

**TOWN OF ENFIELD  
ENFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES JULY 12, 2021**

**TIME:** 6:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Public Works Facility & Zoom videoconference  
74 Lockehaven Road, Enfield

**PRESENT**

**Board of Selectmen:** Meredith Smith, Katherine D.P. Stewart

**Excused:** John W. Kluge

**Administrative Staff:** Alisa Bonnette, Assistant Town Manager; Jack Wozmak, Interim Town Manager; Rob Taylor, Land Use & Community Development Administrator

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**BOARD REPORTS**

Members of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) gave updates according to their respective Committee assignments.

Ms. Smith congratulated the Conservation Commission on the incredible piece of work they put together and distributed to Enfield residents. She noted that the document was funded by the Eastman Charitable Foundation as well as an anonymous donor.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Wozmak provided the following updates:

- He is working with Rob Taylor to draft a request-for-proposals (RFP) for how to possibly utilize the land on Depot Street, should it be purchased from the State.
- Stated that ambulance billing is being looked at to see about adding credit card payments for a cost of \$3.50 convenience fee per transactions, as well as sending some bills to collections where appropriate to do so.
- He has been in contact with Bread Loaf regarding holding meetings regarding Whitney Hall renovations. He stated that with many people on vacation it has been difficult to find a time; however, there is progress being made and in July or August it is anticipated that three evening meetings will be held to meet with the public.
- He noted that there has been discussion regarding the 9 Depot Street property, including a building with structural defects.
- He stated the Town is seeking an appraiser regarding the Depot Street property where the ambulance department is housed. He stated he hasn't found anyone able or interested to so far in his search. The state is informing the town that they will need to purchase it or lease the

land from the state. He noted that there is no state agency interested in using the property, and the appraisal process will begin between the state and the Town to assess the value.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Old Home Days

Kristen Harrington and Stephanie Hill spoke to updates with the Old Home Days celebration. They noted that, after having no celebration in 2020, it was decided to have an abbreviated celebration and focus on one day of activities instead of two days. They noted that the Committee likes the one-day model and wished to move the celebration to the fall and added they are working with the Museum to see if they can do it in conjunction with the Harvest Festival.

Ms. Smith supported moving the event to the fall and suggested using the Warner Fall Foliage Festival as a model.

Members of the BOS supported transitioning the Old Home Days celebration to the fall and focusing on one day of activities.

## BUSINESS

### Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive (RSA 79-E): Scott Hammond Route 4 Project

Mr. R. Taylor noted that the town opted to adopt 79-E program to stimulate development and repurposing of areas in town.

Scott Hammond was introduced to review the 430 US Route 4 property. He stated that the vision is to bring Townhouse style units into the community. 24 units would replace the current 150-year-old farmhouse and would both increase the future tax revenue as well as distribute the burden of the water/sewer infrastructure. He noted the units would include underground parking, with first floor living space and second floor bedrooms, totaling 980 square feet per unit. He stated he plans on requesting tax incentive support under the 79-E or 72-81 program.

Mr. Wozmak clarified that Mr. R. Taylor will work on the application which will lead to a formal hearing, and then proceed to the Planning & Zoning Board.

Ms. Stewart stated she would like to see the project go through the vetting process and go forward to the public.

Mr. Hammond noted that there would be a portion of the units which would be for sale and a portion that would be for rent. He added that it would cost upwards of \$48,000 for connection costs, and an added \$36,000 for sewer costs to connect to the existing line. He stated his purpose coming to the BOS with his proposal was to gauge interest and willingness to entertain the tax incentive program with the conceptual designs as presented.

Ms. Stewart made a motion to entertain the concept and 79-E for the purpose of developing property owned by Scott Hammond. Ms. Smith seconded.

Ms. Smith expressed she would like to wait to finalize the vote until Mr. Kluge was available.

Ms. Stewart made a motion to table the motion. Ms. Smith seconded. A roll call vote was held. Vote passes in favor of the motion (2-0).

**9 Depot Street Property Status**

Mr. Wozmak noted that he reviewed information related to this item in the Town Manager's report and moved on to the next agenda item.

**Fireworks Display**

Mr. Wozmak stated that Mr. Kluge requested the fireworks to be on the agenda.

Ms. Stewart stated that she believed public safety was in the right to make the choice to close the roadway. She noted that the BOS is a policy setting body, and if the Fire Chief and Police Chief see it in their purview to close the roadway for public safety, they have the authority to do so. Uncomfortable that we delve into public safety, so it is picked and chose.

Chief Holland stated that he was present 3 years ago when a permit was requested from the BOS, but it was voted down. He stated that Rob Malz takes it on himself to do purchase, set off, and clean up after the fireworks are done. He stated that last year he was informed that there were some close calls regarding members of the public and traffic hazards on the bridge. He stated he consulted with the Fire Chief, and they agreed it was an appropriate concern to close that section of the bridge for the duration of the fireworks show. He also cited the RSA which upheld the right for a public safety official to decide when the roadway can be closed.

Jean Patten stated that she thinks it's great that Rob does the fireworks, but her concern is using Town resources for an event put on by one individual. She stated she sent an email to the New Hampshire Department of Transportation regarding the road closure and stated they informed her there was not a parade permit on file. She stated she was not present for the event, but she was informed the road was closed for two hours and was not happy. She added that providing the services to a specific individual was not ideal, and if you provide those services for one person, it opens the door for others.

Ms. Stewart stated that she supported those types of decisions to be left in the purview of public safety officials.

Mr. Malz stated that he apologized for the division that has been created. He stated he has been doing fireworks as a personal endeavor for several years. He noted had 6 volunteers and cleaned up the mess and made sure that everything – including the bridge area, were cleaned up. He stated that he came to the board to seek approval for leading a Town event with a parade a couple years ago, but it was voted against. He noted he had been requested to do the fireworks from Shaker Hill, but from a fire risk standpoint, it was sometimes too dry to shoot them off there safely, which is when it was proposed to him to shoot them off a barge on the lake. He stated he cares about the town and does his part to assist with improving the community. He asks the BOS to reconsider and do the event as a community. He suggested that they work together and make it happen. He stated he'd be happy to set the fireworks off on the bridge and use a trailer and continue his cleanup efforts as he has done in past years.

Ms. Smith invited Dr. Theis to speak to the opinion of the conservation commission and setting off fireworks in the water.

Dr. Theis stated that the contents of the fireworks can be measured in microgram quantities, and once diluted in the water he doubts it would add a significant amount of contamination to the water for any grand length of time. He added that the more important things to consider when discussing water contamination are inadequate septic systems leaking around the lake. He added that consolidating the fireworks to one show so there were fewer going off around the lake is a great opportunity.

Ms. Stewart presented data from the Department of Environmental Services that had been distributed at the last fireworks hearing. She noted that the information supported the notion that contaminants in the water are going down in recent years, but new data would need to be pulled to get an update. She stated it would be smarter to work together, as Mr. Malz and Dr. Theis suggested.

The BOS discussed the safest location for setting off fireworks, and it was agreed that the bridge would be the safest location to launch from.

Ms. Smith supported working with Mr. Malz as the “Firework King” for a collaborative effort and added that it could be developed into a community event including the new pavilion and possibly a food truck.

Ms. Stewart stated that the Recreation Commission and departments should be included in the conversation. She added that, if Old Home Days was moved to the fall, then it would make room for another community summer event such as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

The Board reviewed and approved the following administrative items:

- Junkyard Permit Renewal (Lassen)
- Land Use Change Tax / Current Use Penalty (Morency)
- Disabled Veteran’s Tax Credit (Bissonnette)
- Veteran’s Tax Credit (Bachand)
- Solar Exemption (Holzer)

### **OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

#### **Public Comments Regarding Items on the Agenda**

Ms. Smith requested any other items to come before the BOS.

No members of the BOS or public came forward. With no further inquiries, Ms. Smith moved on to the next agenda item.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – NO ACTION REQUIRED**

- Town Clerk’s Report – June 2021
- Tax Collector’s Report - Year to Date
- Comcast Programming Contract Renewal Website
- Shoreland Permit Application: Regan, 414 Lockhaven Road – Construction of new residential home, driveway, septic system and stormwater management systems
- Public Health Council 2020 Annual Report
- DES Forestry Statutory Permit-by-Notification 2021-01874: Maple Street Enfield Acquisition LLC, Map 14, Lots 47 & 48 (See Intent to Cut at <https://www.enfield.nh.us/assessing-department/files/intent-cut-maple-street-enfield-acquisition-llc>)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Stewart made a motion to adjourn at 7:17 pm. Ms. Smith seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (2-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm.

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Meredith C. Smith, Chair

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John W. Kluge

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Katherine D. P. Stewart  
Enfield Board of Selectmen