

**TOWN OF NEW HAMPTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TOWN OFFICE  
NEW HAMPTON, NH 03256**

Thursday, July 23, 2020

**MEMBERS**

Mr. Mertz, Mr. Drake, and Mr. Shaw were present.

**PRESENT:**

**OTHERS**

Town Administrator Mr. Irvine

**PRESENT:**

**CALL TO**

Mr. Mertz called the meeting of the Board to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ORDER:**

**WORK SESSION**

Manifests, bills, requisitions, purchase orders and leave request forms.

Board signed the following purchase order(s) Executive (electric strike block for opening locked Town Office door to be submitted for GOFERR reimbursement).

The board approved the following Building Permit application(s):

1. Tracy & Ruth Simula, Map R10, Lot 12; after-the-fact
2. Northstar Route 132 Real Estate LLC, Map R11, Lot 22

The board approved the following Intents to Cut Wood:

1. Smith Family 2018 Joint Trust, Map R10, Lot 16C
2. State of NH (Sky Pond Forest), Map R8, Lot 16 (bond posted at \$3,048.55)

The board approved the following septic design:

1. Bradley Forrest, Tax Map R7, Lot 7

**APPOINTMENTS**

Mrs. Johnson was present.

*6:00 pm*

*Treasurer Dawn*

*Johnson*

**NON PUBLIC**

**SESSION**

At 6:03 pm Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to go into Non-Public Session, according to RSA 91A:3 II (a) Personnel.

Roll call was taken, Mr. Mertz –Y, Mr. Drake – Y, Mr. Shaw – Y. Vote was unanimous.

**PRESENT**

Mr. Mertz, Mr. Drake, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Irvine and Mrs. Johnson.

**RETURN TO**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

At 6:14 pm, Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to come out of Non-Public Session and seal the minutes for 5 years. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw to rescind the appointment for Treasurer Dawn Johnson effective July 23, 2020 at 6:15 pm. Vote was unanimous.

*6:45 pm*

*Timothy Doyle*

Timothy Doyle and Sandreley Henderson were present who said he felt property taxes should go down as the schools are not operating normally during the pandemic. He said if the school don't provide the service then taxpayers shouldn't be taxed for it and expressed disagreement with not having students attend full-time, in person, during the pandemic.

After Mr. Doyle and Ms. Henderson left Mr. Irvine said the school is its own taxing

authority so the town can't change that. There was discussion on what the schools are required to provide and how the pandemic will affect their budget. He said this is the first time any residents have expressed concern on this subject. The board asked Mr. Irvine to notify the SAU of the discussion.

## **DISCUSSION**

- Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake to sign a Lot Merger application for land owned by Town of New Hampton, Tax Map R8, Lots 1, 1R&S, 1V, 18 & 18A. Vote was unanimous.
- Board signed abatements for:
  1. Peter Hall, Map R8, Lot 13 at \$1,244.81
  2. St Gelais Rev Trust, Map U14, Lot 14 at \$79.82
- Eversource, per BTLA decision re: 2014/2016 & 2017 tax appeals \$121,091.12
- Mr. Irvine advised that Wayne & Jean Roswell have appealed their Timber Tax amount of \$13,292.85. He reviewed the letter sent and said that the contract and mill slips were provided to the office. There was discussion on different scenarios to determine the timber tax but the board agreed that Mr. Roswell may have entered into a bad contract when the timber prices are compared to the state average stumpage rates. Mr. Roswell had pointed out in his letter that there would be costs for him to restore the site, which the board agreed was irrelevant. The board agreed to wait until the forester used by the town to determine a rating for the logging operation can say whether the rating needs to change based on the difference between the amount stated on the Intent vs. what was reported as cut.
- Letter to Joseph Cioffi et al relative to his ZBA approval for a campground lapsing as they did not apply to the Planning Board for Site Plan Review within the 2 year timeframe.
- Email request for another Hawkers and Peddlers from Doug & Doreen Tehan for an additional 30 days and to add some tables and chairs to the site. There was discussion on whether to allow the additional 30-day permit and the board agreed it could be approved. Relative to adding tables and chairs under canopies, taken down on a daily basis, the board said they would be agreeable to that also, as long they maintained appropriate distancing per CDC guidelines. Mr. Irvine to ask the Tehans for new application.
- Request from Police Administrator Mr. French asking to allow a carry-over of vacation time for Officer Killam. It was noted that in March, the board had agreed he could carry-over 36 hours vacation and 4 of personal time. Officer Killam believes he should have had 40 hours, but Mr. Irvine pointed out that he only asked for 36 hours. Officer Killam would like 4 more hours reinstated even though the board approved his request several months ago. Mr. Drake said he feels Officer Killam is entitled to his hours and should be paid for the time that would be lost due to the limitation on carry-over hours. The board agreed to change the 36 hours of carry-over vacation to 40 hours as it appears the difference was based on an error.
- fyi – PD Copier is to be delivered.
- Copy of Tax Collector's Lien Redemptions
- Selectmen 2020 meeting minutes:

Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mertz to approve the following minutes as amended and minutes of 3/16, 3/19, 4/2, 4/9, & 4/16 as written:

  1. 3/12/20 – Mr. Drake asked that the conversation with Ms. Batchelder be reviewed as it appears confusing.
  2. 3/26/20 – Mr. Drake said there was a building permit noted but it only has the owner name of Christine, with no further details and as he noticed this again

in another set of minutes it may be a carry-over.

3. 4/30/20 – Mr. Drake said under “work session” the ambulance was “licensed”, not “registered”.

Vote passed.

Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mertz to approve the following minutes as amended and minutes of 5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 4/9, & 6/11 as written:

1. 6/4/20 – Mr. Drake masks costs were under \$2.00 but was not a cost to the residents as they would be free.

Vote was unanimous.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was none.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- Mr. Drake updated the board on the new command vehicle.
- Mr. Irvine advised that Wendy Traynor has asked the ZBA for a rehearing on her denial for short-term rental. He has allowed Chairman Tierney to contact town counsel relative to the request.
- Mr. Irvine advised that the board may want to meet with Michael Sharp and his engineer Kent Brown relative to the condition that no material leave the Route 104 site until the new road is constructed, which has not been done. NHDOT has contacted them but has not gotten a response. The board asked Mr. Irvine to contact Mr. Sharp & Mr. Brown and NHDOT to arrange a meeting.
- There was discussion on possible development of the Sharp property (Map R12, Lot 28) which is currently under current use assessment and whether the improvements made constitute a change use penalty. Mr. Drake said there have been excavators in the area noting there has been stumping, creation of a road with ledge pack and a bridge in what appears to be a wetlands area. It was noted that there was a “no trespassing” sign which would not allow for his current use category to be “recreational”. Mr. Irvine said skidder trails for logging purposes would be allowed in current use but it appears this development is more than that so is having assessing firm CNP take a look to determine a change use penalty.
- Mr. Drake asked to have the day of the week added to the Selectmen’s meeting minutes.
- Mr. Irvine advised that Straits Road paving project is complete.

**NON PUBLIC SESSION**

At 8:12 pm Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to go into Non-Public Session, according to RSA 91A:3 II (b) Hiring. Roll call was taken, Mr. Mertz –Y, Mr. Drake – Y, Mr. Shaw – Y. Vote was unanimous.

**PRESENT**

Mr. Mertz, Mr. Drake, Mr. Shaw and Mr. Irvine

**RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

At 8:30 pm, Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to come out of Non-Public Session and seal the minutes for 5 years. Vote was unanimous.

**NON PUBLIC SESSION**

At 8:31 pm Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to go into Non-Public Session, according to RSA 91A:3 II (a) Personnel. Roll call was taken, Mr. Mertz –Y, Mr. Drake – Y, Mr. Shaw – Y. Vote was unanimous.

**PRESENT**

Mr. Mertz, Mr. Drake, Mr. Shaw and Mr. Irvine

**RETURN TO**

At 9:29 pm, Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to come out of Non-Public

**PUBLIC SESSION** Session and seal the minutes for 5 years. Vote was unanimous.

**NON PUBLIC SESSION** At 9:30 pm Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to go into Non-Public Session, according to RSA 91A:3 II (e) Litigation.  
Roll call was taken, Mr. Mertz –Y, Mr. Drake – Y, Mr. Shaw – Y. Vote was unanimous.

**PRESENT** Mr. Mertz, Mr. Drake, Mr. Shaw and Mr. Irvine

**RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION** At 9:33 pm, Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to come out of Non-Public Session and unseal the minutes of 4/11/19. Vote was unanimous.

**NON PUBLIC SESSION** At 9:34 pm Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to go into Non-Public Session, according to RSA 91A:3 II (c) Reputation.  
Roll call was taken, Mr. Mertz –Y, Mr. Drake – Y, Mr. Shaw – Y. Vote was unanimous.

**PRESENT** Mr. Mertz, Mr. Drake, Mr. Shaw and Mr. Irvine

**RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION** At 9:35 pm, Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to come out of Non-Public Session and unseal the minutes of 4/21/10. Vote was unanimous.

**NON PUBLIC SESSION** At 9:36 pm Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to go into Non-Public Session, according to RSA 91A:3 II (a) Personnel.  
Roll call was taken, Mr. Mertz –Y, Mr. Drake – Y, Mr. Shaw – Y. Vote was unanimous.

**PRESENT** Mr. Mertz, Mr. Drake, Mr. Shaw and Mr. Irvine

**RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION** At 9:37 pm, Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to come out of Non-Public Session and unseal the minutes of 5/6/10. Vote was unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to adjourn at 9:41 pm. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Vose