

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2016

PRESENT: George Lawrence, Chairman, Becky Doyle, David Lage, Joanne Meshna

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Office.

Chief Carpenter: Chief Carpenter reported all equipment was operational, all employees were working and the computers have been upgraded. One of the cruisers is up this year for rotation and will depend on mileage and wear and tear. He plans to get another year out of the Crown Vic. Selectman Doyle asked why the cruiser needs to be at a detail rather than a private vehicle and Chief Carpenter responded because of lights and liability. The individual is working for the Town and should not be utilizing their own personal vehicle. Part of the billing process pays for the vehicle. The cost for details is broken down into the officer, vehicle and administrative cost. Starting July 1 detail money will not be going into retirement. The cost for the cruiser is \$40 for a half day and \$80 for a full day. The officer receives \$50/hour. There is a minimum of 4 hours only for outside details (not for Town events and school events), and the rate also changes for those events. Outside vendors pay the \$50 rate; for a Town event or a school event it is time and a half for actual hours worked.

Chief Carpenter noted he will be attending a week long leadership school in Connecticut. He added his goal for the year is to maintain the level of service they are currently providing. The Department continues to work with the schools and School Board.

Bob Boynton: Bob sent the Board a letter he received from Lucas Meyer. Kinder Morgan estimates \$175,000-\$200,000 for estimated impact of 1.39 acres. Selectman Doyle noted Rindge is putting together a mitigation plan by January 15. Bob contacted DES and asked how the applicant could set a deadline date and not DES. He was informed that is the process; the applicant has to collect information for DES so they have to set their deadline. Kinder Morgan delineated the wetlands to come up with the 1.39 acres. The Town will not know the exact amount until the project is done. A wetlands scientist would have to be hired by the Town to confirm the acreage. Wendy Juchnevics-Freeman stated even though Kinder Morgan has identified 1.39 acres in their research reports they have not been able to delineate over 70% of the route through New Ipswich. Bob stated it is an estimate and at this point in time it is premature to spend money to delineate the wetlands.

Wendy stated most of the land is private and most owners have denied access. It is not the responsibility of the Town to go on private land and delineate the wetlands, and it is not a financial burden the Town should take on. She understood Kinder Morgan wants to file an application for the intended use of federal eminent domain. She stated there should be a strategy discussion. Selectman Doyle noted other towns are providing their information by January 15 and questioned at what point New Ipswich does the same. Wendy responded Kinder Morgan has not filed an application with DES and SEC; they still have to answer questions from FERC about alternative routes.

Bob noted it does not cost anything to submit projects to be considered for mitigation so the Town is covered and will receive some money. A letter would have to be mailed out on January 13 to meet the January 15 deadline. The Commission meets on the 14th. Further he stated there is no strategy involved, just coming up with projects.

Wendy stated that Kinder Morgan is trying to convince FERC and SEC that towns are cooperating and that they are going to be able to negotiate a solution with every Town. The Town does not want FERC or DES or SEC understanding that New Ipswich is willing to negotiate. There is time after the certificate is issued to negotiate. Further she stated the Town needs to be talking about mitigation projects and putting a list together. Bob responded the Commission is handling wetland mitigation which is all Kinder Morgan is discussing.

Virginia Notter inquired why the Town would not be following the advice of the Coalition attorney. Selectman Doyle responded they would be talking to the attorney; Attorney Kanoff is meeting with the Board on January 12 for a strategy discussion in a closed session. Ms. Notter asked if the Commission was going to wait to submit a list and Bob responded the Board has given permission to submit the list to Kinder Morgan. Selectman Doyle asked for a copy of the list from Bob but because of the dates for the Commission meeting and the due date, it will be difficult to provide. Selectman Lage stated if there is a meeting with legal counsel on the 12th that might change the Board's decision, it could be held off. Bob did not see that happening.

Bob left the meeting.

Wendy stated the Wapack Trail is being impacted by the pipeline. That land is upland and there are some wetlands on it. She suggested it might be a good thing to protect the trail. The pipeline is going to go through conservation land protected by deed (Green Farm, Timbertop, Hollyview). There is wetland mitigation but there is also opportunity for mitigation from land in conservation easement, land that has cultural or historical significance, and current use land. A list of mitigation projects needs to be done and the Board should solicit input from the townspeople.

Pipeline Task Force: Wendy noted the deadline for intervention has been extended to January 15. The SEC has appointed a subcommittee to hear the NED application and they held a meeting today to consider intervention in the FERC proceedings. The Committee felt they needed more information before making a decision and part of that was to see if other State agencies were intervening. DRED, the Governor and Fish and Game are planning to intervene. The Committee will be announcing a meeting where they will be having the discussion. They will be accepting public comment. Wendy contacted Pamela Monroe at SEC and asked to be put on the distribution list; she suggested Joanne also be put on the distribution list.

Cascade and High Range Road: Selectman Lage prepared a Release for the roads to be filed with the Town Clerk. He stated he reviewed RSA 228-231 and they involve the layout of a road. Acceptance of a dedicated road falls under RSA 229 and a Release is not required to be filed. Selectman Doyle will review the RSAs. Selectman Lawrence stated the Release needs the distance of the roads accepted by the Town.

River Road: The Board received a letter from Ed Rogers on the design of the crossings for River Road and Poor Farm Road. He states a fully compliant replacement design in for the River Road causeway would likely cost in excess of \$400,000 to construct. He has been exploring other options that do not involve work within jurisdictional wetlands. The general principle is to cast a concrete slab with thickened abutments over the top of the existing culvert strong enough to support the traffic load. He also stated the same principle could be used for the Poor Farm Road culvert. More fieldwork is necessary to see if it will work for the West Branch of the Souhegan crossing River Road. This crossing is more complicated and if this approach cannot be used due to the unique geometry of the two culverts there, he plans to pursue a permit to reinforce the existing culverts using slip forms. A fully compliant precast box culvert sized to conduct the current 100 year storm event would exceed a 10 foot span and would need to be designed and rates as a bridge. The cost for this replacement could be between \$400,000-\$500,000. Mr. Rogers recommended planning to budget for the less expensive alternatives. He will have the details for the causeway and Poor Farm Road culvert shortly. Details for the West Branch require more investigation. He recommended \$60,000 for each of the crossings. The Board agreed to review again next week.

Minutes: The minutes from the December 29, 2015 meeting were reviewed and corrected as follows: under encumbrances, third paragraph, should read "Selectman Lage made a motion to encumber \$10,741; \$1,741 from the BOS unexpended funds and..." Selectman Lage made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Selectman Doyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Selectman Doyle made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2015 meeting. Selectman Lage seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Selectman Doyle made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2015 nonpublic session. Selectman Lage seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Selectman Doyle made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2015 meeting. Selectman Lage seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Budget Committee: Selectman Doyle reported the Budget Committee met last evening to review the budget submitted by the Selectmen. Lines for communication and town report were each reduced by \$300. Also, the deputy hourly salary was reduced from \$14.00 to \$13.00.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Meshna, Town Administrator

January 5, 2016 Board of Selectmen minutes approved by:

George H. Lawrence, Chairman

Rebecca M. Doyle

David S. Lage

