

**Minutes of the
Board of Selectmen Meeting**
Wednesday
June 8, 2016

Board members present: Chairman, Roberta Frazer, Jack Marsh and Ben Kilanski. Also present the Water/WW Superintendent Rick Meleski and Highway Superintendent Dale Gray. Absent: Herb Stephens

First order of business: Open meeting

The Chairman opens the meeting at 7:02pm.

Second order of business: Business and minutes

The board reviews the minutes of 6-1-16 for approval. Selectmen Kilanski *makes a motion* to approve, Selectman Marsh seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Frazer reads the public hearing notice for the community development block grant. Roberta made a motion to call the public hearing to order. Selectman Kilanski so moved, Selectman Marsh seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

Rebeckah Bullock, Community Development Specialist from Southwest Region Planning Commission is the town's grant administrator for the Jones Road project. The public hearing is a requirement of this grant. We are required to allow the public to hear information, ask questions and commit on this study. Rebeckah tells everyone that the study has gone smoothly. It's due to closeout this December 2016. We will be processing the final payment to Holden shortly. There really is no more administration activities left for the grant. Lastly was holding this public hearing. If there is any question on the block grant I can answer them now. Selectman Frazer asks the board if they have any question. No question at this time.

Rick Meleski recommends that the Town could lower the cost by providing the sand & gravel, meter pit's, hydrants and having the town do some of the labor. Selectman Frazer states once we are rewarded the project is when we would make some changes.

Selectman Williams asks if the Town owns Jones Road. Selectman Frazer we will have to look at a deed to see. But stated we have been maintaining it for at least 28 years. Selectman William asked to have it run by the Attorney. If the town doesn't take the road over by the time the project starts the land owners would have to sign an easement. We could put it on the ballot or have a public hearing. Selectman Frazer states we should just take the road over because it's been 30 years of the town maintain it.

Doug from Holden Engineering & Surveying to speak about the feasibility study information for Jones Road project. The current water main is privately owned. The past few years it there has been issues with water lines freeze and/or lines breaking. Some of those freezing issue are due to the poor drainage to the road. Part of this project would be designing a new road. Last week we discussed the road would be 22 feet wide, but some of the home owners would like to see it smaller. This could be revaluated and changed as the project moves forward. Selectman Frazer asked Dale how wide is it now 16 feet. In terms of the drainage we add one on the south side of the road. Also some cross pipe's to the north side. We had some discussion on swaying it down into the swamp. This all depend on getting the approval and

easements of the home owners. When we designed the road we pushed it to the north side, but had talked about pushing it more to the south side. My concern with bring it back to the south side would be the tall bank. The driveways would be pushed back and it would make them steeper. Selectman Marsh & Selectman Kilanski went out and walked the road with some homeowners. Going south we could go 4 or 5 feet and not touch the bank or driveways that much. This way it wouldn't affect the homeowners land & trees. Good thing is the homeowners on the north also own the south side of the road. Selectman Kilanski stated that with talking with some of the owner they would be in favor of this because it leaves their lawns and trees intact. Selectman Frazer asked Rick how many hydrants are out there. There are no hydrants now. The intent is to add 3. Selectman Kilanski is in favor of the drainage as long as it doesn't affect the owners septic's. Selectman Kilanski asked if DES would have to be involved because it close to the brook. Doug stated unless it's a main stream it only a 200 ft buffer which we wouldn't be close enough. Selectman Roberta opened it up to the public for questions.

Barry Montgomery says he supports this project. He thinks would be great for the town even if the rate have to go up. It's well worth it.

Ken Cole wants to know more about the drainage. If the drainage goes down the south side it will end up on his property.

Brenda Dragoon asked if the drainage is rain water and was told yes. Also worried about the water that ponds now on their property. Selectman Kilanski states that the drainage would help with this problem.

Selectman Frazer calls the public hearing to a close. Selectman Kilanski makes a motion to close the hearing, Selectman Williams seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Frazer invites Davis & Towle to over their proposal for workman's comp, unemployment compensation and property liability. Jeff Reardon is the rep here to speak to the board along with a Travelers rep. Selectman Frazer stated they invited them to come tonight to speak because their quote was lower than the others. Jeff says that they are interest in working with us and they worked hard to get those rates. Also they are not going to jack up the rate the next year. They want to have a long term relationship with the town. Selectman Frazer asked how the Public Bond worked. It would be \$100.00 per person who handles auto registrations and \$100.00 per person for boat registrations. Selectman Marsh asked about commercial policy creating a plan that works for the town. Jeff says yes you can and the PLT policy we have now is the same coverage that Davis & Towle is offering. Selectman Frazer states that the board is ready to vote tonight. Jeff wants to add that we would have access to the hotline with a NH attorney to help with any question. Also in the packet are names & numbers to other towns that are clients. Selectman Kilanski makes a motion to join Davis & Towle for a one year contract, Selectman Williams seconds. The motion carries 4-0. If you could contact Sharon and send a contract to her.

Jim Lewis is here from the school with a report. The school audit is almost completed. They are waiting for the account summary paperwork from 2012 & 2015. They are working hard on getting it done by the summer and plan on staying on top of it every year. Working together is important. We were glad to hold off accepting the payment last month and with send some staff to stuff envelopes. The school is in the process of seeking a new principal. Interviews will start new week. . Mr. Lewis wanted to thank the board for moving their meeting and attending the school forum 2 weeks ago. A motion was made to notify Keene High that we would like renegotiate the "exclusivity clause" out of the existing contract or will seek to terminate the agreement. At this time we can only go to Keene and the board feels that's not right. Some students might do better in a different school. Mr. Lewis went over some of the

information that came out of the High School Forum held on May 25, 2016. At this meeting there were 8 pro Pioneer, 15 pro Keene. 2 bring the high school back and 5 pro choice. One commit made was base it on education not financial. Within the 35 commits, 8 stated to bring the issue for a town wide vote. Some of the question asked what is the purpose. The board wants to offer a choice to students. Would the students have to take the MCAS test? Yes they will, but it will be replaced with a new test. Keene is aware of this motion but no letter has been sent yet. The letter needs to be to them by June 29, 2016. If they don't receive the letter by the 29th the contract will renew for another 3 years. Selectman Frazer asked when would you have to notify Keene. Mr. Lewis states by July 1, 2016. 2 things could happen we notified Keene it would be 2019 because we have to give 3 year notice or Keene and Winchester agree on the terms we could be out 1 year. Not this school year next year. Selectman Marsh states Keene could come back and say you can leave now. Mr. Lewis said they could absolutely say that. Selectman Frazer does not see Keene saying that because we are a large part of that school. Mr. Lewis states Keene could say we will take 80% of our money. If they keep all their schools open that means the cost per child would go up. Or will take 80% and raise tuition to make up the difference. Selectman Frazer reads they motion to say, if you don't let us out the clause then we are terminating the agreement. That's not putting it out for the citizens to vote on. Kevin Bazan states the message he received that night was if we were going to make an agreement, create a new agreement with Keene then that agreement would go to the voters of the town. Selectman Frazer states that if they don't allow the exclusivity then the current agreement terminated. Mr. Bazan confirms that the intent of the school board would be to terminate the agreement. Selectman Frazer asked if they said no and terminate the agreement, why would they allow us to re-negotiate a new contract. If they say no we want the "exclusivity clause", why would they allow a new contract to be drawn up without the "exclusivity clause"? Mr. Bazan states they would be afraid of losing our students. Selectman Frazer states but you have all ready given them an ultimatum. Mr. Bazan says we have given them an ultimatum because the ball is in our court. We have asked them address the contract. We are in the 7 year of a 20 year contract and they won't come to the table to address this contract. We have heard from the public at the forum. The overall response was that our students deserve a choice. Keene is doing an excellent job at educating a number of our students, but not all of them and that need to be addressed. Selectman Frazer feels that the board has made the decision for the town and doesn't think that is right. Mr. Bazan says it's important to see the entire motion the board made. Selectman Frazer says that it very important it needs to be a town vote and not a 5 board member vote. Mr. Bazan agreed. Going into a contract with a new school district. Barry Montgomery asked if there is a potential of other towns leaving Keene too because of our actions. Selectman Marsh says no because the other towns have a different contract called A.R.E.A . We are a non member of A.R.E.A and have our own SAU. All the other school is part of SAU #29. Selectman Frazer states that this issue keeps coming up and after 13 years we really need to put this to bed. We need to let everyone be satisfied with whatever school we are in because it keeps causing problems in town. Hopefully we can do a school of choice. That seems to be the fair way to do it. I do see a large amount of kids staying in Keene, but this way the parents and kids get to choose where they go. Margaret Sharra agrees that it should be a vote of the town. Wanted to make sure she understood. Keene could tell us to hike and not to have an option in which the voters don't have a say. Mr. Lewis states the key word is "intent". Mr. Bazan says the board intent to send Keene a letter telling them June 30, 2019 will be our last day. Selectman Frazer says you have all ready made the decision on behave of the town. Mr. Bazan says we have not sent them a letter saying we are out as of June 30, 2019. Selectman Frazer says it doesn't matter the way the motion reads either they except it or the intent is to end the contract. The 5 man board made the decision for the town. Mr. Bazan disagrees with that statement.

Selectman Frazer states we need to sign the corrected Option & Development Agreement. Selectman Kilanski stated we all ready voted to sign the agreement with the changes. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve the agreement, Selectman Williams seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

Barry Montgomery asked the board if the contact negotiation were done behind closed doors. Selectman Frazer stated no it was all done at the selectmen meeting.

Selectman Frazer asked if the board had read the job description for both of the financial positions. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve the job description but removing 40 hours from the Financial Supervisor job description, Selectman Marsh seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

The board reviews and approves the following financial documents:

Selectman Marsh **makes a motion** to approve the Sealcoating invoice in the amount of \$8180.00, to come out for next year's budget. Selectman Kilanski seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Marsh **makes a motion** to approve the payment for Revitalization Fund (A-1 Enterprises) in the amount of \$750.00, Selectman Kilanski seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Marsh **makes a motion** to approve the payment for the Pipeline Coalition Legal Fund in the amount of \$3,168.00, Selectman Kilanski seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve the payment for the Gary's Power Equipment in the amount of \$4195.00, Selectman Williams seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve Karey Miner's Vacation, Selectman Williams seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

Selectman Marsh **makes a motion** to approve adding Selectman Kilanski to the TD Token, Selectman Williams seconds. The motion carries 4-0.

Firework permits have been received for: Devin Louder-4 Adams Ct., 7/2 (rain date 7/3) @ 9 pm, Margaret Sharra-5 Acorn Drive 7/2 & (rain date 7/3) @ 9pm and Sylvia Ponce -75 Parker St., 7/4 @ 9pm. Selectman Kilanski makes a motion to approve all firework permits. Selectman Williams seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0 Selectman Kilanski makes a motion to change the time to no later than 11 pm. Selectman Williams seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Current Use Tax was received for map 4 lot 35-3 in the amount of \$2800.00. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Current Use Tax was received for map 4 lot 35-4 in the amount of \$2200.00. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Current Use Tax was received for map 4 lot 37-2 in the amount of 116.00. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Current Use Tax was received for map 29 lot 15 in the amount of \$14.00. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Marsh seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Water abatement has been received for map 26 lot 95 in the amount of \$20.94. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Williams seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Sewer abatement has been received for map 28 lot 78 in the amount of \$52.73. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Williams seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Tax abatement has been received for map 33 lot 31 in the amount of \$20.63. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Williams seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Tax abatement has been received for map 32 lot 5 in the amount of \$700.00. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Williams seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Tax abatement has been received for map 29 lot 21 in the amount of \$446.36. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Williams seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Pole license Petition was received to replace 2 poles on Scotland road. Selectman Marsh **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Kilanski seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Third order of business Public comment

Denis Murphy asked when the handicap ramp will be done at the beach. Selectman Frazer stated this year once they advertize for bids.

Louise Sylvester reported she had called and left a message with an issue she had in April to Leroy and never heard back. Leroy & Margaret came to the apartment and she was not told why her 2nd floor apartment was being inspected. Mrs. Sylvester felt that Leroy was rude to her and wouldn't give her an answer and stated he would be sending a letter to her. Selectman Frazer will investigate the issue and get back to her.

Mr. Bazan wants the board to know the Pickelfest will be September 24th and they have been working with Winchester Proud & the ELM Center. The committee is asking to close off Durkee St. and part of Parker St. the day off the pickelfest. Selectman Kilanski **makes a motion** to approve this abatement. Selectman Williams seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0

Barry Montgomery is asking the board to give Henri Audet more hours and better pay. He works very hard and deserves more. Also purchase him a new push mower so he could do the Thayer Libraries mowing. Selectman Frazer asked Karey to ask Henri if he wants to do more mowing and if he needs more time.

Selectman Marsh asked how did the Farmers Market go this past Saturday. Gloria Leustek stated it went very well. There were 6 venders and also handed out several more vendor application. Some venders sold out of their product. RED was going to purchase more sign to put around.

Barry Montgomery wanted the board to know that Mim Johnson and he had gone to the OPC conference June 4th. He would be happy to go over everything they had learned with the board. Selectman Frazer thanked him for going and that he might want to go to the RED committee with all the information.

Fourth order of business: Non public under RSA 91:A3119(a)(c)

Selectman Frazer *makes a motion* to enter non public session under (a)(c), Selectman Kilanski seconds. A roll call vote was taken and members vote "yes" individually and the board convenes in non-public at 8:43 pm.

Fifth order of business: reconvene

The board reconvenes in public session at 9:55 pm. Selectman Kilanski *makes a motion* not to seal three sets of minutes under (a). Selectman Williams seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0. Selectman Kilanski *makes a motion* to seal one set of minutes under (a). Selectman Williams seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0.

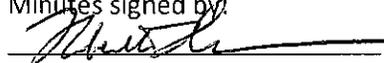
Sixth order of business: Adjournment

Selectman Kilanski *makes a motion* to adjourn. Selectman Williams seconds. The motion carries 4-0. 9:55 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted:
Karey Miner, Interim Administrator

Minutes approved by the board on:

Minutes signed by



Roberta Frazer, Chairman



Karey Miner, Interim Administrator