

MINUTES

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN HALL**

**October 19, 2020
6:30 PM**

ATTENDEES:

Leo Enos, Selectman	Leon Rideout, Selectman	Shane Beattie, Selectman
Edward Samson, Town Manager	Randy Flynn, Fire Chief	Ted Joubert, Asst. Chief
Benjamin Gaetjens-Oleson	Dennis Patnoe	Alan Savage
Rob Christie	Michael Nadeau	Charity Baker
Julie Renaud Evans	Reps from Nimble Forces	

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Leo Enos

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPOINTMENTS: Julie Renaud Evans introduced the representatives from Nimble Forces who were present to share what they have come up with to promote the Town to new comers/visitors. She mentioned there is a public hearing on Wednesday night to present it to the public/community. Their presentation depicted the Fox as the town's icon and also a new tag line for the Town... "Life is What We Make It!" The presentation was well received and the Board members all feel it is the direction they are happy with presenting to the community at the public hearing on Wednesday.

PUBLIC HEARING: Ben mentioned the board has to open the public hearing to hear the request under 79-E applied for by Sustainable Forest Futures. **Motion made by Leon and seconded by Shane to open the public hearing for discussion regarding the 79-E request submitted by Sustainable Forest Futures who owns the Parker J Noyes Building.**

Julie Renaud Evans went over the renovations for the Parker J Noyes building and what renovating the building means to the look of the Main Street. The board was given copies of the request to review. She mentioned they mostly did this project because the community is greatly in need of housing.

Rob mentioned that Greg Cloutier came to the board about 18 months ago and asked for \$50,000 to replace the roof and he recalls the question being asked if the building was going to remain on the tax rolls and he assured the board that it was absolutely going to stay on the tax rolls. Leon clarified that 79-E does not exclude them from taxes it relieves them from paying taxes for a certain number of years on the improvements. After the set number of years, it will be assessed at full value. He stated he feels that as a taxpayer, if he was to make improvements, he is expected to pay the full value of the improvements. Alan mentioned that he has concerns with the proposed high-end housing. He feels people cannot afford high-end housing.

Ben just wanted to remind everyone that the town voted for the provisions of 79-E so the board just needs to review what was presented and see if it fits within the criteria of RSA 79-E and if it does make their decision to approve the request.

Leon asked where the original assessed value came from. Ben clarified the information being read and stated its original assessment is \$149,000. Julie mentioned there have been some cost

increases since they submitted the application 6 months ago. Ben stated at the end of construction it will only be taxed on the value of the property when construction is done and not on the improvements being made. Meaning it will still be assessed on market value changes.

Leon stated he feels the project meets the criteria.

Motion made by Leon and seconded by Shane that the application meets the criteria set forth in RSA 79-E and to grant relief for up to 7 years. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Leon and seconded by Shane to close public hearing. All in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Review and approval of the October 5, 2020 Selectmen’s meeting minutes. **Motion made by Shane and seconded by Leon to accept the October 5, 2020 meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.**
- Signing of various paperwork –
 - Timber Tax Warrant – Janet Savage, Tax Map R02, Lot 068 for \$10,239.10
 - NH Department of Transportation Municipal Emergency Dispatching Agreement was signed. Copy of agreement attached.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ed received a letter from the Board of Tax & Land Appeals regarding Northern New England Telephone and he is going to follow up with the attorney to make sure he received a copy of the correspondence as well. The letter was an order for the two parties to meet and attempt to settle the appeal before the scheduled hearing date.
- Ed received a letter of resignation from John Accardi from the Conservation Commission. Leo mentioned they do not have a chair at this time. Rob asked if the procedure is to put an ad in the paper to let the community know there is a vacancy and have any interested parties submit a letter of interest to the Conservation Commission. The board agreed that is the procedure and a notice should be put in the paper. Rob mentioned John had a couple projects that he was going talk about with Ed that he doesn’t believe he had a chance to before he resigned.
 - One of the projects was to find out who is responsible for fixing the culverts beyond the gate on Causeway Street. Shane mentioned it is usually part of the bidding and responsibility of the logger/forester as part of the cut. It was mentioned the culvert work should be included in the bidding process.
- Ed received a letter from the Colonel Town spending committee letting him know that there is a vacancy due to Chris Foss moving to Vermont. The spending committee recommended Jean Beland to replace him on the committee. **Motion made by Leon and**

seconded by Shane to appoint Jean Beland to the Colonel Town Spending Committee to fill the vacancy until the next election. All in favor. Motion carried.

Randy and Ted were at the meeting to see if there are further questions regarding moving forward with the personnel and budget structure changes. At this time, the board does not have any more questions and wants them to keep moving forward with what has been presented.

Leon mentioned there seems to be a spike of COVID cases in Coos County and was wondering what their thoughts are for the months coming. Ted said it was to be expected and feel there will continue to be an influx and they have prepared for the influx.

Motion was made by Leon and seconded by Shane to go into non-public session for employee review per RSA 91-A:3. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Leon and seconded by Shane to seal the non-public minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Leon and seconded by Shane to close the non-public session at 8:13 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting returned to Public Session at 8:13 p.m.

Motion was made by Leon and seconded by Shane to adjourn. All in favor. Motioned carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charity M. Baker

Board of Selectmen

Date: _____

Leo Enos

Leon Rideout

Shane Beattie