

Boscawen Selectman's Regular Session
Final Meeting Minutes • May 13, 2015
Approved May 20, 2015

Present: Craig Saltmarsh, Roger Sanborn, Bernie Davis, Nicole Hoyt, Alan Hardy, Pam Hardy, Michelle Brochu, Karen Mackenzie, Dean Hollins, Ray Fisher, Roy Gerstenberger and Leslie Palmer

Chairman Saltmarsh opened the meeting at 4:35 PM.

The Board reviewed and accepted the bid received for the 7 Merrill Corner Rd. property.

Board Action: Selectman Sanborn moved to accept the only bid received in the sale of 7 Merrill Corner Rd. in the amount of \$37,000. Selectman Davis seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.

Approval of Minutes: May 6, 2015 Public Session:

Board Action: Selectman Sanborn moved to approve the May 6th public minutes as written. Selectman Davis seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.

Public Works Director Dean Hollins reported that work continues on the swales on Forest Lane and that loaming will start on Monday, May 18th. A walkthrough with the engineers and a representative from Lyman Construction took place this week to review the work to be completed prior to the top coat application which is expected to be done in about three weeks. Director Hollins continues to field questions from residents regarding the locations of basins throughout the neighborhood. Hydro-seeding will take place soon; one resident requested their area to be hand-seeded instead.

Parts have been replaced and the glass crusher is now operable. Maintenance continues on the cardboard baler; a roll-off container will be used until the repairs are complete.

Loam will be spread around the gazebo at the Town Municipal Complex and a stone-dust walkway will be created.

Action Item: Selectman Sanborn will spread grass seed at 17 High St, the location of the old Town Office.

Fire Warden Ray Fisher reported that there have been several out of town forest fires in the last week. He also reported that the military truck owned by the Fire Department is operational again. He noted that he again saw a Boscawen school bus dropping off children at two stops where the children were picked up by adults and driven away. Although there might be a legitimate explanation, he thought it looked suspicious. Chairman Saltmarsh indicated that the school will be made aware of the situation.

Town Accountant Pam Hardy reported that she and Co-Administrators Alan Hardy and Nicole Hoyt attended the 2015 New Hampshire Government Finance Officers Association Annual Conference on May 7th and 8th and received valuable information in the areas of government finance and accounting.

The Board approved increasing the mileage reimbursement rate to the 2015 federal rate of 57.5 cents per mile.

Board Action: Chairman Saltmarsh moved to approve increasing the mileage reimbursement to the 2015 federal rate of 57.5 cents per mile. Selectman Sanborn seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion was approved.

Planning and Community Development Assistant Kellee Easler presented several exemption requests for Board review and signature. Community Bridges requested a Charitable Exemption; Avitar recommended approval and the Board concurred. Avaloch Music Institute requested a Charitable Exemption; Avitar recommended approval with the exception of 16.9 acres of property in current use and the Board concurred. Boscawen Congregational Church requested a Religious Exemption on all of their properties. Avitar agreed that the Church and the Food Pantry qualifies for the exemption and the Board concurred. However, it is the opinion of Avitar that the parsonage and the Church field do not, with the exception of the barn located on the parsonage lot. Avitar recommended taking \$30,000 off the assessment of the parsonage and the field due to the Reverter Clause in effect; the Board concurred.

Cold Brook Gravel is requesting that 11.75 acres with a value of \$93,500 be taken out of current use. 10% or \$9,350 will be paid to Conservation Commission as a result. The Board approved the request. Co-Administrator Hardy reported that the Planning Board extended the company's 2009 permit the previous evening. He also brought forward a request from Cold Brook to blast outside of the area designated in the 2009 permit. Following discussion, the Board denied the request.

Town Clerk Michelle Brochu brought forward a resident request for a motor vehicle refund. The resident accidentally registered two vehicles in November that he intended to sell. The State of NH issued a refund for their portion and noted that in these cases, Towns usually follow suit. Following discussion with the Board, Selectmen approved refunding the Town portion less the Town Clerk Fees. Town Clerk Brochu also reported that the new Town website is up and running and that the Town's Facebook page is now called referred to as the "Official Site" for the Town of Boscawen to avoid confusion with a Boscawen Community page maintained by residents.

Roy Gerstenberger, Executive Director of Community Bridges, met with the Board to discuss entering into a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) Agreement with the Town. Selectman Sanborn recommended an agreement in which Community Bridges would pay taxes related to

Town Services only, the school portion would be exempt. Co-Administrator Hardy will create a draft and a bill will be submitted. The Board thanked the Executive Director Gerstenberger for the valuable work being done at the facility. The Director noted that the facility opened on time, has become a model program with a stable staff and provides much needed services in NH. The program has the continued support of the NH Department of Health and Human Services and funding has been preserved in the State budget.

Co-Administrator Hoyt reminded department heads that she is waiting for their portion of the minutes from April 22nd.

Co-Administrator Hardy reported that the Public Works department will soon begin work on the new porch on Dorval House, to be completed prior the Summer Parks and Recreation Program.

Sign-ups for the Summer Parks and Recreation Program began on Monday, May 11th at the Town Office. To date, 39 children have been registered.

Co-Administrator Hoyt presented four deeds for deeded property for Board signature. She will prepare the Warrant for the first 2015 property tax bill to be signed by Selectmen at next week's meeting.

Co-Administrator Hoyt discussed with the Board information she received at this week's Town Clerk Workshop regarding the Voter Photo ID bill currently in the legislature. If it passes, towns will be required to take pictures of voters who do not bring their ID to the polls. Also, in 2016, tablets will be used instead of phones for those residents requiring assistance at the polls. Internet access will be needed in the future at the Town Hall as a result.

Discussion took place regarding the former police station. The Board reiterated that they would like to keep the building for Fire Department training exercises. The Town continues to receive water bills at this location related to fire protection.

Being no further new business, Chairman Saltmarsh asked for public comment. Gail Egounis asked the Board if they had received her email requesting 1st quarter budget figures. Selectmen have not seen it; she will resend the email. Co-Administrator Hardy noted that the Town will begin posting quarterly budget information on the new Town website very soon.

Discussion took place regarding the soon to be vacant Administrative Assistant/Human Services position. Leslie Palmer will continue to serve as the recording secretary for Board of Selectmen meetings as well as continue as the Human Services Director on an as needed basis during the transition period.

At 6:00 PM, Selectman Sanborn moved to adjourn, seconded by Chairman Saltmarsh. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Leslie M. Palmer