needed to be updated before the certificate could be issued. Caisse also made a motion that in the future, certificates of occupancy forms should not be mailed out, the residents should come to the office and pick them up. Ezell seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.
- <u>Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes December 28, 2021:</u> *Ezell motioned to accept the minutes from December 28th, 2021 as amended. Caisse seconded, all in favor, motion passed.*

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Other Business: -

- EMD McDonnell reported that Covid cases are going through the roof everywhere right now. McDonnell also noted there are new CDC guidelines and he mentioned it is nearly impossible to get a test right now. McDonnell also noted the CDC is recommending the KN95 masks as being the most effective masks.
- Caisse reminded the board that we need to come up with a fee structure now for non-compliance with town ordinances since changes to the zoning rules are being considered. It was noted that the current zoning ordinance does have a section on enforcement and fines on page 65 that can be added to the new zoning updates.
- A small auto repair home business request by Mark Paluilis on NH RT 45 was discussed. Ezell noted there are state requirements and Caisse added there are other town requirements such as distance from the road, screening from the road, etc. and noted that all the information on the regulations are on our town website. After more discussion, it was recommended that Mr. Paluilis seek advice from the planning board on any next steps.
- An application for change of use received from Boo Martin lots 9-14, 9-15, was discussed. Caisse noted that both he and Willard met with legal about this application and as a result, he moved to deny the request for a change in use application dated November 30, 2021. The use proposed in the application specifically agriculture, is the current use of the property and is permitted. To the extent the application includes commercial uses, specifically using the property for weddings, but also possibly retreats and fundraisers as they have been described in the application, those uses do not constitute agritourism and therefore are not permitted uses under Farm, Agriculture, and Farming in our ordinance. As such, the applicant is required to obtain a special exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment consistent with the Zoning Ordinance. Willard seconded the motion, Ezell recused himself, motion passed. Caisse will have legal send Ms. Martin this decision in writing.
- A request to use the Town hall in February for a "Refuse to be a Victim" presentation, was received from Boo Martin and the Peterborough Women's Club, with the speaker being Ken Caisse. Martin noted there will be no more than 25 people, social distancing, and masks will be required. Ezell motioned to allow up to 25 people to use the town hall for the "Refuse to be a Victim" seminar. Willard seconded the motion, Caisse abstained, motion passed.

Committee Updates:

- **Police** Ezell reported the final budget was set and the town split is now 60/40 up slightly due to updated population figures. Ezell also noted we have a 3 year contract not a 1 year.
- **CIP** Cromwell introduced 3 warrant articles for vote at town meeting. Paving, Highway Vehicle Trust Fund and Computer Upgrades. Caisse asked the select board assistant to send the wording to legal for their input.

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- **Planning Board** Willard updated that the planning board met on Jan 4th to discuss the proposed Zoning amendments noting that the board voted in the affirmative to hold a second hearing to present the amended Floodplain Management Ordinance and the Dark sky Ordinance, on January 18th
- **Town Land Use** *Fiske reported that the TLUC committee recommended 4 possible warrant articles to present at town meeting. The select board assistant will send the wording to legal for their input.*
- <u>Meeting Adjourned:</u> 7:57 PM. Motion by Willard, second by Caisse, all were in favor, motion passed.

<u>Next Select Board Meeting</u>: Tuesday January 25, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the town Hall. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Singelais