

STODDARD SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 1, 2011

Submitted by stoddard on Wed, 08/03/2011 - 2:04pm.

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 1, 2011

Attendees: Chairman Stymest, Selectmen Halter & GrandPre', Attorney Sam Bradley and Administrator James Coffey. Also present were members of the public.

Chairman Stymest opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting opened with Chairman Stymest stating the purpose of the meeting, which is to set the procedures for filling vacancies on the Zoning Board of Adjustment, and that would not be any public input taken.

Chairman Stymest the recognized Attorney Homer (Sam) Bradley.

Attorney Bradley opened by stating that all the letters of resignation are public, and copies can be obtained from Town Hall. He continued by addressing a letter sent to the Selectmen from Fred Ward requesting copies of the resignation letters, and asking questions of the Selectmen. He stated that Fred Ward can get copies of the letters but the Selectmen are not required to interpret them.

Sam explained that in Stoddard, the Zoning Board members are appointed by the Selectmen. He explained that it will be difficult to get people to fill the positions. It was mentioned that Fred Ward may feel that it will not be difficult

and commented that he had asked Fred Ward to resign. Attorney Bradley read from an email he had written stating some of the attributes required of new appointees, including being open minded and not prejudiced.

He next mentioned that some may be concerned that the Selectmen were in close compliance with those that resigned and assured everyone there that this was not the case. He then stressed that he had told the Selectmen that they should not consider anyone who had resigned.

Attorney Bradley stated the question, where do we go from here? It was mentioned that we need to go out looking for candidates, and that we need a ZBA that meets the criteria that was stated. Methods to reach people were discussed and included newspaper advertisements, fliers and scanning of the voter checklist.

Chairman Stymest suggested that we should accept the resignations with regret and thank them for their years of service. Selectman Halter moved to accept the resignations, with regret, and thank the former members for their years of service. The motion was seconded by Selectman GrandPre' and passed 3-0.

The canceling of scheduled hearings was brought up by Attorney Bradley and he felt as a practical matter it should be done by the Selectmen as part of their management of the prudential affairs of the Town. This is necessary since the two remaining members do not constitute a quorum. It was decided to have the Administrator arrange to notify those involved in the August 3rd hearings and any others.

Chairman Stymest asked Attorney Bradley about finding members and ZBA Rules of Procedure. He explained that the ZBA should adopt it's own procedures and the selectmen cannot dictate them. Patricia Putnam furnished the Board with a copy of the existing ZBA Rules of Procedure.

The subject of training for new members was discussed and James Coffey suggested using the Local Government Center (LGC) and OEP. LGC

November conference training was mentioned. Chairman Stymest noted that we also need a secretary, and that this is chosen by the ZBA. James Coffey suggested looking for a secretary at the same time and trying to create a pool that the ZBA could pick from when they are back to full force.

It was then suggested that some immediate goals should be set. The Board agreed to target three weeks for completion of making the selections and to meet at 7:00 P.M. on August 15 to review progress. Attorney Bradley will compose the advertisement based on his statement read earlier in the meeting. The Keene Sentinel will be used for a weekend block advertisement and the weekly Monadnock Shopper News will try to have two. The web site, local postings and fliers will also be used. Attorney Bradley suggested using block advertisement instead of the generic legal notice.

At 7:33 P.M. Selectman Halter, seconded by Selectman GrandPre', moved to adjourn. Motion was approved 3-0.

Respectfully submitted

James Coffey, Administrator

Approved

Arnold Stymest

Board of Selectmen

John D. Halter

Louis GrandPre'

SELECTMEN’S MEETING

SPECIAL MEETING TO ADDRESS ZBA VACANCIES

AGENDA AUGUST 1, 2011

7:00 P.M. Open with Pledge of allegiance.

Correspondence Received Relevant to the ZBA

1. Email to Jim Coffey relative August 3, hearing
2. Email to Town from Angel & Richard Nicoletti
3. Email to Town from John & Anne Cucchi
4. Email to Town from Kevin Belanger, NH DOT
5. Letter to Board of Selectmen (certified) from Fred Ward
6. ZBA Minutes from July 21, 2011
7. ZBA Minutes of February 15 & 25, 2011
8. ZBA Resignations

Discuss and develop plan to find suitable candidates for appointment to the ZBA, and consider notification of all concerned parties for currently scheduled hearings.