# Town of Farmington Board of Selectmen Public Meeting Minutes Monday, June 5, 2023 Selectmen's Chambers 356 Main Street-Farmington, NH 03835

### **Board Members Present**;

Others Present:

Charlie King, Vice Chairman

Ken Dickie, Town Administrator

**Ann Titus** 

Dana Huff, Tighe & Bond Engineering

Doug Staples

Penny Morin

**Board Members Absent:** 

Gerry Vachon, Chairman

1). Call to Order:

Vice Chairman King called the meeting to order at 5:26 p.m.

2). Non-Public Session A:

Motion: (King, second Morin) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a)

Compensation passed 4-0 by a roll call vote (King, Titus, Staples, Morin-aye) at 5:26 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Titus) to come out of non-public session passed 4-0 at 6:01 p.m.

3). Reconvene Public Session:

Vice Chairman King reconvened the public session at 6:03 p.m.

4). Pledge of Allegiance:

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

5). Public Input: None

Mr. King said as Vice Chair he would be filling in for Mr. Vachon who was not able to be at the meeting tonight.

6). Review of Minutes:

May 22, 2023-Public Session Minutes- No errors or omissions

<u>Motion:</u> (Morin, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 3-0-1 (Staples abstained).

May 30, 2023-Public Session Minutes- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Staples, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 4-0.

May 22, 2023-Non-Public Sessions A, B & C- No errors or omissions

<u>Motion:</u> (Morin, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 3-0-1 (Staples abstained).

<u>Motion:</u> (Morin, second King) to seal the minutes of Non-Public Session B under legal for one year and to seal the minutes of Non-Public Session C as disclosure would adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of the board for one year passed 3-0-1 (Staples abstained).

### 7). Old Business:

Community/Paramedic Intercept Service Memorandum of Understanding- Mr. Dickie said in their packets the board received copies of correspondence from Att. Keriann Roman where she gave them 4 possibilities as a remedy for this. He said they are going after #3 for a sit down with Rochester and they made contact with us and he told them this Thursday at 10 a.m. they want to sit down with them. He said the Vice President of Frisbie Hospital will be there as well as some personnel from the Rochester Fire Dept. and possibly someone from the City Council so they will have a round table here on Thursday at 10 a.m.

Mrs. Titus asked who would be attending that meeting.

Mr. Dickie said he and Fire Chief James Reinert would attend the meeting. He said as far as he knows Rochester will not have legal counsel at this meeting but if hears that they will he will ask Att. Roman to be there too.

Mr. King said he agrees with that approach and he read through her memo and we have some good arguments where we have a lot of mutual calls similar to what they have for mutual aid so it's very balanced and what they are proposing is not balanced. He said it's like we're going to come to them and they're going to pay and they're going to come to us and we get it for free. That's not really how mutual aid is supposed to work. We have a mutual aid agreement with them and they are trying to find a way around it in some ways he said.

Mr. Dickie said he would update the board on the results of the meeting at next Monday's board meeting. He said if anything changes he will let them know what the changes are.

Street Sweeping- Mr. Dickie said they tried to find a company that had a vacuum sweeper and none bid that had the vacuum equipment so they are down just to a mechanical broom. He said he talked with Mr. Vachon about it and he said to bring it back to the board and try to loosen up the requirements so they can at least get it mechanically swept. He asked if they can relieve the requirement to allow them to contract with the same company with a mechanical sweeper who submitted a quote that he brought before the board at a previous meeting.

Mrs. Morin said they said if they didn't get one they would go with that.

<u>Motion</u>: (King, second Titus) to go with the prior bid requirements and use the street sweeper that applied for that bid passed 4-0.

Recycling Building Quote Update- Mr. Dickie said he had a little bit of discussion prior to this meeting and it sounds like he may be going on a road trip. He said he gave them the dimensions of 40' x 80' and there were some questions on whether we need the 80 ft.

He said the estimate came in from Jeff Greenhalgh for that dimension and everything that was included and it was approx. \$252,000.

Mr. King said in that \$252,000 some things are not quoted which are paving, installation of new utilities (gas, electric, water), building permits (can be waived) and a performance bond so they need to define their scope a little bit better on how they want that work to flow. He said if they could take look at some good recycling systems in towns that do it well they can maybe get a better plan. Maybe it will decrease the footprint, it should but if it doesn't, it doesn't he said. He said at this rate the building is going to be approaching \$300,000 and we have \$130,000, \$100,000 by the taxpayers, \$30,000 that we set aside from the ARPA funds and the rest they would have to scratch and dig from somewhere so they have to keep the scope down as much as possible. He asked if we were going to be able to do it for \$130,000 and then answered no. Mr. Staples said if the board agreed he would take Mr. Dickie up to New Boston and show him around.

Mr. King suggested that they take some pictures, do some sketches and bring a tape measure and ask them what they would do different. He said that is what they did when they did the Public Safety Building they went to 3 other towns, looked at theirs and asked them what they thought and then modeled it after what we needed and how they thought theirs could be better.

Mr. Dickie said there were some questions that came up from the public about the plans and where we can and can't build so he met with Bldg. Insp. /CEO Ron LeMere and anything after the fence is the old landfill and prior to the fence where the existing shed sits now out to the parking lot we are free to build.

Lease Agreement for Well #6- Mr. Dickie said they still have not located the original lease but they have a copy of the lease and he attached that with affidavit and got the verbal approval from the board and he hand-carried that down to Dover. He said the reason he hand-carried it was in case they had any concerns or didn't like something he could immediately get it back and get it changed so they could get that in place because the auction is on June 27. He said the affidavit has been recorded at the Registry of Deeds.

Mr. King said they would still be looking for that (the original lease) to reinforce that but they've put the auction house on notice of the Town's rights down there hopefully they will convey that to the bidders at the auction.

Mr. Dickie said they worked with their legal counsel to get the affidavit drawn up so they had input on it between both lawyers so what he was able to sign and get there was agreed upon. Levee Letter of Intent to US ACE for Hazard Mitigation Study- Mr. Dickie introduced Dana Huff of Tighe & Bond and said that he and Mr. Huff attended numerous meetings and they first met with Federal Emergency Management Agency in Concord but that was more of a financial meeting to tell us where the funds were going to be. He said they then got on the phone with the Army Corps of Engineers and started getting into the requirements and its coming down to they need to get this mitigation assessment completed. He said it comes down to 2 different ways they can do this and asked Mr. Huff to explain.

Mr. Huff said right now what is in question is the certification of the levee and what level of protection it currently provides. He said the way FEMA is looking at it they are re-mapping Farmington as if the levee doesn't exist which doesn't give you any protection so in order to change that process you have to go through an evaluation and there are several components to the evaluation.

He said one way to do it is to allow the ACE to do a risk assessment and in their risk assessment there are certain things they do like they want to know what the free board is and explained that if you have a certain level flood that comes thru how much dike they have above that and that's called free board. He said they want to know the seepage that goes through the levee so if the water is on this side and it's up here how much is going to seep through into downtown. He said they want to know about any settlement that is in the top and they walked this last Tuesday and there are some ups and downs. He said if the water hit the top of that levee all the way it would go through those low spots and cause a problem.

Mr. Huff said they want to know about inundation so with the levee in place if there are other areas in town that water can get into the downtown and cause flooding almost independent of the levee and then they want to do a hydraulic and hydrologic analysis that looks at all of the water in the area that drains to both rivers that impacts the levee system they want to reevaluate with the new climate data they have.

He said they won't do a drainage analysis or an emergency action plan which the Town already has and is being updated and they won't do an O & M manual and they have one but that would have to be updated.

He said in order to kickoff their process they ask for a letter of intent for the Town to move forward with this risk assessment. He said there is absolutely no commitment to the Town and they can't get it if they don't ask for it and there are several other communities across the United States that are asking for this federal program.

Mr. Huff said they will look at your specific case and they will come up with a value of what this risk assessment costs and they threw out a number between \$300,000 and \$800,000 and he thinks we would be on the low side. He said it's a big number and no dirt is getting moved here it's just the evaluation. He said if it is \$300,000 they pay half and the Town is obligated to pay the other half. It's like an RFP process we're asking them to give us this proposal but there is no commitment on your end you don't have to go with them if you don't want to or if you decide not to do anything with the levee there's no commitment on the Town's part he said.

Mr. King asked if they go through this risk assessment with ACE if FEMA would accept that. Mr. Huff said the only one that can do the risk assessment that FEMA accepts is the ACE. He said what Mr. Dickie was referring to is there is another approach that is called a deterministic approach and you're on the hook for that 100%. He said he believes that Stevens through Hoyle Tanner gave them a scope of work for that a couple of years ago and it wasn't something that was acceptable to the Town.

Mr. King said it wasn't that long ago and it was a lot of big numbers with no details.

Mr. Huff said the deterministic approach is the other way you can get FEMA to certify your levee but that is 100% on the Town so his proposal to the Town would be they would put a proposal together to do the deterministic approach so that when they get the number from ACE they can evaluate what they are going to do and which way they are going to go.

Mr. King asked if he was saying they were going to apply, ask them for an estimate for the risk assessment through ACE and Hoyle Tanner would give them an estimate to go the other way. Mr. Huff said then they would have 2 numbers to compare and something they can look at. He said what he can't tell them yet is does the levee meet 100% protection or not but his guess would be it does not given the climate change but what level does it provide and from there then they can determine if flood insurance is needed or what level of flood insurance is needed. That is what this whole process is trying to do is to certify your levee so you know exactly what level of protection you have for the downtown he said.

Mr. Dickie said the other thing going through the ACE and working with FEMA what that does if they get it caught in time it stops the printing of the maps.

Mr. Huff said they are mapping now and the way they're mapping it is called the natural valley model and it's as if nothing exists and they've seen the outlay and it covers the downtown.

Mr. Dickie said the ACE told them to feel free to use them as someone that blocks for you but they're the ones suggesting that we at least apply for this so we can get it in there so as soon as they notify FEMA it will prolong the mapping.

Mr. King asked if it puts a "stay" to it.

Mr. Huff said it has sort of a stay to it and FEMA estimates the final mapping would be at the end of 2024 so whichever way they decided to go if they decide to go anywhere they could then file what they call a Conditional Letter Of Map Revisions and the ACE would take their detailed analysis and re-map what FEMA is doing because FEMA is not using the data that they're going to use. We're going to have much better data to be able to determine what your level of protection from the levee is he said.

Mr. King asked if they come out of this risk assessment and the ACE says these are the deficiencies and they address them or put a plan in place to address those if FEMA is going to accept that and extend the flood insurance coverage.

Mr. Huff said they would have something in place to say we're going to do this. He said he didn't think they would just take the ACE's report and say okay this is what you have to do so we'll extend. I think there has to be some kind of a hook on the end of that-some kind of commitment on the Town's part to say yes we'll take of these deficiencies he said.

Mr. Dickie said in the mean time they are working on the hazard mitigation plan through Chief Reinert to get that back in good standing so then he can go at FEMA to offset some of the charges to update the levee. He said he can't go after the funds to update the levee until we get this hazard mitigation plan redone and it runs out in August.

Mr. King asked where they were going after funds.

Mr. Huff asked if there is \$35,000 thru NH DES to help them update the hazard mitigation plan. Mr. Dickie said they have \$25,000 for the update of the hazard mitigation plan and he was notified of it the other day. He said their current one runs out in August so he needs to get the next one in place to allow him to start applying for next year's monies to work on the levee. Mr. Huff said there are 2 or 3 funding sources that they are not eligible for until they have a valid hazard mitigation plan so this will open those doors. He said if the ACE risk assessment is the approach they want to take they can use in-kind services to help offset the Town's piece of this. He said for example at some point the levee is going to have to get a full topographic survey because they have to find out where all these undulations and dips are and they can apply that towards the Town's half of that risk assessment. He said there are a number of things they could do and when they were with the ACE last Tues. she said she was going to give them a better list of the things they could use to offset the costs.

Mr. Huff said if he was sitting on their side of the table he would give Mr. Dickie the authority to submit this letter of intent to get that process moving forward.

Mr. Dickie said she states in the meeting summary there is no obligation and they can withdraw any time they want even if they get into the middle of the assessment and realize they've met what FEMA needs and they don't need any more then they just pay them what they currently owe them and forfeit the rest of it. At any point in this process you can withdraw he said.

Mr. King said he thought that would be unlikely with what they have. He said they have always been trying to stay on top of the deficiencies or the things the ACE comes up with when they do their inspections so we always have something to work on so he was sure based on this analysis that list will grow. He asked Mr. Huff if he had any experience with this new climate information and how that affects these types of systems and if it is a big or little change or depending.

Mr. Huff said it depends and there is definitely a change. He said when they did the analysis back in the 1950's for this levee they are talking about more water today than back then.

Mr. King asked if they actually calculated the water shed as he described they are going to do now back then.

Mr. Huff said other than some impervious surfaces that have been created since they did that which there is a fair amount of, the big picture hasn't changed all that much. He said the watershed is pretty much the same it's just what is the amount of water that they are now considering to be a 100 year flood. He said they have worked with that and there are some changes and there is some give and take with that stuff and it's not etched in stone so they can push back on a few things with the ACE, FEMA and DES.

Mr. Dickie said another thing they are looking at heavily and trying to get from the state is the bridge design because as you stand at the levee and look back the top of the levee as it exists today is probably over where the cars drive currently. He said the surface of the bridge is below the top of the levee so as Troy (Troy Barry, Tighe & Bond) pointed out the more they heighten

the levee the more they are going to expose that bridge because no matter where you put that levee the water will still come over that bridge and then come into town. He said if look at 20 ft. of the levee it's tapered down to meet the road height.

Mrs. Morin said that bridge is a state bridge so the state would be...

Mr. Huff said they did an analysis and that is what they are trying to get a hold of to find out what their analysis was.

Mr. Dickie said they're looking for the state design to find out what their analysis was and what allowed them to put that bridge at the height that it's at because all the supports underneath are well below the top of the levee so it does nothing to hold the water back.

Mr. Huff said they had to do a study in order to build the bridge and they had to design the bridge for an opening to fit a certain amount of water through it from that watershed. I know what they would make you do if it was your bridge and did they follow the same routine and we're going to find out. That would be helpful information to us moving this forward he said. Mr. Staples said the ACE built the levee and asked if they have any information on what they built it out of.

Mr. Huff said they do but he wouldn't say that they have great records.

Mr. Staples said they're going to build it and then they're going to charge us to come back and see if it was built properly.

Mr. King said they are going to analyze the free board and if it is still where it is supposed to be, address the shoaling which is always a thing and they're going to come with the same thing we always get flagged on which is the vegetation. He said he didn't know if they are aware of this but one of the vegetation we have been fighting is the Japanese knotweed and they can feel free to give the magic stuff or come out and take care of that for us.

Mr. Huff said it's everywhere and it's a tough one to control. This is one of the first steps he said.

Mr. King said they are on a better path than we have been and made the following motion:

<u>Motion</u>: (King, second Staples) to authorize Ken Dickie to send a letter of intent to the Army Corps of Engineers passed 4-0.

Mr. Huff said he hoped to come back with better news.

Mr. King said the news he gave them was better than in the past because they weren't presented with multiple options and there wasn't enough information for them to feel comfortable and that is why he is here. He asked what he thought the timeline would be once they do this letter of intent.

Mr. Huff said they thought they would have their proposal back to the board by mid-summer. He said in the mean time they will put together their proposal or a cost for the deterministic approach so they could compare the two.

Mr. King said some of the other things they know they may have to do is to take care of the shoals so there may be some permitting and asked if they should start that sooner than later.

Mr. Huff said they could but they are going to have do other things besides that and the fellow working with him is a professional that studies rivers and he had some good ideas about modifications to get the water to go where it needs to go because right now in 2 sections the water is coming on the inside of the turn and it should be following the outside and that is causing the shoaling. He said if they could put that water where it needs to go on the outside it would stop that.

Mr. Huff said he has some interesting concepts and he talked to the Corps and the ACE did their inspection along with DES so both agencies were out there last Tues. and they were there the entire time. He said then they came back and discussed this stuff afterwards so they have a really good understanding of where they are and what they are doing. He said they will get an inspection report from the ACE but he didn't know if they will get one from DES and they may piggyback on the ACE report.

He said he didn't think it makes sense to start the permitting now because there may be other things they may need to do and then they are going to have to go back and re-permit those and with how much fun permitting can be he would recommend that they do it once. I think you're on the right path he said.

<u>Chaos & Kindness Event-</u> Mr. Dickie said the event went well and approx. 260 people showed up probably about 255 people with tickets and they let in a few without tickets. He said they met in the command center which was the old SAU building out back.

Mr. King asked if all 300 tickets were given out but not everybody that got a ticket showed up. Mr. Dickie said that is correct. He said they handed out 300 tickets and of that some were given to Chief Orlando which he handed back out and some were turned in to Erica Rogers and others so they had about 255-258 people with tickets show up and there was a handful that they let in without tickets. He said they were expecting 50 or so people to show up that wouldn't have tickets that wanted to see the show so they had a sub-meeting in the command center with him, Superintendent Ruth Ellen Vaughn, Chief Orlando and Chief Reinert and in order to calm them down they knew they were within the safety realm of things and they were probably going to let them in but that never came to fruition so they didn't have to worry about that. He said it was well policed and the crowd was well behaved and it went through flawlessly. Mr. Dickie said they had 7 Police Officers for 4 hours and that came to about \$1,200 and 3 Firefighters which came to about \$400 so in all it was about \$1,600 that would come out of the Rec. Dept. revolving account to cover the overtime for the personnel needed to man the event. Mr. King asked if the Town owed any money to the School District for cleanup or facility use. Mr. Dickie said Mrs. Vaughn already had custodians on and they didn't allow food or drink in the gym so there were maybe a handful of candy wrappers and all they had to do was sweep the gym floor. He said they met this morning to go over the good, the bad and the ugly and what they wanted to change and Mrs. Vaughn said there wasn't that much and all they had to do was sweep the gym floor and that was it.

Mrs. Morin said it was a really good event.

Mr. King said on behalf of the Board of Selectmen they should sent the School Board a thank you for letting the Town use their facilities especially with the short notice and lack of details from this group which is the way they seem to be.

Mr. Dickie said they would do that.

Mrs. Morin said she worked the door and people came in and handed their tickets and they were very happy, no one was denied any entry. It was a really good event I was very happy she said.

Mr. King said he was glad it went well.

Fernald Park Playground- Mrs. Morin asked where they were at with the playground.

Mr. Dickie said he was meeting with Mrs. Rogers tomorrow to get more details on when it's coming in and what their quote is for putting the posts in themselves so they can compare it.

Mrs. Morin said they were going between volunteers and when they were setting that up.

Mr. Dickie said 500 Club is using MBG to volunteer that as an in-kind service as well.

Mrs. Morin asked if he would have more details at their next meeting after he meets with Mrs. Rogers tomorrow.

Mr. Dickie said he would "radio out" when they are going to do that.

<u>Ten Rod Road Ditching</u>-Mrs. Morin said they talked about this a little bit earlier and it looks really good and they are doing a really nice job.

Mr. Dickie said he hadn't been up there today but Highway Dept. Supervisor Ed Brannan said they finished that up today on their end and now he is going to start moving down through. He said they attacked the corner of Hornetown Rd. and Ten Rod Rd. and that hasn't been ditched for years and that got completed today so now they are starting to move down through. He said he was trying to hit the critical end first which is where it washed out.

Mrs. Morin said the roller has been sitting up there for quite a while up on Aiken Rd.

Mr. Dickie said he intended on grading but he asked him to hold off until he got the culverts replaced so he will have him move it and get to the areas they are going to grading soon. He said it makes no sense to grade it and get it ready to go and then you go back in and pull the culverts out, put new ones in and they might as well get that done first and then you grade it, roll it, put the calcium down and that road is done.

**Excavator Rental**- Mr. Staples asked how long they have the excavator for.

Mr. King said they approved renting it for 2 months.

Mr. Staples said he wanted to make sure they don't burn it up on the dirt roads when we have a bunch of paved roads that need to be ditched.

Mr. Dickie said they are going to be going down to the paved roads now.

Mrs. Titus said she has had a few complaints on the dirt roads and some of the town roads. She said she knows we have a short crew and that is deterring a lot of work being done but she sees progress and she knows that they are working hard but maybe there should a public

announcement so people will know they have a short crew and they are working on the roads. <u>Highway Dept. Vacancies</u>- Mr. King asked how the search for new employees for the Highway Dept is going and where they are currently advertising.

Mr. Dickie said they are putting it out on Craig's List, to temp agencies, the Town website, Facebook and to Foster's newspaper.

Mrs. Titus asked if they send it to the unemployment office and said people have to check in with them and they could have somebody come in and fill out an application and they would get credit for it and it could be somebody we are looking for.

Mr. King said at their last meeting they discussed looking at getting some outside contractors to assist and asked if anyone has come to us that we feel they can assist.

Mr. Dickie said they have been contacting a lot with MGB as they seem to be the first ones at the table with us. He said Mr. Brannan has 4 or 5 contractors he is reaching out for to come and help us.

Mr. King asked if we have had any help us yet.

Mr. Dickie said MGB has helped us.

Mr. King asked how they are funding that.

Mr. Dickie said out of the Highway Block Grant and they got the second amount. He said the first amount went into the general fund to offset the potential tax increase but the second amount there are no strings attached to that and they passed it in the House to allow us to expend it almost like the ARPA fund so you don't have to have it in your budget.

Mr. King asked how much that is.

Mr. Dickie said it is \$141,000.

Mr. King asked if we have already received it and accepted it.

Mr. Dickie said yes and they received and accepted it last year.

Mr. King asked how much of that they are planning on spending.

Mr. Dickie said based on what we need to outsource probably all of it. He said they need to do shouldering and they have a bunch of stuff they need to repair and we only have so many crew members.

Mr. King asked if they are that short-manned if they should have a surplus on the highway payroll line at least through the summer.

Mr. Dickie said yes but some of that is being used to offset the overtime and right now they have about \$42,000 or \$43,000 to the good. He said they are at about \$73,000 plus on those 2 lines and when you subtract the overtime from it it's about \$42,000 to \$43,000.

Mr. King asked if they are working scheduled overtime or overtime as it happens meaning are they putting people on a 45 hour work week or are they working 40 hours plus whatever they need to finish up a day or a project.

Mr. Dickie said 40 hours plus whatever they need to finish.

Mrs. Morin asked if we are over taxing the crew that we have.

Mr. Dickie said he met with Mr. Brannan on Friday and based on the progress they've made over the last week since he pitched this whole project list he needed him to re-look at that and come back to him with what they need to outsource because that project list needs to be done and we need to figure out how it's going to be done.

Mr. King said it's not like they are expecting them to do it they expect it to get done and if they need to get them assistance.

Mr. Dickie said that is what he was trying to explain to Mr. Brannan and we always have some hiccups. He said this last week they got this side of Ten Rod Rd. done and asked him now what do they need to look at in a realistic view knowing that its him and 2 others out there trying to hit it what they can accomplish and what we need to source out.

Mr. King said because of the last few storms we had this spring there is erosion on the lower portion of Ten Rod Rd. that hasn't seen any attention some of it is up by Dottie Bean's area and some of it needs to be taken care of sooner than later. There are other areas so the sooner we can get people helping us to get this before it just gets worse. If we have another big rain event some of that stuff is going to turn where all of a sudden we're throwing pavement at it he said.

# 8). New Business:

Fair Hearing Officer for Welfare- Mr. Dickie said for years we had a hearing officer for welfare so they have a challenge process similar to a union hearing when they have a complaint they go to the Principal and if they're not satisfied with that they can go to the Superintendent or whatever the chain of command is. He said if the Welfare Director makes a ruling they view as unfavorable then they can challenge that and go for a fair hearing and we have to have somebody in place that has enough knowledge about welfare to determine whether that decision was correct or incorrect.

He said they had one recently and they used (former Welfare Director) Erica Rogers and in the past it had been Kathy Seaver and she has since retired. He said there is no monetary value assigned to it it's just having someone named and in place so if they have a challenge on a welfare case they have a person that can sit in on it.

<u>Motion</u>: (Morin, second Titus) that we name Erica Rogers as the Fair Hearing Officer for welfare;

<u>Discussion</u>: Mrs. Titus asked if there are guidelines for the welfare office they have to meet. Mr. Dickie said there are and that is why it would be more favorable to have Erica in that position as she was the previous Welfare Director and is familiar with that.

Mrs. Titus asked how they can challenge it if they did or did not meet the (guidelines). Mr. Dickie said they may not like the decision. He said there are guidelines but maybe they think they are being treated unfairly or they don't fully understand the guidelines or in some cases maybe we did make the wrong decision.

Mrs. Titus asked now that they have a second person in place and they agree with the first ruling can they take us to court.

Mr. Dickie said they can challenge it and go to court with it if they want to.

Vote: the motion passed 4-0.

<u>Potential Land Purchase</u>- Mr. King said Mr. Dickie had a discussion with Town Attorney Keriann Roman regarding if they're going to consider bidding on the property at Malcolm Bradsher's auction. He said there are 2 parcels that have Town infrastructure on them, one is a pump house and the other is a well house and if they go to the auction and want to bid they need to schedule a public hearing.

Mr. Dickie said the first public hearing would potentially take place on 06/19/23.

Mr. King said before the meeting Mr. Dickie gave him an e-mail chain between him and Att. Roman that says...

Mr. Dickie said he had the actual posting and asked if he wanted him to read it.

Mr. King said to bring the board up to speed to initiate that to enable the board to be in a position as a bidder they need to follow some procedures set down by the RSA's. He said first they need to schedule 2 public hearings with 14 days notice for the first one and 10 days minimum notice on the second one, they need to ask for comments from the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission at their soonest available meetings and then after those meetings they have to schedule a regular board meeting to vote on the purchase.

Mrs. Titus asked if they had to ask the Budget Committee and if they have to have a public hearing if they're spending money.

Mr. King said no under RSA 41: 14-a Acquisition or Sale of Land or Buildings it says the Planning Board, Heritage or Historic District Commission and Conservation Commission and we don't have a Heritage or Historic District Commission. He said this land has a protective well radius around it so it would make sense that we would want that if we were to purchase it to put more protections on it like we would do with conservation land and they need to go through this authorization process.

Mrs. Morin asked if it needs to go to those 2 boards before they can schedule the hearing. Mr. King said they can schedule the hearing and ask to have those comments before June 19. Mrs. Morin said the Con Com is meeting this Thursday and asked if they can get this information to them or if they already have it.

Mr. Dickie said he hasn't sent the information to those 2 boards yet because Att. Roman asked him to wait until this board approved that they move forward. He said he would send a copy of the posting to the Planning Board and Con Com Chairs tomorrow morning to get it on their agendas.

**Motion**: (King, second Titus) to proceed with the process under RSA 41:14-a Potential Acquisition of Land and schedule two public hearings as soon as possible one being on 06/19/23 and the following date will be 06/29/23;

<u>Discussion</u>: Mr. King said Mr. Dickie has been working with Att. Roman and consulting with the trust's attorney getting them prepared so if they are to go there as a potential bidder and we

have a lease that will transfer to the next owners but it may behoove us to consider purchasing the property but they need to be properly authorized to do that.

Vote: the motion passed 4-0.

Mrs. Titus said she wanted to thank the Fire Dept. and the Police Dept. and the committee for Chaos & Kindness and it was successful a lot of people had a really good time and a lot of people went that never would have had a chance to go see them so thank you.

Mr. King said everybody helped pull it together and it came off well.

Mr. Dickie said that he just texted the Selectmen's Secretary and the posting for the public hearing would go on the Town website tonight and he will post at the front of the building tonight as they leave so it will be posted in 2 places as required and it doesn't need to be posted in the newspaper according to Att. Roman. That will start the clock tomorrow and we can have public hearings on 06/19/23 and 06/29/23 and if we wait one more day that would push it into July 1 and the holiday week and it's hard to have those meetings then so that's why I was pushing it for today he said.

Mrs. Morin asked if they should post for 7 p.m. and if has to be a complete 14 days to the hour. Mr. Dickie said no and it starts the following day.

Mrs. Morin asked if the public hearing can be concurrent with their board meeting.

Mr. King said the first one would be on a regularly scheduled board meeting night (June 19) but they may have to have a special meeting for the second public hearing because their board meeting that week is on June 26 which is less than 10 days from the first public hearing.

Mr. Dickie said it has to be 14 days notice for the first one and then 10 days after that for the second one.

9). Next Meeting: Monday, June 12, 2023

## 10). Non-Public Session B:

<u>Motion:</u> (King, second Staples) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (d) Acquisition, Sale or Lease of Property passed 4-0 by a roll call vote (King, Staples, Titus, Morin-aye) at 7:01 p.m.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to come out of non-public session passed 4-0 at 7:25 p.m.

### 11). Adjournment:

Motion: (Morin, second Staples) to adjourn the meeting passed 4-0 at 7:25 p.m.

Kathleen Magoon, Recording Secretary

Charlie King, Vice Chairman

Penny Morin

Ann Titus

**Douglas Staples** 



# Town of Farmington Office of the *Board of Selectmen*

356 Main Street Farmington, NH 03835

Phone: (603) 755-2208 • Fax: (603) 755-9934

A Bicentennial Community 1798 - 1998

Ruth Ellen Vaughn Superintendent of SAU 61 Farmington School Board

Please accept this letter on the behalf of the Town of Farmington as an expression of our gratitude for allowance and use of the Burtman Rondeau Auditorium for the Recycle Percussion pep rally on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Also please extend our thanks to all assisted this event on the school's behalf.

Through the co-operation between the Town and the School, this event was held without any incidents taking place and went very smooth. Again we thank you.

Charlie King

Sincerely,

Gerald Vachon

Douglas Staples

Ann Titus

Town of Farmington Board of Selectmen