

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday May 19, 2021

Via Zoom Call

7:00 PM

Select Board members on the call: George Willard, Bill Ezell, and Ken Caisse

Other Attendees: Connie Kieley, Bill McDonnell, John Kieley, Kristen Stanton, Honey Hastings, Mary Beth Ayvazian, Christine Robidoux, Lincoln Geiger, Vivian Wills, Gary Scholl, Allan Pickman, Camilla Lockwood

Meeting called to order by Caisse at 7:00 PM.

Chairman Ken Caisse Remarks:

- *Caisse reminded participants that the meeting was being held electronically pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, Section 8, Emergency Order #12, Section 3.*

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

- **Lukas Community USDA Grant Hearing:** *Lincoln Geiger spoke about a USDA grant application for the Lukas community which would provide \$33,000 to help offset the cost of new roofs at two buildings on Memorial Highway. Kristen Stanton added that they are a non-profit and need the help. Caisse commented he hopes they get the grant. Ezell motioned to accept the USDA Community Facilities grant application. Willard seconded. Roll call vote was unanimous in favor. John Kieley thanked the select board for their support and added that the Lukas community is an important part of our community. Vivian Wills added that she is employed at Lukas and thinks this is an amazing opportunity and she is glad to have the select boards support. Gary Scholl also commented that he and his wife are close neighbors to the Lukas community and they do interact with the people and they fully support the grant application.*
- **Broadband Update** – *Christine Robidoux reported that the broadband committee had met on May 12th to discuss the CCI contract and make recommendations. She noted that the bond hearing was rescheduled for May 26th at 6:30 via zoom. Also noted was that the SB85 public hearing was on Monday and passed unanimously with amendments and they are still looking at a July 1st effective date for funding. Robidoux answered a few questions from Gary Scholl and Ezell reminded the select board that the May 26th bond hearing is a select board run meeting and two members need to attend.*
- **Marsh Litigation Update:** *Ezell reported that the Select Board met with town council for an update. Ezell stated that the Marsh's are now paying for a hydrological study which will drive the Select board's next move. Ezell also reminded everyone that the court is requiring them to follow through with the mediation process and show they are making a good faith effort. John Kieley commented we are going on 7 years since the Marsh's came to town and built a junkyard and he added that there*

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have been about 20 different actions from the Select board asking the Marsh's to clean up and comply with zoning, DES, and other requests, and nothing has been done. Ezell pointed out that they will not be given a free pass even with the hydrological report and he reiterated that 4 attorneys have advised the select board on the legal process and what they have to do.

- **Update on COVID19 initiatives:** *Bill McDonnell reported that cases in NH have continued to drop and that children 12 and older can now receive the vaccination. He reported that the safer at home guidelines have expired and have been replaced with best practice guidelines. McDonnell noted that it is basically up to the cities, towns and businesses to decide how they want to handle mask requirements and that people who are not vaccinated or who are at risk, should continue to wear a mask. McDonnell added that the emergency order that authorizes towns to use zoom for committee meetings, ends on June 1st and we will wait and see what happens. Caisse asked about town meeting and how we should handle mask usage. McDonnell said the federal guidelines on outdoor events is that fully vaccinated people do not need to wear a mask but we should revisit this in a couple of weeks. Caisse also noted he has secured 100 chairs for town meeting but we may need more noting he could get more from the Monadnock Rod & gun club for a small donation. Ezell motioned to approve the donation and secure the additional chairs. Willard seconded. John Kieley noted that Caisse belongs to this gun club which is a conflict of interest. Connie Kieley added that she believes people will bring their own chairs if we include a note on the forthcoming town meeting notice. Willard agreed and stated he has 20 chairs that can be used as well. All agreed and Ezell withdrew the motion. Ezell also commented that if there are thunderstorms forecasted, we should consider postponing the meeting one day to Sunday.*
- **Discuss Memorial Day Plans:** *Willard noted he can get 6-10 veterans to march at the parade and that there will be a minister and prayer. He added that the band is asking if they can participate and if the town hall will be open for bathroom use. Caisse noted that the fire department can set up the band tent and a concert after the parade would be nice. Connie Kieley asked if this meant that the town buildings are now reopening to everyone and she felt that this would create a huge can of worms and that they should just stay outside. It was noted that a decision to reopen town buildings has not been made and would be discussed later on.*
- **Discuss Town Meeting Plans & Progress:** *The required postings were discussed. The meeting notice will need to be posted at the meeting site on the common by May 28th and at the other usual places, along with reposting the warrant. The actual notice content will be finalized at the next select board meeting.*
- **Town building reopening plans:** *McDonnell commented that he has no issues with opening the buildings and maybe we could do a trial period of wearing masks. He noted that it is possible after June 1st that committee's will not be able to continue using zoom for their meetings. Caisse asked Cam Lockwood if there were any reopening plans for the Library yet. Lockwood stated their next meeting is June 10th and it is on their agenda. Caisse commented he thinks we can definitely open town buildings and trust people to do the right thing and wear a mask inside if they are at risk. It was decided to discuss again at the next select board meeting. Vivian Wills asked regarding recreation commission*

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events, can they get more advice on indoor ventilation and she noted there is no way they can ask people for proof of vaccination. Wills wondered if there are any recommendations on ways to comply with best practices and on how to clean up. McDonnell said all of this information can be found online but did agree to post some guidance. Ayvazian asked if certain boards are not yet comfortable with in person meetings, will zoom still be available. Caisse noted we will wait for the June 1st guidance. It was also noted that maintaining both zoom and in person meetings would create infrastructure issues.

- **Appointment Policy follow up:** Ezell noted he was advised to withdraw this item from this meeting as not all comments from committees have been received on the newest updated version of the policy. Wills asked that a copy of the new version be sent to her. Hastings agreed to send it to her.

New Business:

- **Fire Dept:** Caisse reported that the garage door opener at the firehouse has quit working. He noted that it is a necessary item to open and close the door and that it will cost \$1400-\$1500 to replace. He noted that this will need to be added as an amendment to the budget and he noted that Gary Scholl is maintaining a list of amendments to bring to town meeting. Other current items on this list are adding 4 hours per month for the planning board clerk plus the 2.5% annual merit increase, and adding the 2.5%, merit increase to Betsy Perry's pay rate which was missed.
- **Recreation Update:** Vivian Wills asked if the town hall will be opening and when can the recreation department resume their normal activities with advisement from the EMD. Caisse noted we will discuss reopening at the next meeting. Vivian also asked about the 4th of July and making plans noting they would like to coordinate with the fire department. Caisse noted the FD would be ready to do that, they just need some advance notice to do the shopping. Also, Vivian mentioned that hopefully after June 1st a decision will be made about opening the town hall and using the restrooms for this and any other activity.
- **Conval Seniors Banner & Signage:** Willard motioned to allow the Conval Community group to place signage at the center of town along with a parade for the graduating seniors as long as it does not interfere with our Memorial Day parade. Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.
- **Planning board recordkeeping:** Allan Pickman noted it has been a busy year for the planning board with lots of cases and therefore the planning board is asking for the budget to be amended to increase the planning board clerk's hours from 8 hours per month to 12 hours. Pickman noted that the additional hours are needed to handle paperwork and meetings and asked that the annual merit raise apply to this position as well. Caisse added that the recordkeeping requires someone to go to the office to file case records and it cannot be the board assistant's responsibility to make sure all of the files are in order. Caisse noted he has asked the budget committee to add this request to the list of amendments for town meeting. Ezell agreed it is a good idea for the planning board to do their own record keeping. Caisse motioned to add 4 hours per month to the planning board clerk hours and to add the 2.5% merit increase to her pay rate. Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.

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- **Building Permit Application – McTague (Deck):** *The select board members noted they have seen this application and Ezell motioned to approve the application for the building of a deck. Caisse seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.*
- **Review Jeta Grove Annual Religious Exemption:** *Caisse noted this was the standard annual exemption request from Jeta Grove and the board noted they have seen the application. Caisse motioned to approve the application, Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.*
- **Building Permit Application – SBA Towers:** *The select board has reviewed this application and therefore Caisse motioned to approve this application, Willard seconded. Roll call vote was unanimous in favor.*
- **Approve Tax Collector Tax Warrant:** *The select board reviewed the tax warrant and Ezell motioned to approve the tax collector 2021 warrant. Willard seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.*
- **Approve Meeting Minutes April 27, 2021:** *– Caisse motioned to accept the minutes as amended. Ezell seconded. Roll call vote Caisse yes, Ezell yes, Willard yes.*

Other Business:

- **Discuss the resignation of Connie Rinaldo as a Trustee of the trust fund:** *It was noted that the select board received a resignation letter from Rinaldo for the trustees of the trust fund position. Ezell added that Sherry Fiske had called him and stated that they wanted the replacement to be Phil Lauriet. Ezell moved to accept the resignation of Rinaldo and to appoint Phil Lauriet. Caisse seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor. Ayvazian commented she wanted it noted that the select board accepted the recommendation from the committee board.*
- **Request to use the ballfield – Maggie Heck:** *-Caisse mentioned that Maggie Heck would like to use the town ballfield on May 29th for a barbeque with family and friends to remember Doug Heck who recently passed away. Ezell commented that all outdoor town property is open. Willard moved to allow Maggie Heck to use the ballfield on May 29th. Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.*
- **Town Report** – *Robidoux asked when the town report will be ready. Ezell noted the proof is due back from the printer early next week. The completed copies will be available at the town office, Willards store, and on the town website by early June. Robidoux also asked about the Harvest Festival, Caisse said it will not be held this year and should be back in 2022.*

Committee updates:

None

Meeting Adjourned: 8:55 PM. Motion by Willard, second by Ezell, roll call vote Ezell yes, Willard yes, Caisse yes.

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Next Select Board Meeting: Tuesday May 25, 2021 at 6:30 PM. Remote numbers will be provided in the event we are still handling meetings remotely. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Singelais