

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2015

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.

New England Forestry Foundation: Bob Boynton explained that Betsy Cook from New England Forestry Foundation was present to submit a conservation easement for lot 3/4, formerly the Rice Tuttle lot located at the top of New Ipswich Mountain which the Town purchased a few years ago. Ms. Cook noted the Forestry Foundation has abutting properties with conservation easements so they are a good match for New Ipswich's lot. The easement will allow timber management, maintain open use, allow hunting and restrict development. The Forestry Foundation will monitor the property once a year and report back to the Town. The easement will release the Town of future liability. Before any timber cutting can be done by the Town, a forest management plan must be prepared with the help of a forester. The easement will be forwarded to town counsel for his review.

Bob Boynton: Bob spoke with a representative from Kinder Morgan regarding a list of mitigation projects for the Town. Bob stated the list is due sooner rather than later. If a list of projects is not submitted, the fines paid by Kinder Morgan will go into an ARM fund and can be used by any Town in the watershed. Previously the Conservation Commission was going to meet with Kinder Morgan but that has been cancelled. Selectman Doyle noted the Pipeline Task Force had requested a list not be submitted until Kinder Morgan filed their application and that has been done.

Bob noted the list would include replacement of half a dozen culverts located in streams. Also, there are two properties the Town might want to purchase. The Board suggested the Taylor Road culvert be added to the list as well as the double culverts on River Road. Director Goewey is to provide Bob with a list of the culverts.

Wendy Juchnevics-Freeman stated she was concerned this might not be the appropriate time to give a list to Kinder Morgan or DES and she wanted to seek legal counsel before that happens. She suggested the Board contact Attorney Kanoff for advice.

Bob stated he would contact DES to find out the deadline for filing a list of mitigation projects.

Pipeline Task Force: Wendy reported on the information session held at Hidden Hills in Rindge by Kinder Morgan in advance of the SEC filing. She stated there were a lot of half truths, the maps presented were different than those submitted with the application and the presentation was difficult to listen to.

Representative Kuster wrote a letter that went into the FERC docket stating she is against the pipeline.

The Governor and Senator Ayotte wrote letters stating their concerns have not been answered and until they happens they are against the project.

Because FERC has accepted Kinder Morgan's application the window for applying for intervenor status has started. If the Town wants legal standing, they have to apply to be an intervenor. Selectman Doyle stated she was not sure they should file for intervenor status as the Town does not have funds to support or file as an intervenor. Selectman Lage stated the Town would have no standing if they did not have intervenor status and by being an intervenor the Town preserves the right to go to court at a later date. Selectman Doyle noted one of the advantages for filing was the documents will come here to the Town office. Wendy stated it was the Pipeline Task Force's recommendation that the Selectmen become intervenors. She recommended the Board have a nonpublic meeting with Attorney Kanoff.

Selectman Doyle questioned if there was a need to belong to the Municipal Coalition and also have a separate attorney for the Town. Wendy responded there is an argument to be made to have our own attorney representing the Town because of the compressor. The Coalition is addressing the concerns of all the towns being impacted. She suggested Temple, Greenville and New Ipswich could hire one attorney to represent the three towns. She recommended the Town stay with the Coalition but when there are issues specific to the three towns an attorney could represent all three towns. The Task Force is putting together a list of attorneys. Selectman Lage questioned if the Coalition is not granted intervenor status what would be the advantage of staying with them. Wendy responded the Coalition is working with the PUC on the towns' behalf.

Selectman Lage made a motion to file for intervenor status. Selectman Lawrence seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Wendy referred to a letter filed today by FERC, environmental data request issuance CP16-21, to Kinder Morgan that asks them at a minimum to respond to questions, comments and letters that were received prior to the conclusion of the formal scoping period. New Ipswich is not on the list so the filing of questions and comments was not included and Wendy will be checking into that. It also asks for an alternative analysis for the pipeline and alternative compressor sites specifically the New Ipswich site. There are four alternative sites they are asking Kinder Morgan to consider. FERC is asking review of alternative routes which is a redo of the route and is co-located with the Mass. Pike. Kinder Morgan has 20 days to respond to the letter.

On December 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Temple Elementary School there will be a presentation on living near a compressor station by Dr. Curtis Nordgaard from Boston Children's Hospital.

On Friday a rally and march will be held in Concord at 10:00 a.m. and a petition will be submitted to the Governor.

Minutes: Selectman Doyle made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2015 meeting. Selectman Lawrence seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Wildcat Pond Dam: A letter of deficiency from DES was sent to the Wildcat Hill Condominium Association regarding Wildcat Pond Dam. The letter lists the deficiencies, the deadlines to complete them, and how they should be completed.

Town soccer program: A copy of a letter from Mindy Buxton to Elizabeth Letters, AYSO, was reviewed by the Board. The letter informs AYSO of the Town's intent to start their own soccer program May 1, 2016.

Lower River Road: Selectmen discussed Lower River Road and how narrow it is. Selectman Lage made a motion to make Lower River Road a one way restricting travel from going up toward River Road and the placement of signage indicating one way. Selectmen Doyle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Smithville Cemetery: The Board agreed to schedule a meeting with Mark Stevens and his boss after the first of the year.

Fuel: Selectman Lage noted that in discussions with Director Goewey he stated he did not like to buy diesel fuel from Haffner's or the Mobil station in Town because of problems with water in the fuel. Currently the fuel is being bought at the State shed. However, it is more expensive as the fuel prices do not change until all the fuel has been used in the tank. Also, for heating oil, Red's of Jaffrey locked in the Town at a price of \$2.441/gallon from September 2015 to June 2016. The Selectmen were in agreement that until the State fuel prices are more competitive, the Highway Department should purchase their diesel fuel from Haffner's. Also, Director Goewey should renegotiate the Red's agreement.

Salary reviews: The Board discussed the deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Deputy Treasurer salaries.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Meshna, Town Administrator

December 8, 2015 Board of Selectmen minutes approved by:

George H. Lawrence, Selectmen

Rebecca M. Doyle

David S. Lage

