



Town of Plaistow ♦ Board of Selectmen
145 Main Street ♦ Plaistow ♦ NH ♦ 03865

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:

DATE: March 18, 2019

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:34pm

SELECTMEN:

Selectman, Julian Kiszka, Chairman
Selectman, John Sherman
Selectwoman, Francine Hart

Selectman, Peter Bracci, Vice Chairman
Selectman, Steve Ranlett
Mark Pearson, Town Manager

MINUTES

J. Sherman motions for the final time to approve the minutes of March 11, 2019. Seconded by P. Bracci.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion passes

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PUBLIC HEARING - CONSIDERATION OF NH DES GRANT FOR \$29,396.60

J. Kiszka opens the public hearing at 6:35pm.

M. Pearson states the grant in the amount of \$29,396.60 comes from the MtBE remediation fund for work to be performed on potable water projects. He recommends the Board accept the grant.

No one else has comments or questions.

J. Kiszka closes the public hearing at 6:37pm.

S. Ranlett motions to accept the grant of \$29,396.60 from the MtBE remediation fund. Seconded by J. Sherman.

Discussion: M. Pearson states the Town of Plaistow has a large site in the area of Route 125 and East Road contaminated from oil. The Town will receive several grants from the MtBE remediation fund to be used for the potable water project. The total amount will be about seven (7) million dollars. The grant we are considering tonight will be used to design a water ordinance and obtain a water operator. This will go out to bid as a Request for Proposal (RFP). Each grant we receive will be used for a particular potable water project. All the grants are 100% from the State. There is no matching portion from the Town of Plaistow.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion passes

AMERICAN LEGIONS RECOGNITION

Dave Meany, former Commander and Bruce Wentworth, Adjunct from the Carl G. Davis Post #34 American Legion are present tonight. D. Meany wants to recognize departing members of the Board. A quote by Air Force Captain Scott O'Grady a former F-16 pilot who was shot down in 1995 over Bosnia comes to mind. Captain O'Grady said, "it wasn't the reward that mattered or the recognition you might harvest. It was your depth of commitment, your quality of service, the product of your devotion. These were the things that count in life. When you give purely the honor is giving, and that honor is enough." D. Meany states J. Sherman and P. Bracci are representative of that quote. On behalf of the Post, he thanks J. Sherman and P. Bracci for their support to Veterans and to the Town of Plaistow. A certificate of appreciation is read and presented to each of them.

TRIBUTE TO PARTING SELECTMEN

J. Kiszka thanks J. Sherman for serving as a selectman for 18 years. It takes a lot of dedication and time away from family to serve. J. Sherman has been a selectman since 2001. He served as a Budget Committee member from 1988-2001. J. Sherman has been on many committees including the Town Report, Capital Improvement Program, Plaistow First, Recreation and many others. He has also been the selectman's representative to many committees such as the Timberlane School District Capital Improvements Program, Budget Committee, Highway Safety Committee, the Safety Complex Building Committee, and the Sandown Withdrawal Committee. Some of J. Sherman's proudest moments were walking in Memorial Day and Old Home Day Parades, often with his grandsons, and speaking at ceremonies including Memorial Day, Veteran's Day and the 9/11 Ceremony. J. Sherman often enjoyed summer concerts on the green. He has lived in Plaistow for 47 years, is married to his wife, Susan and has a daughter Kathleen, son-in-law Jay and two grandsons, Andrew and James. J. Sherman has coached softball and been an umpire for many years.

J. Kiszka thanks P. Bracci for serving as a selectman for the past 3 years. He too, has been dedicated and given up family time. For the past three (3) winter seasons he has given up traveling to Florida so he could be available for selectmen's meetings. J. Kiszka states P. Bracci served in the Air Force as a Lt. Colonel and he was an F4 Fighter Pilot in Vietnam. He has lived in Plaistow for 33 years with his wife Susan. He has a daughter Lisa and three grandsons. J. Kiszka wishes P. Bracci well on the Budget Committee.

S. Ranlett thanks P. Bracci for his service. Together, they learned to agree to disagree on several occasions yet S. Ranlett respects the work P. Bracci did as a selectman.

S. Ranlett thanks J. Sherman for his long length of service and how he mentored S. Ranlett when he first became a selectman. He thanks J. Sherman from the bottom of his heart.

J. Kiszka thanks J. Sherman. They had mutual respect and both has the best interest of the town in mind even if they did not always agree.

J. Kiszka thanks P. Bracci and feels the same about him. J. Kiszka presents P. Bracci with a certificate of appreciation form the Board for his dedication and achievement.

J. Kiszka presents J. Sherman with a rocking chair and a lamp as J. Sherman is an avid reader.

J. Kiszka states the meeting will pause for about 10 minutes as this is a special occasion

Resumed the meeting at 7:11pm

SWEARING IN OF ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICIALS

S. Ranlett swears in Martha Fowler as Town Clerk.

J. Kiszka states before swearing in of the new selectman J. Sherman and P. Bracci would like to say a few words.

P. Bracci states he has reached the end of his tour and he thanks the citizens of Plaistow for the opportunity to serve them. He hopes he was able to provide some of what was expected of him. He states the Board is not a rubber stamp and offers a platform where tough questions/questions the people want can be asked. At his first Selectmen's meeting on March 21, 2016 he questioned Safe Routes to School (SRTS) and at his last meeting the topic was Skip's Garage. In between there are a few debates he would both rather remember and forget. He feels he failed in lowering taxes which was his campaign pledge and hopes that is not the case in the future. He would like to thank many people including Beth Hossack for her advice and smiles, Jim Peck for his heartfelt work on the 'no layover', Laurie Millett for her research and dedication, Bob Hamilton for encouraging him to be a selectman and always having his back, and his family. His wife Sue and daughter Lisa put up with him through it all. He hopes he made life a bit better for the citizens of Plaistow.

J. Sherman thanks the citizens of Plaistow for allowing him to serve for 28 years. He appreciates their support. He has no grand plan for what comes next. He thinks there may be some committees or commissions who may want his assistance. When he thinks back on past accomplishments he thinks "we" not "I" as most accomplishments were a result of working together. During his time as a selectman he did recommend three (3) new committee which he believes were very effective. They include the Town Hall Renovation Committee, the Land & Buildings Committee. This committee identified all property and buildings owned by the Town and how to best use them. The last committee he recommended was the Public Safety Building Committee. He wishes his fellow selectmen and the two new incoming selectmen luck. He states being a selectman is unique and you really do not know what it's like until you do it. You start to look at things differently. You need to do what is best for the Town not for yourself. He thanks the current Board and welcomes J. Blinn and G. Taillon.

J. Kiszka swears in John A. Blinn, Sr. and Greg Taillon as Selectmen

J. Sherman and P. Bracci leave the podium area and J. Blinn and G. Taillon are seated.

M. Fowler, Town Clerk swears in the following people to the following positions:

- Michele Sykes – Alternate Library Trustee
- Todd Marcotte – Conflict of Interest Committee
- Laure Milette – Planning Board

- Peter Bracci – Budget Committee
- Maxann Dobson – Budget Committee
- Kerry Patles – Treasurer
- Tammy Bergeron – Trustee of the Trust Funds
- Gayle Hamel – Supervisor of the Voter Checklist

J. Kiszka states the meeting will pause for a few minutes.

Resumed the meeting at 7:38pm

SELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR

J. Blinn motions to nominate S. Ranlett as Chair.

G. Taillon motions to nominate F. Hart as Chair. Seconded by S. Ranlett.

S. Ranlett declines the position of Chair as motioned by J. Blinn.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion passes

F. Hart motions to nominate J. Kiszka as Vice Chair. Seconded by G. Taillon.

S. Ranlett motions to nominate himself as Vice Chair. Seconded by J. Blinn.

A vote is called on the first motion.

Vote: 3-0-2 (abstain S. Ranlett, J. Blinn)

Motion passes

S. Ranlett withdraws his motion. J. Blinn withdraws his second.

F. Hart is the Chair and J. Kiszka is the Vice Chair for the 2019 season.

F. Hart recommends all selectmen should read the Code of Ethics and abide by them.

APPOINTMENT OF MAURA WENTWORTH, ON-CALL ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

M. Pearson introduces Maura Wentworth. M. Wentworth has been hired as the new on-call Animal Control Officer (ACO). She resides in Hampstead, NH with her family. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science from the University of New Hampshire. M. Wentworth is currently the ACO for Atkinson, NH. She was previously the Assistant ACO in Hampstead, NH. M. Pearson states the Town of Plaistow worked with the Town of Atkinson to create a joint venture for M. Wentworth to be the ACO for both Towns.

M. Wentworth states it is a privilege to work for the Town of Plaistow and she thanks the Board for welcoming her.

G. Taillon asks about crows found dead due to West Nile Virus. M. Wentworth recommends if this happens to call her. Residents should not handle dead crows.

F. Hart thanks M. Wentworth for coming tonight.

S. Ranlett asks M. Pearson how many applicants applied to the position.

M. Pearson replies, two (2).

BOARD REORGANIZATION

F. Hart refers to the list of committees/commissions which require a Selectman's Representative. The selections will take place at the next meeting.

VISIONS SOFTWARE CONTRACT

M. Pearson put a packet together with pertinent information regarding past assessing discussions. F. Hart would like M. Pearson to move forward with a purchase and sales agreement to purchase Visions Software.

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

M. Pearson reviews the purpose of the Town Managers Report for the benefit of the new selectmen. He also mentions the master agreement for all the towns in the regional potable water project is close to execution. If you have any questions or would like more information stop by M. Pearson's office to speak with him.

- Attended Several Meetings
- NH Department of Environmental Services MtBE Grant
- Potable Water
- Public Works Garage Information
- Court House Lease
- Personnel

ACTION ITEMS

S. Ranlett would like #8 to be changed from J. Sherman as the requester to S. Ranlett. He also asks if there is any new information on this issue.

M. Pearson replies, Attorney Kalman is taking legal action to secure a title.

M. Pearson mentions a plot of land on Forest Street that was sold at the December 2017 auction may be larger than we thought. The current owner is trying to determine the actual size.

F. Hart states the other action items will be discussed at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

F. Hart recommends forgoing this section tonight unless anyone has something to add.

G. Taillon mentions his chart of voter turnout. He hopes Plaistow will find a way to increase voter turnout in future elections.

F. Hart thanks him for jumping right into work as a selectman.

S. Ranlett

- He would like to see the resumes of the applicants for Fire Chief. He states P. Bracci previously checked with legal counsel and found this to be approved. M. Pearson states he would like to confirm with legal counsel first. S. Ranlett agrees.
- States there will be a recount for the Town of Danville School Board Representative on Wednesday, March 20. This is open to the Public.
- States on 3/25 he, as the School District Moderator will moderate the interviews for the Assistant Superintendent position.
- Thanks J. Sherman for looking into who will be part of the committee to study the feasibility of Timberlane withdrawing from SAU 55. The committee will include 4 citizens, if you are interested please contact S. Ranlett, 2 School Board Members, the Superintendent (non-voting member) and a Budget Committee Member.

J. Kiszka

- Attended the Rockingham Planning Meeting – a good presentation was given on Energy. Tonight, there was another meeting regarding sharing power providers/rates amongst communities.

S. Ranlett motions to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (A) Public Employee; (B) Hiring; (C) Reputation; (D) Property Transactions; (E) Pending or Threatened Litigation; (I) Emergency Functions; (J) Confidential Information; (L) Consideration of Legal Advice. Seconded by G. Taillon.

Board Polled: F. Hart = yes, J. Kiszka = yes, S. Ranlett = yes, J. Blinn = yes, G. Taillon = yes Motion passes

Exited public session at 8:15pm

Reconvened public session at 8:17pm

F. Hart adjourned the meeting at 8:17pm

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hossack,
Recording Secretary