

MINUTES
Town of New Gloucester
BOARD OF ASSESSOR'S & BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
7:00 p.m.
Monday, January 5, 2015
At the Meetinghouse

For review of the complete discussions and motions, please see the recording available at the Public Library or on our website at www.newgloucester.com

BOARD OF ASSESSOR'S MEETING

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

Chairman, Steven Libby, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman, Steven Libby; Vice-Chairman, Linda Chase; Selectmen, Nathaniel Berry, Joshua McHenry and Laura Sturgis; Town Manager, Paul First; and Recorder, Sharlene Myers.

II. To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to 2014-15 Abatement, Batch #3

Mr. Libby said per a memo from Mike O'Donnell, of O'Donnell Associates, Richard Hodgkin, of 172 Intervale Road, filed in his swimming pool a few years back. Mr. Hodgkin met with Mr. O'Donnell in October of 2014 and the value of his property was adjusted. Mr. Hodgkin met with Mr. O'Donnell again, asking for an abatement of his taxes pertaining to the adjustment in his value. Mr. O'Donnell explained he only commits taxes once a year and the next assessment would be August 2015. Mr. O'Donnell wrote: "Although the Board of Assessor's has the right to make any abatement that they deem appropriate within one year of commitment and hence have the authority to grant this abatement, he recommends denial. Abatement is intended to remedy assessments that are manifestly wrong and discriminatory. This assessment is neither."

Mr. Libby said he is in favor of granting the abatement. He said it is good public relations for the Town.

Mr. Berry said he appreciates what was stated but he is leaning towards granting the abatement.

Mr. McHenry said he is voting to not grant the abatement and the taxes would be adjustment during the next commitment.

Ms. Chase moved and Mr. Berry seconded a motion to grant the abatement for Richard Hodgkin, at 172 Intervale Road, due to the removal of his swimming pool and the reduction of his value would be \$14,000 for FY14-15. The motion carried on a vote of 4-1, with Mr. McHenry opposing.

III. ADJOURN

Mr. Berry moved and Ms. Sturgis seconded a motion to adjourn the Board of Assessor's meeting at 7:13 p.m. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

Chairman, Steven Libby, called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m. Present were Chairman, Steven Libby; Vice-Chairman, Linda Chase; Selectmen, Nathaniel Berry, Joshua McHenry and Laura Sturgis; Town Manager, Paul First; and Recorder, Sharlene Myers.

II. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING:

Board of Selectmen – 7:00 p.m., Monday, February 2, 2015

Ms. Chase asked if the Board of Selectmen's Budget Workshop scheduled for Tuesday, January 13th, could be moved to Monday, January 12th, due to a conflict in her schedule.

The Board was all in agreement.

A. Adjustments to the Agenda

None.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

IV. SCHEDULED ITEMS

4.50 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to Scheduling of Joint Meeting for Ordinance Amendments

Mr. McHenry moved and Mr. Libby seconded a motion to schedule a joint meeting for ordinance amendments with the Board of Selectmen and the Land Management Planning Committee for Monday, January 26th, at 7:00 p.m., at the Meetinghouse. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

4.51 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to Lakes Region Initiative

Mr. First said the Director of the Lakes Region Chamber presented the Lakes Region Initiative to the Economic Development Committee. He said the signs are \$65 each and the Director suggested the Town place the signs with the “Welcome to New Gloucester” signs on Route 100. He said he brought a sample of the sign for the Board to see and asked for direction from the Board on how to proceed and locations for placement of the signs.

Mr. Berry asked if the sign is damaged or missing, who pays for the replacement.

Mr. First said he doesn’t want the Town to get in the position of signage replacement.

Mr. McHenry said it is a fairly small investment for the Town and the \$130 would pay for itself. He asked if this was TIF eligible.

Mr. First said he would review the TIF document.

Mr. McHenry moved and Mr. Berry seconded a motion to direct the Town Manager to purchase and install two signs, one on Route 100 entering New Gloucester from Auburn and the other on Route 26 entering New Gloucester from Poland; and the funding for the signs come out of TIF, if eligible or from the Public Works sign budget line. The motion carried on a vote of 4-1, with Mr. Libby opposing.

4.52 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to Beano Application for Amvets Post #6

Mr. McHenry moved and Mr. Berry seconded a motion to approve the Beano Application for Amvets Post #6 and to note there are no violations or complaints on file per the Code Enforcement Officer. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

4.53 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to 1st Quarter EMS Report

Mr. First said per the Board’s request, some minor formatting and improvements were made to the report.

Mr. McHenry asked if the report could be rounded to the nearest whole dollar, the total percentage line for the quarter be bolded, and the numbers for Total Calls in August and 1st Quarter do not match.

Ms. Chase asked if the word “estimate” could be put inserted by the word “mileage”. She said this would help with any confusion and questions when others view this report.

Mr. Libby asked if the next quarterly report would be available during the upcoming budget discussions.

Mr. First said it would be a tight window to have it ready.

The Board agreed they liked this report and the format.

V. APPROVE FY15 WARRANTS AND PAYROLLS #25, #26 & #27

Ms. Chase moved and Mr. Berry seconded a motion to approve the FY15 Warrants & Payrolls #25, #26 and #27. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

VI. APPOINTMENTS

None.

VII. LEGAL

Mr. First said back in September 2013, one of the Public Works vehicles was involved in an accident. He said the claimant has engaged an attorney. He said he spoke with MMA and they hope to have this resolved soon.

VIII. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

A. Approve Minutes of the December 15, 2014, Board of Selectmen's Meeting

Mr. Libby said at the December 15th meeting, before the discussions began on the Historical Society vault alarm, he recused himself from the discussions and it was not noted in the meeting minutes.

Mr. McHenry moved and Mr. Berry seconded the motion to table approval of the minutes of the December 15, 2014, Board of Selectmen's meeting, pending a revision under Town Manager update; to note that Mr. Libby recused himself from the discussion of the Meetinghouse vault because he is a member of the Historical Society. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Ms. Myers said Mr. Libby recused himself from the discussion at the December 1st meeting and those minutes do not have the notation on them and were approved.

Mr. Libby said those minutes will come back before the Board, with revision, at the next meeting.

IX. ORAL COMMUNICATION

A. Selectmen

Laura Sturgis – no comments.

Joshua McHenry – said he received a holiday greeting from a constituent and it was very nice and appreciated.

Nathaniel Berry – said a new light was installed on the little garage outback of the Town Hall to help aluminate the parking area on that side. He said the Town Planner is looking into another light for the parking area behind Town Hall towards the Library.

Linda Chase – no comments.

Steven Libby – no comments.

B. Town Manager

Mr. First said the budget books will be ready on Friday, January 9th and the Selectmen's Budget Workshop is scheduled for Monday, January 12th, at 7:00 p.m.

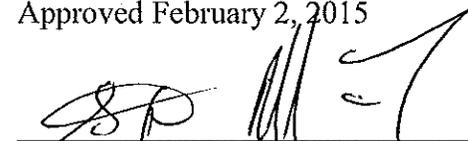
C. Boards & Committees

X. ADJOURN

Mr. Berry moved and Ms. Sturgis seconded a motion to adjourn the Selectmen's meeting at 8:02 p.m. and enter into the Personnel Policy Workshop. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

XI. ENTER INTO SELECTMEN'S PERSONNEL POLICY WORKSHOP

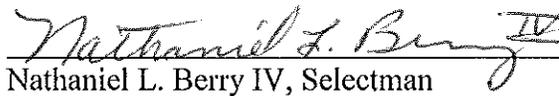
Approved February 2, 2015



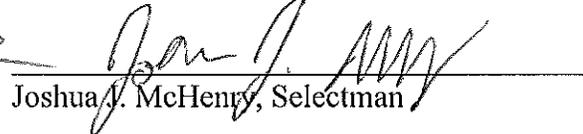
Steven M. Libby, Chairman



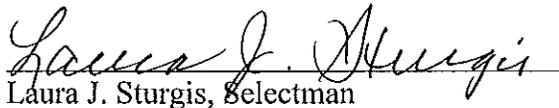
Linda D. Chase, Vice-Chairman



Nathaniel L. Berry IV, Selectman



Joshua J. McHenry, Selectman



Laura J. Sturgis, Selectman