

**TOWN OF EAST KINGSTON, NH
SELECTMEN'S PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010
WORK SESSION**

6:30PM – School Board Member Bob Nigrello

**ATTENDING: Selectmen Matthew B. Dworman, Richard S. Poelaert & David R. Pendell, Jr.
OTHERS ATTENDING: Cheryll Hurteau and Bob Nigrello.**

Mr. Poelaert called this Selectmen's work session to order at 6:30PM, noting Mr. Dworman will be a few minutes late.

School Board member Bob Nigrello asked to meet with the Board to discuss an application to the NH State Office of Energy & Planning for a grant for energy measures at the EK Elementary School under the American Recovery & Reconstruction Act.

Mr. Nigrello presented a letter dated 1/25/10 to the Board members with an explanation and asking for their support to file an application. It was noted the deadline to file is 2/15/2010.

Mr. Nigrello noted there is grant money through the federal government with stimulus money at the Energy Office level, a letter of intent was sent in by 1/15/2010, and they received a response that they need the Town's support and signature as the governing body.

He would like to have the Board of Selectmen sign off on the grant for the energy projects at the school. He added he is asking for \$400,000 for three projects: 1: \$24,000 to replace windows; 2: \$125,000 for a new boiler system, noting the current system is 16-20 years old, and 3: solar panels \$250,000, for a total of \$399,000.

He is hoping to get any one of the projects, and noted matching funds are not needed. The solar panels will cost \$500,000; with \$250,000 from the grant, and \$250,000 the school will cover the cost.

It was noted it was modeled after what Nathan Lunney at SAU #16 proposed for a solar panel project at Exeter High School.

Mr. Nigrello noted annually the energy bill at the Elementary School is \$30,000, and they plan to save \$10,000 per year and reduce the cost to \$20,000 per year, therefore, at the end of three years, they will have saved \$30,000.

Mr. Nigrello added there are nine categories available, and he covered 2 out of the 9 with windows and alternative energy. Mr. Pendell **MOTIONED** to support the application, take ownership and approve the application to be submitted to the NHOE & P for the projects at the Elementary School as presented by School Board Chairman Bob Nigrello, with authorization for the Board to sign the application. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Mr. Nigrello added the deadline to file is 2/15/10, he will have the final application for the Board to sign prior to that, and they should know by the end of March whether the grant is accepted or not. They allow 1½ years to complete the projects.

Mr. Nigrello thanked the Board and left the meeting at 6:50PM, after he agreed to provide the completed application to the Selectmen's Office for the Board members to sign.

Mr. Pendell presented a notice he would like the Board's approval to include in the Town Report. The Board reviewed the notice which will ask the residents, if they choose to, to submit their email addresses to the Selectmen's Office, and the webmaster would compile them and set it up to be used to disburse important information to residents. He has wanted to build a database for this reason. He added the school has their own with the students' parents listed.

He gave examples like the December 2008 ice storm, deliberative session with babysitting available, voting day, projects being done on roads, just the big things going on to let people know. The Town would only use the information to let residents know what's going on and not used for any other purpose, nor give the information to anyone else. The Board members agreed to put it in the Town Report.

Ms. Gallant noted the deliberative session is at 7:00PM on Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2010, at the EK Elementary School, and asked if the Board members would be available to "set up" at the School after 3:00PM. They agreed to. Mr. Pendell added he has arranged for babysitting services at the School for the deliberative session.

It was further noted 150 handouts would be available with the budget and warrant for the residents.

BUDGET: The Board members reviewed the budget. Ms. Gallant explained the budget and the increases/decreases by line item. It was noted the budget is at \$2,575,000, and the default is \$18,000 less at \$2,557,000.

Mr. Pendell noted the increase in the line item for bond debt is due to the conservation easement payment is up, and the library and police station portion is down from 2009.

Mr. Dworman joined the meeting at 6:55PM.

Ms. Gallant provided informational sheets on the budget for the deliberative session in case there are questions.

Mr. Poelaert noted the 2009 budget was under spent by \$344,000+. Ms. Gallant explained the road agent budget was under spent because there were not many snowstorms during Nov/Dec as in past years, and with the weather warmer, the heating costs were lower for all of the buildings. It was noted you still have to budget in 2010, as you don't know what the weather will be. She further noted that only 11 months were paid for the Waste Management contract, as the December bill went to the Town of Kingston, and she did not receive it until this week for payment, so the line item 4323 shows \$17,000 under expended, and the December bill was for \$14,000+. She notified the auditors, and a journal entry will be made to reflect the payment in the final audit.

It was also noted the Special Detail line item was set at \$46,000, and only about \$20,000 was spent. For 2010 the Police Chief requested \$56,000, and the detail rate was increased from \$35 to \$40 per hour.

The legal line item was also under expended as throughout the year, 3 or 4 cases went away that the Board was not aware would happen when the 09 budget was formulated.

Mr. Dworman noted the Fire Dept. is under budget, as the Fire Chief was not paid for the last 2 ½ months of the year. Mr. Dworman also added all of the air packs were not purchased; therefore, the fire dept. was able to under expend their budget over \$30,000.

Mr. Poelaert noted the Town buildings were under spent, and Ms. Gallant explained electric and heating costs were down for the latter part of the year. Last year, it was very cold and it wasn't this year, but may again be next year, so you still have to budget for it.

Mr. Poelaert noted the Town Hall and Railroad Depot have been shut down during the winter months to save costs.

NONPUBLIC SESSION: Chairman Dworman **MOTIONED** to go into a nonpublic session at 7:20PM under RSA 91-A-3, II: para (a) The dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.

The Board was polled & determined the divulgence of the information would render the proposed action ineffective & the information will be withheld from the public during the public meeting Minutes of January 25, 2010. The results of the poll were: Matthew B. Dworman –Yes, Richard S. Poelaert–Yes, & David R. Pendell, Jr. - Yes.

Mr. Poelaert **MOTIONED** to adjourn this Selectmen's non-public meeting at 8:20PM. Mr. Pendell seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Poelaert **MOTIONED** to adjourn this Selectmen's public meeting at 8:20PM. Mr. Pendell seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah G. Gallant
Administrative Assistant

Matthew B. Dworman

Richard S. Poelaert

David R. Pendell, Jr.

