

Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen
Public Meeting Minutes-Unapproved
February 12, 2019

Members present: Chairman Linda Murray, Brad Harriman, Paul O'Brien and Dave Senecal

Members absent: Dave Bowers

Staff present: Acting Town Manager Jim Pineo and Recording Secretary Michele Chamberlain

Chairman Murray opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3, II

Chairman Murray stated a non-public session is needed under RSA 91-A:3, II to discuss A and C.

New Business

A. Conservation Easement - Heath Brook Conservation Easement

Dan Coons, Chairman of the Wolfeboro Conservation Commission, addressed the Board. He stated we have been working with the Lake Wentworth Association for some time in order to purchase this property on Pleasant Valley Road. It has a number of environmental benefits and it will be a great benefit to the Town. The Wolfeboro Conservation Commission will give a donation to the Wentworth Watershed Association in exchange of the Town owning the Conservation Easement. The property has 111 acres. Town Council has reviewed the easement and his adjustments have been made in the agreement.

Chairman Murray questioned how the public hearing went last night.

Mr. Coons stated no one was in attendance.

Chairman Murray stated good.

Anne Blodgett, President of the Wentworth Watershed Association, addressed the Board. She stated the property is very close to the schools and we will be doing educational programs with the schools and the public. Snowmobiling and recreational use will continue but there will be no hunting on the property. Ms. Blodgett thanked Mr. Coons and the Conservation Commission for their immediate interest and support for making this closing possible.

It was moved by Brad Harriman and seconded by Paul O'Brien to approve the Town's acquisition of a conservation easement from the Wentworth Watershed Association ("WWA") on property known as Heath Brook, consisting of approximately 111 acres, to be managed and controlled by the Wolfeboro Conservation Commission, as described in the proposed conservation easement deed from WWA to the Town; and to authorize the Selectmen and the

Chairman of the Conservation Commission to execute said deed on the Town's behalf. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

B. The signing of the Green/Simmons/Town of Wolfeboro settlement shall be placed on tonight's agenda (2/12) for authorization to sign

Mr. Pineo stated he received feedback from Mark Puffer about the settlement. All parties have come to an agreement so in order to make this effective he needs the Board of Selectmen to approve him signing the agreement as the Acting Town Manager.

It was moved by Chairman Murray and seconded by Dave Senecal to authorize the Acting Town Manager, Jim Pineo to sign the settlement document between the Greens/Simmons/Town. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Other Business

None

Questions from the Press

None

Public Input

Limited to 3 Minutes per resident, not to exceed 15 minutes in total

Suzanne Ryan, Resident of Wolfeboro, addressed the Board. She thanked Mr. Green for facilitating this agreement. It is very generous of him. He saved the Town some legal fees and did the neighborhood a great service. In the initial stages of this process the Greens submitted a letter and the letter was lost. Ms. Ryan stated she felt if the Town had responded to the letter things would have gone a lot differently. The Greens were very hurt that the Town did not respond to their letter. Ms. Ryan suggested that the Town use a date stamp and a log of important incoming mail. She stated on January 30th she had sent a letter to the Board. She is hoping the Board could address some of these questions although she realizes some cannot be addressed. She questioned if Ms. Merrow was still on paid administrative leave. This is public knowledge.

Chairman Murray stated we made a statement that said we put her on paid administrative leave. She is still on administrative leave.

Ms. Ryan questioned if it was paid administrative leave.

Chairman Murray stated yes.

Ms. Ryan questioned the name of the labor advisor.

Chairman Murray stated a labor attorney, Mark Broth. He is out of Manchester, NH.

Ms. Ryan reminded Selectmen Murray that the last Town Manager that we let go costed the taxpayers a lot of money. The Settlement package was very generous and she hopes that if this happens again that the Selectmen are not as generous.

Ms. Ryan questioned if the Board would pay MRI again to find another Town Manager.

Chairman Murray stated no.

Ms. Ryan thanked the Board.

Mr. O'Brien questioned when the letter was written by the Greens. Was it in 2016?

Ms. Ryan stated it was in the beginning of the process. It probably was in 2016.

It was moved by Brad Harriman and seconded by Paul O'Brien to enter into non-public session under RSA 91:3 II (a and c). Roll call vote, Chairman Murray – yes, Dave Senecal – yes, Brad Harriman - yes and Paul O'Brien – yes. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

The Board re-entered public session at 8:10 PM.

Brad Harriman moved the Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen to seal the minutes of the February 12, 2019 non-public meeting. Paul O'Brien seconded. Roll call vote, Chairman Murray – yes, Dave Senecal – yes, Brad Harriman – yes and Paul O'Brien – yes. Being none opposed, the motion passed

It was moved by Dave Senecal and seconded by Paul O'Brien to adjourn at 8:11 PM. Members voted and being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michele Chamberlain