



MINUTES
Selectboard Meeting
Monday, July 25, 2016 Town Meeting Room 6:00
PM

Selectmen: Ed Thorson, Russell Smith

Town Personnel: Dennis Pavlicek, Town Administrator; Meg Whittemore, Recording Secretary; Katheryn Holmes, Conservation Commission; Nancy Marashio, Moderator; Henry Thomas, Fire Chief.

Public:

1 Summer Informational Meeting

a) @ Center Meeting House

Nancy Marashio moderated and noted that this meeting was not an official Town Meeting, but rather an advisory meeting designed to give part-time residents of Newbury an opportunity to hear from Town departments regarding activities, etc. She noted that the meeting was being recorded.

Ms. Marashio introduced Ed Thorson, Selectboard chair, Russ Smith, Selectboard member, and Dennis Pavlicek, Town Administrator. Ms. Marashio reviewed meeting procedure.

Norm Bernaiche, Tri-town Assessor, thanked his staff and noted that this is a year for revaluation. He explained the details of what goes into a revaluation and how properties are assessed. He noted that the revaluation will indicate some areas that have gone up in value and some areas that have decreased in value. He encouraged all property owners to review their property card and ask questions if needed.

Questions included:

Q-Will only Newbury comps be used?

A-Data that goes back two years will be used and data that is outside of the community will be used also.

Q-Who does the data updating?

A-An independent contractor, Mr. Bernaiche and Kris McAllister, assessor. Data gathering is done in the summer.

Q-Are there discounts for seasonal homes?

A-No.

Deb Prussman, Finance Director, said she has been with the town for 18 years. She encouraged residents to review the town audit which is included in the annual Town Report. She described the parameters of the audit and added that a close eye is kept on the town budget and cash flow.

Bruce Healey, Planning Board chair, said that the Board has reviewed two subdivisions and one lot line adjustment this year. He added that The Fells recently came before the Board with proposed drainage improvements for the Lake Shore Cottage. He added that the biggest project this year is the update to the Newbury Master Plan 2017. He noted that the update is a community effort and encouraged everyone to participate in the upcoming public sessions/surveys/questionnaires. He noted that 250 recent surveys were returned and invited all to the upcoming public forum at the Town Office on August 27 at 9:00 a.m.

Questions included:

Q-Are the survey responses online?

A-Summary of the responses are available online.

Q-How did the town measure up against the goals of the last Master Plan?

A-About 50% of the goals were achieved.

Q-Will the Plan include a feasibility study for a town wide water/sewer system?

A-No. Mr. Pavlicek said it is worth exploring but it requires state funding which is not available at this time. Federal funding may be an option in the future.

Peter Fichter, Zoning Board of Adjustment chair, said the ZBA is a quasi-judicial board that adjudicates request for bending the town ordinances. Appeals take the form of a Variance, a Special Exception, or an Appeal of Administrative Decision. He noted that all applications and forms are available online.

Robert Lee, Police Chief, said this year is progressing well and described a high success rate in crime solving. There were no issues surrounding Old Home Day and the number of vehicular accidents is low.

Questions included:

Q-The gate at the State Beach is not closed at night and there has been mischief after hours.

A-police regularly patrol that area but the gate security is the state's responsibility.

Henry Thomas, Fire Chief, said the number of calls this year to date is 143, which is in line with other years at this point. He said the New London Ambulance Service has added another ambulance which is housed in Sunapee, noting that this provides better coverage for Newbury. He said all personnel are fully trained and continually update their training each year. He reviewed the "See Something Say Something" campaign and urged all who call in to remain on the line so the dispatcher and/or responder can ask questions to determine who/what should be sent out to the caller's location. He said his department has also received training in the handling of a potential "active shooter" situation.

Questions included:

Q-Cell phone service is iffy. Any suggestions for improvement?

A-There is a cell phone tower in Bradford that may help and there is a "booster" available for home service that does help.

Q-Does the "911" call go to the local Newbury dispatcher?

A-It goes to Concord or Laconia and they send it to New London.

Chief Lee reminded people that there are two locations for disposing of unused medications: Colonial Pharmacy in New London Shopping Center, and the New London Police Department.

Dave Smith, Forest Fire Warden, asked people to be careful with any outside burning. He added that more acreage has been burned this year than in the past 20 years combine. He said 160 to 170 seasonal are issued annually in Newbury which means a lot of camp fires. He added that this is a high number of permits for a town this size. He encourage people to participate in the "See Something Say Something" campaign.

Questions included:

Q-is a permit needed for an outdoor grill.

A-No, and outdoor charcoal grill does not need a permit.

John Greenwood, Code Enforcement Officer, said 67 building permits have been issued in Newbury this year, for both renovations and new construction around the lake. He encouraged folks to meet with him during the planning stages of their renovation/building projects so all aspects of the plans may be reviewed and guided so all town/state regulations are met.

Wayne Whitford, Emergency Management and Health Officer, said the state

beach was closed one time for bacteria presence. He noted that the Zika virus is being monitored and that there have been no cases reported in NH. He added that his department remains proactive in all public health concerns that may affect Newbury.

Questions included:

Q-What caused the bacteria at the state beach?

A-The large number of birds around the area.

Cal Prussman, Highway Administrator, reported that the past mild winter allowed the town to save money on snow removal. He said upcoming projects include the reclaiming and paving of Mountain Road this year and next year. After Labor Day, two outstanding projects in Blodgetts Landing will be completed.

Questions included:

Q-When limbs and branches fall in Blodgetts at Pine & Lake Street, whom should we call for removal?

A-If it is a travel safety issue, then the town is responsible for removal. Call dispatch at 526-2626.

Mary Ellen Wright, Transfer Station, said she and Churchill thank the residents of Newbury for another good year in terms of recycling. They ask that people using the transfer station please move their cars once their deposits are made.

Questions included:

Q-Are there any plans for single stream recycling?

A-Not at this time.

Q-How do we tell which plastic goes where?

A-On the bottom of the plastic container there is a number that matches the number on the bins for recycling.

Travis Dezotell, Recreation Director, said it has been a busy summer. Ecocamp at The Fells co-sponsored by LSPA, features new educational content this year. He noted that the recent Streamside Safari, the streams were the driest this year ever. Swim lessons at the town dock are well attended and the Rec Department has a new Facebook page. Soccer Camp gets underway this fall and more senior trips will be announced following the summer activities.

Lynne Tuohy, Library, said the library has 2,036 regular patrons and the number of checkouts are up this year by 10% over last year. The library has 17,000 books, audiotapes and movies. She asked for the public's input on how

the library might serve the public needs better. She said the goal of the library is to expand its current square footage.

Katheryn Holmes, Conservation Commission chair, reported that a new shoreland tree cutting application is available online. The application restricts the lollypopping of trees. She noted the importance of preserving trees along the shoreline especially since trees naturally absorb phosphorus, a contaminant of emerging concern in the lake. She said the NCC works closely with the NH Forest Society, Ausbon Sargent, the NH DES, and the Newbury Code Enforcement Officer.

Questions included:

Q-How do you police tree cutting violations around the lake?

A-The goal is to educate the property owner regarding compliance so follow-up policing isn't necessary.

Q-What is the status on Wild Goose?

A-Mr. Pavlicek said it is in the NH Fish & Game's budget in the State Capital for next year (beginning in July 2017). The state legislature will have to vote on whether that proposed Fish & Game budget passes.

Tim Mulder, Blodgett Sewer, reported that no nitrate levels have been reported following the major upgrade that was completed in 2011. He said everything is running great.

Ed Thorson, Selectboard chair, said the new AV equipment in the town office meeting room is proving to be well used.

Dennis Pavlicek, Town Administrator, said even though Newbury is a small town, it is gratifying to see that all department heads have come to this meeting. He noted that **Linda Plunkett**, Town Clerk, was unable to attend because she is working at town office this evening. He noted that all town departments strive to work together harmoniously to better serve the residents of Newbury. He said he believes that after the revaluation is finished, the property tax rate will very likely drop by \$.02 and there may be a \$.20 drop in the county tax rate. Translated, that means a \$20.00 reduction in property taxes for a \$100,000 home.

Questions included:

Q-What is the tax rate in Newbury?

A-A total of \$16.28 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Q-The first and second phase of the dock repair in Blodgetts Landing has been completed and is great. However, Phase three of the repair has pulled away. Can it be fixed?

A-It can be repaired in the fall.

Patricia Sherman, Bald Sunapee Safety Services Building, reported on the committee's

Work. She said the Police Department and Fire Department site plans and schematics were developed and presented to the Selectboard. The estimated budget was \$4 million - \$2.7 million for the Fire Department building and \$1.26 million for the Police Department building. The item was voted down at this year's Town Meeting. She said that at this time there appears to be no proposal to bring the item back for consideration at Town Meeting in 2017. She said the committee hopes that one of these building will be approved in the future since the Fire Department is in dire need.

Questions included:

Q-Are there any major capital expenditure projects planned within the next 4 to 5 years?

A-Mr. Thorson said no.

Tanya McIntyre expressed her deep appreciation for the dedication of the town departments and all employees.

Ms. Marashio asked for comments from the audience regarding suggestions for improving the Summer Informational Meeting for next year.

Suggestions included:

-That the Center Meeting House not be used for the meeting. Mr. Pavlicek said a different venue will be used.

-That all those presenting stand in front of the room when presenting so the audience can both see and hear them more easily.

There being no further questions or discussion, Ms. Marashio adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Whittemore
Recording Secretary

2 Public Input
None

3 Presentations/Appointments

a) Marlene Graf - Willow Pond Inc.

Mr. Pavlicek noted that the town buys 2,000 yards of sand from the Willow Pond Gravel & Sand business and pays for the product after January 1st each year. Willow Pond is selling the business and Marlene Graf contacted Mr. Pavlicek regarding the development of a one-time agreement between the Town and Ms. Graf that allows for the town to obtain and stockpile the 2,000 yards of sand on land owned by the Town now and pay Ms. Graf after January 1, 2017, regardless of who owns the Willow Pond Gravel & Sand at that point.

Mr. Thorson made a motion to allow the Town Administrator to sign aforementioned agreement between Marlene Graf/Willow Pond Gravel & Sand and the Town of Newbury. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All in favor.

4 Regular Business

a) Eversource Energy

Mr. Pavlicek informed the Selectboard that Eversource has petitioned the town to install two new poles on Village Road. After discussion, the Selectboard consented to the installation of the two new poles.

41. Correspondence

41.1. Inspectors of Election

Inspectors of Election Appointments: Nancy Marashio cited RSA 658:2 regarding the need to have all inspectors of Election Appointments completed by July 15, 2016. She requested that the Selectboard appoint the remaining open positions so the town will meet the requirements of the RSA. She noted that this year will be a busy year for elections.

The Selectboard signed the appointments of three Inspectors of Election as follows: Laurie Seaholm, Claire Thomas, and Doris Newell.

41.2. Monkey Boat

Karl Salathe met with the Selectboard regarding his request to use the town dock for his Monkey Boat enterprise on an as-needed basis, depending on the level of customer demand. The Monkey Boat is a family owned and operated 21-foot pontoon

boat that is fully licensed to serve ice cream at various locations on Lake Sunapee. Mr. Salathe said he currently serves customers at the northern end of the lake and has gotten a lot of requests from people to service the southern end of the lake, namely at the Newbury town dock. Mr. Salathe said that he researched the laws governing dock usage and noted that he must be invited by the dock owners before using said dock.

Mr. Pavlicek said there are not town regulations that he is aware of regarding lake usage but the town reserves the right to grant or deny usage of its town dock.

Mr. Salathe said a portion of the Monkey Boat proceeds are donated to his family's church and said the boat is launched at Georges Mills. There was discussion about potential competition with Bubba's and the existing ice cream business at the harbor. Mr. Smith suggested giving the Monkey Boat a trial period to see if the competition concern is a problem. Mr. Thorson agreed, and Mr. Pavlicek said the town will contact Mr. Salathe if a problem arises.

Mr. Smith made a motion to grant Mr. Salathe/Monkey Boat a 30-day temporary trial permit for using the Newbury Town Dock for a 30-minute period of time as long as there is docking space available. Mr. Thorson seconded the motion. All in favor.

41.3. Harmon Law Offices, P.C.

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale.

41.4. CIP

Mr. Pavlicek noted that Ken McWilliams, land use advisor, sent a hard copy of the CIP data information and that an electronic version of same has been requested.

41.5. Chief Henry Thomas

Mr. Thomas reported that a statewide equestrian group has plans to conduct its annual trail ride in South Newbury and Bradford. He said about 80 horses will be ridden along the old RR bed along with other trails that are currently being marked by Marty Newell and Chris Webb. Mr. Thomas added that trail routes will not include Route 103. However, the brook that is usually used for watering the horses has dried up this year. Mr. Thomas

suggested that the town allow the group to draw water from the Sutton Road Bridge brook and use it for the horse troughs in the Webb field. The Selectboard noted that they see no problem with that arrangement. Mr. Thomas said he'll let Mr. Newell and Mr. Webb know and Ellie Plunkett as well.

The Selectboard reviewed and signed payment authorization for a NH Homeland Security Hazmat Refresher course that Mr. Thomas attended that was held at the Fire Academy.

Mr. Thomas noted that all details for the upcoming fireworks on July 30 are in place.

42. Approve Payroll/Payables

42.1. July 23, 2016 Payroll and Payables

July 23, 2016 Payroll and Payables were reviewed and approved by the Selectboard.

43. Acceptance of Minutes

43.1. July 11, 2016 Selectboard Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2016 Selectboard Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved by the Selectboard.

44. Other Business

44.1. Purchase Order

The Selectboard reviewed and approved a Purchase Order for a Roadside Mower at a cost of \$6,400 for the Highway department.

44.2. Request for Abatement

John & Sharon Rogers

44.3. Tax Deeding

Mr. Pavlicek said he is working with the Town Clerk regarding three lots: (1) a lot on Chalk Pond, less than two acres, no house, valued at \$40,800, the owners live in Florida, will work with the NCC to see if it is of conservation value to the town; (2) Nelson Hill Road, 1.85 acres in current use, no lien holder, trying to contact the owner but without luck, \$99.46 in property taxes; (3) lot next to Grange Hall in South Newbury, over five acres, suggest keeping it for potential use.

Mr. Thorson suggested to wait and see if property owners contact the town. Mr. Pavlicek suggested that further discussion be suspended for six months. The Selectboard agreed

44.4. Deeds

The Selectboard signed the following Quitclaim Deeds: Lara Artemis Pappas & John Blake Anderson; and William P. Annable.

44.5. Intents to Cut

Katheryn Holmes met with the Selectboard to review and discuss outstanding Intents to Cut applications on Bay Point Road. Ms. Holmes noted that the Michie property has another Intent to Cut application and raised concerns because it is a ridgeline cut. Mr. Pavlicek said Mr. Michie was notified that he had to re-submit a new Intent to Cut because the one from last year has expired. Ms. Holmes noted that the Selectboard should get involved in this latest application because it will have a significant impact on High Point Road. She added that the applicant would have to get a Variance if the Selectboard denies the Intent to Cut. Discussion followed.

Mr. Smith recommended that the latest Intent to Cut application be reviewed by the NCC, written comments submitted to the Selectboard from the NCC, and allow the Selectboard to consider it further. Mr. Thorson agreed.

Ms. Holmes requested that the Selectboard consider developing a procedure for restoration plans of property with dates for various aspects of the property restoration.

6 Adjournment

a)

Mr. Thorson made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Smith seconded the motion.

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Ed Thorson, Selectboard Chair

Russell Smith, Selectboard

Joy Nowell, Selectboard