

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

**Tuesday March 22, 2022**

**Town Hall**

**6:30 PM**

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

**Other Attendees:** John Kieley, Christine Robidoux, Jessica Hipp, Bill Torphy, George Russell, Alec MacMartin, Richard Redding, Honey Hastings, Dick Benotti & Vivian Wills.

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

**Chairman Comment:**

- *Ezell mentioned that there have been some contentious meetings lately and reminded the audience to keep it civil, no personal attacks, etc.*

**Public Comment:**

- *MacMartin mentioned that as an abutter of the Stepping Stones property, he has sent the board a letter mentioning that Ms. Martin keeps scheduling events even though there was a letter sent from the board asking her to stop booking events beyond 2021. Caisse commented that they have discussed this with legal and there should be another legal letter coming by the next select board meeting. Russell also commented that he too has submitted a letter to the board noting Ms. Martin is not compliant and continues to be in clear violation of the legal letter. Ezell also added that as an abutter, he too has submitted a letter pointing out that the zoning regulations are not being followed with Ms. Martin listing rental property on Airbnb listing 10 bedrooms and taking reservations. Caisse commented that the process is not easy and they are working on it. Willard commented that the ZBA has retained a new municipal attorney and added that there must be a hearing within 45 days of the application date. Ezell confirmed and noted the ZBA was working on possibly having a first meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Russell added that they are asking for Ms. Martin to be compliant with their operations now. Redding also expressed concerns with the non-compliance and asked if the select board and the ZBA were working on the non-compliance issues and the special exception application together. Ezell stated they were working on these items separately.*

**Old Business:**

- **Marsh Litigation Update:** *Ezell noted all the lawyers are talking to each other. John Kieley mentioned the settlement agreement that the abutters were in the process of drafting noting that the document is with the lawyers now. Kieley also noted that they are working on allowing the abutters to have intervention status so they have input in the case. Kieley added the goals are to protect the town, the tax payers and protect our environment. Caisse added that they are working on scheduling a separate public meeting in which only the abutters would have input according to the information the Kieley's gave to the board.*
- **Code Enforcement Officer:** *Ezell noted they still cannot find anyone to take the job.*

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- **Parking/Zoning/Fee structure follow up:** *Ezell updated that this is on hold now that the highway department is not moving any time soon.*
- **Background checks:** *Caisse noted he still needs to get with the Library. Hastings mentioned that Lockwood is no longer a trustee and asked how to move forward. Caisse noted we need to define exactly who is required to have a background check, what type of background check, document retention location, etc.*
- **Auto Repair License follow up – Mark Paluilis:** *No new update*

**New Business:**

- **CAC Committee update:** *After reviewing the final version of the A/V contract, Caisse motioned to accept the proposal from East West and sign at our earliest convenience. Ezell seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed. Robidoux will get a clean copy to the select board. Robidoux also reported that the Charrette has gone through committee reviews and all input has been incorporated into the document.*
- **Town center shared septic system:**  
*Torphy reported that he was asked to provide some preliminary information regarding the old shared septic system in the town center. Torphy noted he has spoken with the highway department and health officer and was working on a quote with an engineering firm. Torphy noted he is still collecting information. Ezell added he recently heard that the septic system should be inspected every 4 years and he is not sure that has been done. The select board will follow up with that. Willard made a motion to allow Torphy to continue researching and getting estimates. Caisse seconded, all were in favor, motion passed. It was also noted that the church has agreed to continue with splitting the cost 50/50.*
- **Rec Commission update:** *Wills reported the Rec commission was working on creating a sample letter of agreement they can use with event/program leaders or organizers that we sponsor. Wills asked the board to review the sample agreement and asked for additional input and advice. Wills also updated that she has a potential new member for the Rec committee that will be on the next agenda for appointment.*
- **Appoint Cam Lockwood Library Trustee (Alternate) 1 Yr. term:** *Caisse motioned to appoint Cam Lockwood as Library trustee alternate for a 1 year term. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*
- **Appoint James Stein as a full time ZBA member 3 Yr. term.** – *Willard moved to appoint James Stein as a full time ZBA member for a 3 year term. Caisse seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*
- **Appoint CAC members (Keith Charlton, Jessica Hipp, Bill Torphy, Gail Cromwell, Dana Nowell, Christine Robidoux, Vivian Wills & Brandy Urbon):** *Caisse motioned to appoint Keith Charlton, Jessica Hipp and Dana Nowell to the CAC committee for 3 year terms. Willard seconded, all were in favor, motion passed. Willard motioned to appoint Christine Robidoux, Bill Torphy and Vivian Wills to the CAC committee for 2 year terms. Caisse seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed. Caisse motioned to appoint*

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*Brandy Urbon to the CAC committee for a one year term. Ezell seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed. Ezell motioned to appoint Gail Cromwell to the CAC committee for a one year term. There was no second. Motion was denied.*

- **Vote to sell lot 2A-53 to the state for \$1:** *Ezell moved to sell lot 2A-53 to the state for a sum of \$1. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*
- **Review & Approve 2 LUCT tax bills and warrants – Jeta Grove:** *The board reviewed and approved.*
- **Review & Approve Solar Application – Jeta Grove:** *The board reviewed and approved.*
- **Approve Letter to the Trustees – Sanford surveying (article #9):** *The board reviewed and signed the letter.*
- **Review & Approve Electricity contract from Standard Power:** *The board reviewed the contract and signed.*
- **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes March 9, 2022 –** *Ezell moved to remove the attached statement from Caisse. There was no second, motion failed. Willard motioned to accept the minutes from March 9th, 2022 as amended. Caisse seconded, all in favor, motion passed.*

**Other Business: -**

- *Hipp reported that the broadband is still moving forward and is still on track for the first section to be turned on by the end of March or in early April. Hipp also provided a school update as follows:*
  - 1.) *There is a new charter school in Peterborough opening K-5 in the fall with 156 students. At least 5 current Temple Elementary students are attending which brings TES enrollment for next year down to 35-40 students.*
  - 2.) *The cost to educate a student in Temple is \$21,000 vs. \$15,500 in Peterborough.*
  - 3.) *Closing TES would save the DISTRICT about \$300K annually. Temple contributes 6.8% of the district budget which means if TES closes, we would only receive 6.8% of the total saving which amounts to \$21K TOTAL for Temple taxpayers.*
  - 4.) *Conval's total budget is \$53.8 million.*
  - 5.) *A lot of the research about "consolidation" is at the district level, not as much has been studied about towns consolidating into a nearby central school.*
  - 6.) *Quality of education was also addressed.*

*Key takeaways were that there is no financial case for closing TES at the district level, and definitely not for Temple taxpayers and there is a significant concern about the quality of public education.*

*Next steps are to gather community feedback about the quality of education with survey's and having forums.*

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- *Ezell reported that there is a letter coming from a new law firm the town will be using for ZBA cases. He will sign it when it comes.*
- *The board discussed a building permit application from James Medeiros to build a home on North Road. Since there is only 66 feet of frontage, the board needs to determine what needs to be done since there were 2 previous permits approved. It may be that the property was pre zoning laws and may be grandfathered. Caisse will investigate further.*
- *Dick Benotti asked about reprogramming the heat at the town hall as was done before COVID. The board agreed to determine a schedule for Benotti so he can move forward.*
- *Caisse commented that the Smokey the Bear sign which displays the day by day fire danger, needs to be installed somewhere in town.*
- *Caisse reported that the fire department has received the new hand held radios. These were a result of a grant that only cost the town 3K.*

**Committee Updates:** - None

- **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:50 PM. Motion by Willard, second by Ezell, all were in favor, motion passed.

**Next Select Board Meeting:** Tuesday April 12, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the town Hall. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Singelais