

**TOWN OF LISBON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES**

May 18, 2015

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Stephen Knox (SK), Donald Butson (DB)  
Thomas Demers (TD)  
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE: Suze Tavernier (ST)

Sk Opened Meetings

SK Stated he had been up to the cemetery and wanted to thank whoever had placed the flags.

He asked that KC be contacted and ask who placed the flags

**MAINSTREET INC:**

Susan Wall (SW), Peter Nightingale (PN) , Byson Yawger (BY), Peter Loescher (PL), Bernie Prochnik (BP) Wendell Jesseman(WJ)

SW Explained that she had asked some of the Train Station Committee in to explain the historical aspect of Main Street and it's roll and their thoughts on the new lease

PL There seems to be a misunderstanding as to the roll of Main Street. Main Street is an extension of Selecboard, go back to Walter Johnson. We applied 3 times to the Main. It's the Selectboard's responsibility for beautification, and business growth in Town, and Main Street is an extension of the Selectboard. If the Board has ideas to improve the town, Main Street can be mobilized, the Town makes a small contribution, small amount of money for a lot of help. The Town put 30,000.00 and we raised 550,000.00 for restoration of the Train Station. We raised both state and federal funds. We went up against Keene and a theater, and we got the funds. We maintain the station, so the Town doesn't have to. We are always talking at our meetings about how to increase its use, we recognize it's a Town owned building. How much money did Town give Main Street this year?

PN-7,000

PL How many volunteers?

SW 15-20

PL My feeling is we need to work together, if the Selectboard has an idea; Main Street can be used, to assist. I recognize there has been a weakness in the leadership in the past. The Board needs to use Main Street to promote Town, promote the Station. Town projects pull people together

PN What is concept to double the rent? That's not the only expense, what's total expense , trying to make profitable?

*SK*  
*DB*  
*TD*

SK No, not even breaking even with the raise in rent. We were not trying to make profit, trying to raise a bit to try and cover some of the cost  
PN Cost to the Town?

PL Main Street is part of the Town, part of the cost of Town

SK We had conversation, and I don't want to throw anyone under bus but. We asked what Main Street does and were told economic development and Lilac Festival. We didn't see connection, team work with the Town. We are new and over decade no growth, high tax rate. We had some conversations in a bad place feel like throwing money into the wind. We don't have a TA and no liaison with Main Street. I think my perspective is we need professional to help with economic development, and wasn't seeing Main Street on radar for helping Town's Growth

PL Main Street is an extension of Selectboard. We need to have a round table discussion and have same vision.

BY- In addition to Train Station, we make the Town look better, we built wall around DCI sign and maintain that, garden on Walter Young property, garden across street, and we do barrels for park, flower boxes on bridge, farmers market, and annual flea market. We refurbished information booth, gazebo and fence behind library.

WJ- This brings the three communities together, there was a joint effort for school. N.E.W. is a strong supporter of Main Street, not only financially but what people do, a large number of employees are involved in things in town. These things need to be done, would like to see more economic development, and Lisbon needs to be attractive place, need to be proud of Lisbon and do positive things. I suggest one Selectboard member attends a meeting and see what Main Street is doing.

PL Not only have a Selectmen come to meeting but develop a partnership, all work together. We are ready to sit down and see what Selectboard and Main Street vision is and work together, we need a common vision.

DB This discussion has enlightened me; we have had no real communication. I didn't understand the history, and this is a good start.

PL I own clinic building, and worked as a partnership with Main Street. They were unable to succeed but they worked with Littleton and Cottage Hospital to try to bring in Health Care Facility. But that's the kind of things Main Street can do for the Town. We presented to Wendell and his employees and School were on board. It didn't work out but I still see Main Street can help out with this kind of thing. I see two uses for that building Health Care or Town Building

WJ Before I leave just want to say I appreciate you being Selectmen, it's a thankless job

**SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS:** Bret Jock (TD recused himself from discussion)

Reviewing proposal for roof repair and repair to fire station wall

SK we are looking for the least expensive option. We can't spend ten thousand to do it all. What is your recommendation to operate properly?

BJ I gave you proposal based on what Josh told me. The materials used were wrong, things were not screwed down, as far as cutting cost without knowing what else could be wrong. The dormer was added on the back after roof was

complete. trying to get access and I don't know what's up there. What we do is under full warranty and will be done right. I gave you 3 options  
The Board had a brief discussion about the overall proposal, and decided to go with just the roof repair, vents and repair to fire station wall.  
The Board told BJ they would have to check with GC to see if there were enough funds in budget to complete project

**DEPARTMENTHEAD TAX COLLECTOR/TOWN CLERK:**

JT presented abatements and explained the assessor had just a few left

JT In regards to Deputy, went away to think about temp agency I didn't think it would work but put it out to the Town Clerk Assoc. all came back with no. I contacted motor vehicle, I am employed by State, they contacted legal department and it was no. The good thing is putting that question out to the Assoc. someone came forward to say they were looking for some part time work. She is a Deputy in Bethlehem.

TD Have you interviewed her yet

JT She is coming over tomorrow. After I interview will get back to you. Will she still need background check, as she already works for a town and had it done there?

SK yes, she will be town employee

**SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS:** Board signed WWW commitment  
AP/Payroll and pre-manifest, timber intents, timber warrants  
Board reviewed a complaint about a property on Main Street, and asked the complaint be passed on to Building Inspector

SK We want to revisit the Main Street Lease?

TD We told them why we increase it, don't see

SK My thoughts are we did this after town meeting and given the history at this time I am leaning to reverting back to the original lease

DB I feel we should revert back to original lease, the presentation and how is was set up originally.

TD I am on Board, but would like to see more results

Board requested a letter and new lease be drafted for next meeting

DB made motion to accept minutes as amended TD 2<sup>nd</sup> so voted all

SK I would like to post agenda differently, would like to post Selectmen's Business from 5:00-5:30 with public session to begin at 6:00

DB I am ok with that .

TD I agree

Board requests that next agenda reflects the new times

SK spoke in regards to the email response from KC regarding the trees currently overhanging the Water Pump House on Bath Road

The Board will seek estimates for removal for next year's budget.  
TD will get names of some companies

DB regards to the meters, they need to be moved up over other things. They need to get done

SK agreed

Board asked that KC be emailed and advised the meters need to be a priority

SK the Planning Board has been Challenged and I have asked Laura to come up and speak with the Planning Board if that's ok with the two of you

DB I am fine with it

TD I am too

TD Employee handbook, we should have Town Counsel review, they are up on all laws and changes and will tell us if we can or can't do something

TD Explained he thoughts on Green Snow Pro and his thoughts on having Highway Crew members take class. He also spoke about t-squared training.

TD started a discussion regarding wages and salaried positions

SK Worth talking about but, I worked a salary position and that is one of the reasons I left.

DB I am in same boat, we tried it in my company was not working and we got away from it

There was a discussion about personnel handbook and amendments suggestions. The discussion was tabled until the Board has a work session about changes

SK made motion to adjourn DB 2<sup>nd</sup> so voted all