**TOWN OF ENFIELD**

**JOHNSTON PROPERTY USE COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**June 6, 2023**

**Johnston Property Use Committee (JPUC) Members in Attendance:** Nate Miller, Alice Kennedy, Julie Eckert, Franklin (Bud) Lynch, Jr, Bradley Rich, Affrille Degoma (online) and Nancy L. Smith

**JPUC Members Absent:** N/A

 **Ex Officio Members in Attendance:** Ed Morris, Town Manager and Kevin Marker

**Ex Officio Members in Absent:** N/A

Called to order at 5:31 PM

**Bud Lynch made a motion to accept the minutes of May 11, 2023, which was seconded by Brad Rich, motion passed by roll call vote 9-0.**

**BUSINESS**

The meeting started with Ed Morris giving an update to the recommendations of the committee based on the four criteria set at the last meeting:

1. Sell Property
2. Sell part of the property
3. Keep
4. Keep, with 3 year trial period

The recommendations were split, with three members wanting to sell a part of the property, two recommending keeping it outright, and the rest leaning towards the three year trial. Before starting discussion, Nate Miller asked if selling the entire property could be removed from the list and the committee agreed.

Before entering discussion, Ed Morris updated the committee on the costs that were asked for at the last meeting.

Demolition is estimated at $15,000.

Annual Maintenance estimated between $500 and $1000 depending on how often the crew mows (once a week or biweekly).

Discussion commenced after the presentation, and each member shared their comments concerning their opinions and thoughts about other ideas. The first primary conversation was around selling a part of the land. It was quickly decided that everyone was OK selling lot 6. Discussion then turned to selling lot 5 and keeping four. This was not a very accepted idea.

Brad Rich and Kevin Marker then made comments about a three year trial period and whether or not that was kicking the can down the road, or a good way to determine the true value of the property as a recreation asset. Discussion led to the three year trial possibly creating another committee in the future. Ed Morris stated that the recommendation could be to keep the property with some monitoring, and if the Select Board decided the property was more of a hassle, then it was worth, it could be sold in the future. A majority of the committee found this acceptable.

Nate Miller polled the committee and found that everyone found keeping the property without selling more than lot 6 was acceptable to all but three members, and two of them were on the fence. Discussion ensued about selling lot 3 in the future when the lease was up. This thought appeased two of the members on the fence but created questions with some of the other members. There was concern about lot 3 being added, with very little discussion about this lot during deliberations. Alice Kennedy stated she had reservations making a recommendation for a lot that would come up in the future. Brad Rich disagreed and stated he felt it was the committee’s job and obligation to make a recommendation for all four lots.

After some back and forth, Nate Miller suggested that the committee recommend to the Select Board to keep lots four and five, and to sell lot 6 and consider selling lot 3 when it becomes available. There was some debate, but ultimately this suggestion received unanimous buy in.

Barbara Jones commented that lot 3 would have little to no value because it was a bifurcated lot that could not be built on.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dave Beaufait commented that he thought that the committee should revisit their decision at the next meeting after they have more time to think about it.

**Upcoming meetings:**

June 22, 2023, Deliberative Session at DPW

Bud Lynch made a motion to adjourn seconded by Brad Rich, the meeting adjourned at 6:58.