

MINUTES OF THE JULY 8, 2024 SELECT BOARD MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Board Members Vice Chair Allison Knab; Joe Anderson. Absent Chair Mike Houghton

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator David Moore, Finance Administrator Christiane McAllister, Director of Planning and Community Development Mark Connors, Planning Assistant Susan Connors, Director of Public Works Tim Stevens.

Ms. Knab asked for a motion on the minutes. Mr. Anderson motioned to approve the Select Board minutes from June 17, 2024 as written. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Ms. Knab moved to the third and final reading of the Illicit Discharge and Detection Ordinance. Mr. Connors reminded them that Town Counsel recommends this proposed ordinance be considered for a vote at Town Meeting. Mr. Anderson moved to adopt third and final reading of the Illicit Discharge and Detection Ordinance. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Ms. Knab moved to the Public Hearing on the grant acceptance. Mr. Moore explained why a Public Hearing was necessary for this grant and not the previous one. Ms. Knab motioned to open the Public Hearing on PFAS Alternatives Phase II grant acceptance. Mr. Anderson seconded. Ms. Knab asked for public comments or questions. Upon hearing none, Mr. Anderson motioned to close the public hearing. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Mr. Anderson motioned to accept funds from the Water Division Drinking Water Ground Water Bureau American Rescue Plan Act for Drinking Water Sustainability Grant Program in the amount of \$50,000 for Phase II study of PFAS alternatives. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Knab moved to the Bunker Hill Development street name report. Discussion ensued regarding the name. Consideration was given to historical significance and landmarks. Ms. Knab motioned support for the name Tilton Drive for the development on the former Lanzillo property at 189 Bunker Hill Avenue contingent upon further input from emergency response, Town and State officials by July 15, 2024. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. All voted in favor. A new road naming policy was proposed. Mr. Anderson asked about private roads. Before moving forward, input from State and Local officials regarding the policy will be sought. Ms. Knab was in agreement with State recommendations to avoid naming roads after people.

Ms. Knab moved to the Treat Farm acceptance and bond release. Mr. Connors reviewed the outstanding issues, most of which have been marked as complete but have not been verified. There was concern regarding the as-builts for storm water facilities as compared to the design plans and the DES wetland permit. Ms. Connors asked for clarification in the storm water manual saying grass should be no higher than 4 feet. They confirmed the grass be kept to no higher than 4 inches.

Ms. Knab asked for comments. Ms. Connors, 3 Treat Farm Rd, noted the silt fencing has not been removed.

Ms. Knab recognized Wayne Morrill, President of Jones & Beach Engineers. Mr. Morrill said that final plans were done in April 2020 at NHDES. Some comments were addressed by DES on the final plans. The previous DPW Director used the final plans as part of his review of the drainage that was installed. He replied to Ms. Connors concerns saying that the silt fence will come out and the rest is a silt sock which is biodegradable. Mr. Morrill confirmed the permit for the trails was filed with the state. State criteria were met. He described in detail. A permit by notification has been filed.

Noting there were still outstanding items, Ms. Knab motioned to postpone the Public Hearing of the Treat Farm Road acceptance and release to the July 22, 2024 Select Board meeting. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Ms. Knab directed attention to the request from the Heritage Commission for the Select Board, as property owners, to support placing the Gifford-Brown Farm on the State's Historic Register. Mr. Moore explained that because it is a state register sign, we have little control over the design. It will likely be attached to the house. Ms. Knab thanked the Heritage Commission for their industrious work. Mr. Anderson motioned to accept the listing of the Brown-Gifford Farm on the state register of historic places and approval of the sign to be erected on the building. Mr. Moore said he would confer with Mr. Merrill concerning the sign details and options. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

At 7:35 pm Ms. Knab motioned to go into a non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (b) to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

At 7:55 pm they came out of the non-public session. Mr. Anderson motioned to seal the minutes noting that failure to do so may render the proposed action ineffective. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Ms. Knab asked for comments on Informational items. Hearing none, she moved on to the Town Administrator's report. Mr. Moore reported on the website update project. Next he spoke about the flags in Town Center saying he hopes to replace them next year. Maintenance / repair / restoration of Stratham Circle Fire Pond will begin this week. We have an easement for this activity and have notified the owners.

At the June 17th Select Board meeting, Mr. Moore brought forth a request from Jane Dyer to create a field of flags for Veterans Day. Mr. Moore reached out to various Town committees. None objected; they supported the project. Ms. Knab recalled hearing that the Fire Auxiliary would be involved, but Mr. Moore has not had a chance to confirm. Ms. Knab motioned to authorize the Town Administrator to work with Town staff to work with the Daughters of the American Revolution on the field of flags project for 2024. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Mr. Moore is in touch with Mikki Deschaine, Trustees of the Trust Funds, regarding the vacant position on that committee. We have three applicants. The Trustees would like to have an appointee by their meeting on August 12th.

Katie McNamara starts tomorrow in the Finance office.

Ms. Knab informed them that the Recreation Commission is working on an update to its policies and procedures as well as sports boards' policies and procedures. She advised that she does not feel the Select Board needed to be involved in the appointments for the sports boards.

Mr. Moore said that Ms. Knab observed that the Select Board has recently authorized a lot of capital projects. She requested a summary of the status of capital improvement projects and their funding source. He's working on it.

The revaluation update letter to Stratham property owners is going out tomorrow. The video will be on the website.

The Ross property closing is being finalized. The check is with the attorney and the closing should be in next week or so. Ms. Knab said that acquiring the property is quite an accomplishment.

Ms. McAllister asked for clarification on the Treat Farm vote. Mr. Moore said no vote was taken.

RESERVATIONS

Ms. Knab moved to the request from Mr. Cooper to use the Morgera Room. She noted the Morgera Room policy doesn't allow for profit entities to use the room. She also recalled issues with overuse of the room and did not want to contribute to that. For these reasons, Ms. Knab did not support this request. Mr. Anderson agreed with Ms. Knab. The Board declined to approve.

APPOINTMENT

Ms. Knab noted Gayle Lyon, current Wiggin Memorial Library Board of Trustee alternate has been nominated by the Library Trustees to serve as a full member for the position left vacant by Ms. Ludington's resignation. Mr. Anderson motioned to appoint Gayle Lyon to fill the Library Trustee until the next Town Election per state law. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

At 8:21 pm Mr. Anderson motioned to adjourn. Ms. Knab seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Richard, Recording Secretary