

**Board of Selectmen
July 8, 2020**

Present: Mark P. Duffy, Chair; Richard C. Edwards; Kenneth G. Fifield (joined the session at 6:35 p.m.); Dino A. Scala, Town Administrator; and Toni Bodah, Secretary.

Mr. Duffy called the posted meeting to order at 6:24 p.m. **Mr. Duffy moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a). Mr. Edwards seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’; Mr. Duffy – ‘aye’. The motion passed 2-0, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.**

The Board returned to public session at 6:28 p.m. During the immediately preceding Non Public Session, the Board voted to authorize an increase to \$18.86/hour for Chuck Cotton, effective as of July 13, 2020. **Mr. Edwards moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a). Mr. Duffy seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’; Mr. Duffy – ‘aye’. The motion passed 2-0, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.**

The Board returned to public session at 6:46 p.m. During the immediately preceding Non Public Session, the Board voted to authorize an increase to \$25.88/hour for Michael Soucy, effective as of July 13, 2020. **Mr. Edwards moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a). Mr. Fifield seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Fifield – ‘aye’; Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’; Mr. Duffy – ‘aye’. The motion passed 3-0, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.**

The Board returned to public session at 6:51 p.m. During the immediately preceding Non Public Session, the Board voted to authorize an increase to \$28/hour for Toni Bodah, effective as of July 13, 2020. [Thank You!] Mr. Duffy called for a recess, during which time the Board moved to the Opera House. Mr. Duffy called the meeting back to order at 7 p.m., at which time he led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present at this time included: Relf Fogg; Margot MacArthur; Jim Miller; and Ted Taylor (videographer).

1. Public Hearing re: Proposed Easement Agreement with Garvin Mercantile LLC - Mr. Duffy stated that the purpose of the proposed easement is to allow Garvin Mercantile to reconstruct the ADA ramp, which would encroach slightly onto Town property. The owners have already approached ZBA. Mr. Duffy welcomes any questions/comments that the public may have and will leave this public hearing open for the duration of this meeting. This is the first of 2 required public hearings on this proposed easement.

2. Appointments

a) Relf Fogg, Conservation Commission Chair – Mr. Fogg referred to 2 Conservation Deeds, both of which have been reviewed by Town Counsel. He noted that in each deed, the Town grants a Conservation Easement to the Conservation Commission. **Mr. Edwards moved to approve the Deed with Conservation Restrictions for the former Laurion property, as presented. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Mr. Edwards moved to approve the Deed with Conservation Restrictions for the former Wakefield Builders property, as presented. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

3. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #1

--Mr. Miller complimented the new owners of the Garvin Building on the improvements they have already made. The Board members agreed!

4. Unfinished Business – None scheduled.

5. New Business

a) 2020-1 Sewer Warrant – Mr. Edwards moved to approve the 2020-1 Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$34,935.11, as presented. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

6. Proposed Capital Reserve Fund Expenditures

a) Invasive Species ETF Pine River Pond \$2500

b) Invasive Species ETF Province Lake Assoc \$3375 – Both of these proposed expenditures from the Expendable Trust Fund are as budgeted. Mr. Edwards moved to approve the \$2500 expenditure for Pine River Pond Assoc and \$3375 for Province Lake Assoc, as presented. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

c) Transfer Station CRF \$14,500 – This represents final payment for the retaining wall project. Mr. Fifield moved to approve this expenditure as presented. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0. Mr. Duffy noted to the public that we would like to keep the traffic to the right side of the scale.

7. Correspondence – None forthcoming.

8. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #2

--Mr. Fogg referred to a public access on Pine River Pond on Lord Road, according to Marine Patrol. Mr. Edwards believes that ramp is for the local association's use; however, Marine Patrol is allowed to use it. Mr. Duffy agreed with Mr. Edwards. Mr. Fifield stated the official public access is near the dam; however, it is very difficult to access.

--Mr. Miller lives on Pine River Pond. He noted that fireworks are prohibited by Town ordinance and State law. Mr. Duffy noted that it is possible to obtain a permit to conduct a fireworks display. Mr. Miller stated there were many such displays over the July 4th weekend, which resulted in much harmful trash in the lake. He has contacted the Pine River Pond Assoc regarding their annual display and suggests that the Board encourage people to conduct their displays away from the lakes. Mr. Fifield provided a brief history of fireworks being illegal in Wakefield. However, enforcement is difficult. Mr. Fifield agrees such displays add to lake pollution. Mr. Edwards noted the Town should not take away displays of fireworks on the 4th of July. He does, however, agree with educating the public.

9. Administrative Matters

a) Town Administrator's Update

--Mr. Scala advised the Board that he will resurrect meetings with Department Heads, beginning on July 23 at 1 p.m. At that time he plans to review budgets year-to-date, issues/concerns, etc. Board members are welcome to attend [but we'll have to post if we expect a quorum].

--There are a number of upcoming projects. Brock Mitchell may be asked to attend the July 22 meeting in order to discuss in more detail.

--Mr. Scala distributed information from the Tax Collector regarding tax revenue year-to-date compared to 2019. These revenues are currently up by about \$600,000. It remains to be seen whether COVID 19 will have an adverse effect on payment of second issue tax bills.

--Mr. Scala shared a list of 6 tax-acquired properties that are eligible for auction. Discussion followed regarding amounts from such an auction that the Town could keep vs. what would need to be forwarded to the former owners. Mr. Scala will discuss in detail with Town Counsel.

b) Treasurer's Monthly Reports for May – Provided for the Board's information.

c) Tax Collector's Monthly Comparison – Provided for the Board's information.

d) Building Permit Releases – Mr. Edwards moved to approve the building permit release for Colbath on Nottingham. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

e) Payment Manifests – Mr. Edwards moved to approve PR #14 in the amount of \$98,721.21. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to approve AP #18 in the amount of \$278,744.55. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

f) Minutes – Mr. Duffy moved to approve the public minutes of June 24, 2020, as presented. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Duffy moved to approve the public minutes of July 2, 2020, as presented. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to approve the sealed minutes of the June 24, 2020, non public session as presented. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to approve the sealed minutes of the July 2, 2020, non public session as presented. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

g) Selectmen's Work Session

Mr. Duffy has spoken with Chief Ventura regarding restaurant openings under COVID 19. Chief Ventura confirmed that masks are not required by the Governor's order; rather, it is up to the business owner. If you are in a public place and are not comfortable, then wear a mask (if you cannot social distance). Mr. Miller added that the Governor's weekly 1-hour COVID update is aired on Clearview Community TV each day.

Mr. Duffy closed the public hearing for the Garvin Mercantile easement at 7:42 p.m., having received no questions/comments from the public. The next public hearing on this issue is scheduled for July 22.

Mr. Edwards moved to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

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Respectfully submitted,
Toni Bodah, Secretary

Approval of Minutes:



Mark P. Duffy, Chair



Richard C. Edwards



Kenneth G. Fifield