

TOWN OF JAFFREY
Jaffrey, New Hampshire
Select Board Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2019

Chairman: Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.

Selectmen: John E. Belletete, Kevin Chamberlain

Town Manager: Jon Frederick

Staff: Director of Planning & Economic Planning- Jo Anne Carr, Administrative Assistant- Judy Zola

Others: Marty Kennedy-VHB, Loretta Doughty & Trent Zanes- DOT, Peter Chamberlain, Carolyn Garretson, Harry Young, Ashley Saari-Monadnock Ledger

A. Call to Order - 5:15pm

B. Non-Public – None

C. Appointments – 5:15pm – VHB & NH DOT- Route 202 Dogleg Project -

Marty Kennedy from VHB gave an overview on the history of the project. In the past 2 ½ years there have been 9 Advisory Committee meetings, 3 Informational meetings, 3 Newsletters as well as website updates and meetings with impacted property owners. Next week on October 2nd at 6pm will be the Public Hearing. The plan that will be presented was explained to the Board. The issue is the lack of space for turning traffic, especially larger trucks, in the 5-way intersection. The inability of them to clear the turns, causes backup and congestion at both the 4-way and 5-way intersections. By building roundabouts in the 5-way intersection and on River Street, along with a river crossing, this will allow through traffic to flow smoothly, eliminating the traffic jams downtown and promote pedestrian safety with less traffic and larger sidewalks as well as slowing traffic speed through the downtown area. The sidewalks will be widened, and traffic will be one lane in each direction. There was discussion about the 4-way intersection of North/Main and River Streets...pedestrian safety and the sight lines for traffic crossing Main Street were of concern. Kennedy explained nothing is set in stone and there are options for a 4-way stop, 2-way stop or leaving the lights still available. Belletete was concerned for pedestrian safety in the roundabout. Kennedy explained that it's actual safer to cross in a roundabout due to only one lane of traffic to cross, reduced speed of the traffic and there will be crossing guards during school times. Chamberlain asked if there had been any more recent drone videos done, as the current one is 2 years old. Kennedy said no, but they have adjusted the traffic lights at both intersections and the left turn on yellow has reduced congestion somewhat. Chamberlain was also concerned about the computerized cars coming in the future being able to navigate the new traffic configuration. Kennedy assured the Board that all impacts will be identified and the design can be reworked. The final decision is made by the State, but Jaffrey will have input. Belletete said from a business standpoint, the new configuration will be a positive impact on downtown businesses as well as parking and pedestrian traffic. Sterling mentioned the street lights and plantings will add to the downtown feel and the State will coordinate with the sidewalk project to complete all the work in conjunction with the town. Carolyn Garretson feels this plan will make downtown pedestrian friendly.

Peter Chamberlain was concerned with the ability of movement for service vehicles. The roundabouts are made to accommodate service vehicles being able to pass motorists using the center of the island avoiding backups in the circle. Larger service vehicles can make the gradual turns as opposed to the 90 degree turns required now at the lights. Air quality will improve as vehicles will be idling for shorter periods.

All concerns will be brought up at the public hearing on October 2nd and brought to the commission. A report from the commission is then generated...then if approved is brought to the State. There will be ample opportunities for public input. The Board is in favor of the project.

D. Public Hearings – None

E. Approval of Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Public Minutes of 9/9/19 were approved (3-0).

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Non-Public Minutes of 9/9/19 were approved and sealed (3-0).

F. Consent Agenda

1. Payroll and Vendor Manifests
2. Abatements
 - a) #19-66 – Cynthia & Rick Caron – 8 Spruce Street – Refund - \$83.40Water/\$108.60Sewer
3. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber
 - a) #19-233-08-T – Carolyn Deschenes – Map 247/Lot1.3 - Town Farm Road
 - b) #19-233-09-T – Paul Deschenes – Map 247/Lot 1.4 – Town Farm Road
 - c) #19-233-07-T – Rebecca DeGrandpre – Map 247/Lot 1.6 – Dean Farm Road
 - d) #19-233-06-T – Robert Deschenes – Map 247/Lot 1.7 – Dean Farm Road
 - e) #19-233-10-T - Charles Deschenes - Map 247/Lot1.2 - Dean Farm Road
 - f) #19-233-11-T - Laura Lewandowski - Mapb247/Lot 1.5 - Town Farm Road
4. Authorization to Expend from the Reclamation Fund
 - a) \$297.50 – Oil Energy Recovery, Inc. – Collection and Recycling of Used Oil
5. Raffle Request
 - a) Jaffrey Parks & Recreation – Holiday Craft Fair Raffle
6. Library Trustee Appointment
 - a) Lou Casagrande - Trustee - Term Expires 2020
7. Tax Collector's 9th Cycle 2019 Water & Sewer Commitment Warrant
 - a) Water - \$108,678.13
 - b) Sewer - \$104,311.91

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented (3-0).

G. Old Business – None

H. New Business-

- Schedule Public Hearing for Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance Change - The change would prohibit alcoholic beverages on town beaches, at special events and Town property. In the case of a private event, then a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and property owner would be written and accepted. A Public Hearing will be scheduled for the next Select Board meeting on October 14th at 6pm.
- Festival of Fireworks Letter from Steve Pelkey - TM Frederick spoke to both the Fire and Police Chiefs. The PD is responsible for traffic control on Turnpike Road and throughout town, regardless of who is doing the security detail in the park. The Fire Chief is not comfortable going below the \$40,000. There is a debriefing meeting on October 1st at the Chamber. There will be some investigating to see if there is an RSA regarding crowd safety as well as asking the State Fire Marshall for a best practice's formula for fire coverage in large crowds.

I. Reports to the Select Board

Selectmen's Reports

Sterling- Budcom has met, Kathy Batchelder attended her first meeting since being appointed. Budget is tracking well.

Belletete- School Separation Committee will be coming to a decision in a couple of weeks on a vote to extend the presentation deadline to the State. They are still looking into the expense to Rindge if they pull out of the district. Rindge would have to reimburse the district for ½ of all outstanding bonds and all work done/invested into Rindge Memorial School. Ashley Saari asked if Rindge would then own RMS if they reimbursed the district, this was confirmed. If the extension is granted, the report will go to the State, then if approved, would then go to the voters and would need 51% vote from both towns for dissolution.

Chamberlain - The ConCom had a caterpillar lecture last week at the Meetinghouse. They will also have a booth at the Scarecrows on the Common event. They are waiting for the sidewalk completion on Goodnow Street, then they will install the plantings. Nora Barton Bryant's memorial bench will be installed on the Library lawn.

Cemetery Committee had a work session that he was unable to attend. Their next meeting is 10/10 3pm @ the Town Office. They are working on warrants for the budget.

Town Manager's Report

- Budcom meets next week.
- BOS meets again on 10/14/19.
- He will be in Nashville October 19-23 for a conference,

J. Other Business

Raffle Request - MLK Jr. Committee - On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the raffle request was approved (3-0).

K. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:33pm on a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain (3-0).

Submitted:

Attest:

Judith A. Zola
Administrative Assistant

Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.
Chairman

The Town of Jaffrey prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, marital or family status.

The Town of Jaffrey is an equal opportunity employer.