



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

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:

DATE: February 24, 2020

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

SELECTMEN:

Selectwoman, Francine Hart, Chairman
Selectman, Greg Taillon
Mark Pearson, Town Manager

Selectman, Julian Kiszka, Vice Chairman
Selectman, John A. Blinn, Sr.

Boy Scout Pack 18 and Cub Scout Pack 118 present the colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

TOWN REPORT DEDICATION

F. Hart states each year the Town Report Committee selects a special person to dedicate the report to. It is with great pleasure the 2019 Town Report is dedicated to Mr. John A. Sherman. Mr. Sherman has dedicated 30 years of services to the Town including several years on the Budget Committee followed by 6 consecutive terms as Selectman. He has worked on almost every committee/board the Town has and he created some of these.

State Representative Norm Major congratulates John. He states John is a remarkable guy and as a former Selectmen himself he knows the hard work John has done. John has always asked the right questions and did his best to protect the Town of Plaistow. Norm is very proud of John.

Sue Sherman states all the work John devoted to the town often took him away from his family however they are proud of his accomplishments.

M. Pearson thanks John for counseling him when he started as Town Manager and helping him get up to speed. John always had a file of information that would help.

Bill Coye thanks John for helping out with Recreation. The program would not be the same without his help and support.

J. Kiszka thanks John personally for being a Selectman for 18 years. It takes a lot of time out of a person's life and he truly appreciates it. He knows people in town also appreciate it.

Dee Voss thanks John for believing in her.

F. Hart would like to publicly thank the Town Report Committee as well as Dee Voss and Cathy Willis for all their work on the report. She also thanks John and his family.

John states he is very pleased for the dedication. He states Norm Major was a role model for him. He states Norm always tried to do what was best for the Town. Tom Cullen was another role model for John. The Town Report was one of John's "babies". He remembers receiving heartfelt letters from citizens back in 2001 who were disappointed in the Town Report. He made it one of his goals to improve the Town Report and he worked very hard to accomplish it. For many years Plaistow won the State Award for the best Town Report. The State no longer recognizes a winner. John states back in 1990 the Town Moderator was Barry Sergeant, his neighbor. Barry asked John if he would be interested in serving on the Budget Committee and John did for 10 years. Then he continued his dedication to the town by being a Selectman for 18 years. Some of the work John is most proud of is the Master Plan, Safety Complex Expansion, the Public Works Garage and the future planning for Plaistow. John said his father was on the Budget Committee for 40 years. His mother was the Tax Collector and on the School Board for many years. It seemed natural to dedicate time to the town. He appreciates this award. It has a lot of meaning for him. John thanks Dee for doing great job putting it together.

Tracy Fuller, YMCA Director states the YMCA came to Plaistow 7 years ago. John is a member of their Board and their Strategic Planning Committee. She appreciates and thanks him for his assistance.

John thanks everyone for coming tonight.

MINUTES

G. Taillon motions to approve the minutes of February 3, 2020. Seconded by J. Blinn.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CABLE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE REQUEST

Dean Zanello, Cable Coordinator would like to purchase some equipment. He could not attend the meeting tonight therefore he wrote an email with an explanation. The desktop he uses is running on Windows 7 which is no longer supported by Microsoft. It is also 10 years old. He would like to upgrade the desktop to allow for 4K video editing and increased memory. The amount needed is \$2,000.00. Dean also would like to replace the 10-year-old consumer camcorder with professional, modern equipment allowing for better sound, and recording in higher resolutions for future needs. The cost for the 4K Camera and accessories is \$3,000.00.

G. Taillon motions to withdraw up to \$5000.00 from the Cable Franchise Fund to purchase a Desktop Computer to replace the current 10-year-old workstation and to purchase a 4K Camera with accessories to replace the 10-year-old consumer camcorder with professional, modern equipment. Seconded by J. Blinn.

Discussion: J. Kiszka thinks \$2,000.00 is high for a desktop computer.

G. Taillon states the computer Dean needs requires much more RAM and graphics than a regular workstation. It also requires a hefty CPU.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries

APPOINTMENTS TO RECREATION COMMISSION

F. Hart states it is a great honor to be appointed to a committee/commission or board and with that comes great responsibility. Members are expected to attend meetings and participate. She asks the appointees to introduce themselves.

Jennifer Gusler has been an alternate member to the Recreation Commission for the past year. She is a Plaistow resident, has children and is very involved with Recreation activities.

Leah McKean has a child who is getting older allowing her more time to help in Town. She has always been involved in Recreation programs and is happy to assist.

F. Hart thanks them for coming tonight and volunteering. They will be officially appointed later this evening.

PILOT PROGRAM

F. Hart states at the last Planning Board meeting they discussed a proactive approach regarding new businesses exempt from taxes that may come to town. The program is known as PILOT, Payment In Lieu Of Taxes. It would be wise to have a policy in place before more tax-exempt businesses come to town. She would like everyone to read the handouts and this will be discussed in more depth at a future meeting. Such a policy cannot be forced onto a business however with a written policy, businesses should step up to the plate, be responsible community members and help out.

G. Taillon asks if a policy should become part of the Town Code.

F. Hart states she believes just a policy is needed.

J. Kiszka asks if any of this has been discussed with John Cashell, Town Planner.

F. Hart replies, yes. He provided some of the information. She plans to meet with the Fire Chief this week to discuss a plan with him.

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

- Attended several meetings.
- End of Year Financials.
- Staff Meeting.
- Southern New Hampshire Regional Interconnection Project Update.
- Landfill Meeting at NH Department of Environmental Services.
- New Highway Garage Update.
- Street Light Project Update.
- Proposed Salt Shed RFP.
- Recreation Commission – Update on Engineering Design.
- Public Safety Complex Road and Cemetery Expansion Project.
- Plaistow Courthouse Meeting.
- Pollard Road Culvert ARM Grant Approval.

- Personnel.

The Town received some letters from New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services regarding the testing of well water on Town owned properties. Dee Voss will follow up and make sure the water is tested.

J. Kiszka states one of the properties is Hale Spring Road. He states this property was once on a list of property the Board considered selling. It might be a better idea to not sell it.

F. Hart states the Town will not sell any property without first doing its due diligence to make sure property should be sold and if sold that we have proper deeding/documentation to sell it.

ACTION ITEMS

Reviewed.

OTHER FOLDERS

The signature, FYI, assessing and warrant folders are being passed around.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

G. Taillon

- Following the recent IT Assessment, he has been working on creating policies that are not in place and should be. He has sent drafts of the completed ones to the Board. Tonight, he has a draft for an Information Disaster Recovery Plan. Please read it and provide feedback to him.

J. Kiszka

- Has a concern that emergency services could enter the wrong house possibly causing damage trying to rescue someone since many homes do not have numbers on them. It is agreed to add the proper numbering of houses and buildings to the action item list.

J. Blinn

- Attended a Conservation Commission Meeting. The trails in the Town Forest will be redone by volunteers.
- Attended an Old Home Day Committee Meeting. Planning for the event is moving right along.
- Attended a Recreation Commission meeting. The drainage at PARC was discussed.

F. Hart

- Attended an Energy Committee Meeting. The streetlight project is well under way. Town Hall will be recommended next.
- Attended the Planning Board Meeting. The future of the town especially along the Route 125 corridor was discussed. They plan to be proactive with future businesses coming to town.
- Voting – everyone participated with the primary election. Perhaps the same schedule should be kept for March elections. We heard from the Secretary of State that voting was flawless in Plaistow.
- Attended a meeting with John Sherman and Bill Coye regarding the recreation trails.
- Attended the meeting for the Plaistow Courthouse.

- Attended the TRAC Meeting. Our trash contract is up in July of 2021. They will be researching trash collection companies. They may consider a ban on plastic bags in Plaistow depending on what the State Legislature does.

OTHER BUSINESS

J. Kiszka recently spoke to a resident of Walton Road. The resident is very happy the road closure is still in place. He would like to look into making this permanent. This will be added to the action item list.

G. Taillon 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 Related to Terrorism; (J) Confidential Information in Adjudicative Proceedings; (L) Consideration of Legal Advice. Seconded by J. Blinn.

*Board Polled: F. Hart = yes, J. Kiszka = yes, G. Taillon = yes, J. Blinn = yes
Motion carries*

Left public session at 8:10 p.m.

Resumed public session at 8:12 p.m.

F. Hart calls for a 5-minute recess.

G. Taillon 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 Related to Terrorism; (J) Confidential Information in Adjudicative Proceedings; (L) Consideration of Legal Advice. Seconded by J. Kiszka.

*Board Polled: F. Hart = yes, J. Kiszka = yes, G. Taillon = yes, J. Blinn = yes
Motion carries*

Left public session at 8:15 p.m.

Resumed public session at 8:31 p.m.

*J. Kiszka motions to seal the minutes from non-public session, #2. Seconded by G. Taillon.
Vote: 4-0-0
Motion carries*

G. Taillon 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 Related to Terrorism; (J) Confidential Information in Adjudicative Proceedings; (L) Consideration of Legal Advice. Seconded by J. Kiszka.

*Board Polled: F. Hart = yes, J. Kiszka = yes, G. Taillon = yes, J. Blinn = yes
Motion carries*

Left public session at 8:32 p.m.

Resumed public session at 8:40 p.m.

F. Hart adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hossack,
Recording Secretary