

Minutes
Select Board Meeting – Hastings Community Center
Thursday, October 28, 2021
6:00 PM

James Dutton

Thomas Klinepeter

Thomas Kingsbury

Kingsbury opened the Public Hearing on Application for Adult Use Marijuana annual renewal for Philip Jacobs/Green Alchemy LLC Tier 2 cultivation. Philip Jacobs was present. There were no public comments and the hearing was closed.

Kingsbury called the Select Board Meeting to order and declared a quorum. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Dutton made a motion to approve the October 14, 2021 meeting minutes, which was seconded by Klinepeter and passed unanimously.

Department Head Reports: Fire Chief Dufresne reminded people to change the batteries in their smoke/CO detectors. Police Chief Mick has nothing to report; there was discussion about the volume of 911 hang-up calls. Rec Director Buzzell provided an overview of new programs (adult pick-up basketball, cornhole league, yoga, women's weights, senior fitness), winter sign-ups and COVID protocols.

Dutton made a motion to approve the Application for Adult Use Marijuana annual renewal for Philip Jacobs/Green Alchemy LLC Tier 2 cultivation, which was seconded by Klinepeter. It was confirmed that there are no changes in operations since the last renewal. The motion passed unanimously.

Nels Liljedahl was present to speak to the Conservation Committee (CC) request related to "plan to review the airport lease and make recommendations for this parcel of town-owned land". Sherri Billings, Gena Spencer, and Donna Girard were also present. Nels provided updates on various ongoing CC efforts including a chestnut tree project, the town forest trail, and efforts to plant pollinators. He commented on the CC involvement and interest in the ongoing efforts to permit a solar development at the airport property. Nels noted that the Maine Natural Area Program representatives and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife representatives evaluated the development area.

Nels reminded the Select Board of a request sent via email on April 14th in which there was a recommendation to form a committee whose purpose is to review the terms of the 1961 airport lease before any extensions are granted and to create a plan for a permanent conservation easement on land not needed for airport purposes. The proposal would be to have 12 seats comprised of the Town Manager and reps from the following: Select Board, Airport Board, Planning Board, Budget Committee, CC, Water District, Parks & Open Space Committee, Bicycle Walkways Trails Committee, Economic Community Development Committee, USVLT and a Fryeburg citizen. Nels noted that it would be good to have a civil and democratic review of the lease that impacts town-owned land. Klinepeter commented that a pilot should be included on the committee.

Klinepeter also conveyed his opinion that the solar development is one of the least intensive development strategies that would help the airport be self-sustaining. He also commented on past dealings with DEP and vernal pool mitigation on the Haleytown Road project. The lease review committee notion was discussed further. Klinepeter suggested that this be discussed at the November 18th meeting.

Bill Findeisen was present on behalf of the MSAD 72 Broadband group. He outlined the history of the Denmark broadband committee and its efforts then explained the creation of the MSAD 72 Broadband group and its goal to create a regional broadband plan and obtain infrastructure grants. After some more information related to broadband, grants, and a regional approach was provided, he had 3 items that he is asking the Select Board to support: to participate in a ConnectMaine planning grant application along with the MSAD 72 towns, to be part of a RFP process for planning services for the MSAD 72 region and to provide matching grant funds as needed for the planning work. Findeisen noted that Fryeburg is the anchor of all of the district towns and our support is needed. He also stated that the grant and any matching funds will be for a plan that will provide options for us to consider related to future build-out projects. No funds are currently needing to be committed for actual infrastructure.

There was a discussion about Redzone, fiber and the timing of everything. Klinepeter asked how this might related to the county broadband effort. Findeisen heard that was a dead issue. Haley commented on her support of the MSAD 72 effort and thinks that working with the district towns is a favorable way to proceed. Klinepeter made a motion to participate in a ConnectMaine planning grant application along with the MSAD 72 towns, to be part of a RFP process for planning services for the MSAD 72 region and to provide matching grant funds as needed for the planning work. The motion was seconded by Dutton and passed 2-1 (Dutton voted against).

Dutton made a motion to approve a supplemental tax assessment for 013-020-008, Cardalisco in the amount of \$3,044.20, which was seconded by Klinepeter and passed unanimously.

Klinepeter made a motion to approve a tax abatement for 050-036-000, Fryeburg Assembly of God in the amount of \$2,369.95, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

Haley provided a review of West Fryeburg Road cemetery repair estimates and explained the difference in the 2 estimates received. There was discussion about the proposed materials to be used to repair and replace the damaged headstones. Haley will ask one of the companies to provide pictures of the proposed granite to be used to ensure that it looks historically accurate. Klinepeter made a motion to table the decision until more information is obtained, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the Bicycle, Walkways, & Trails Committee recommendation related to sidewalks. Klinepeter noted his appreciation of the committee's recommendation and agrees with the recommendation to reestablish a sidewalk on Smith Street to connect the rail trail to the village. Haley explains efforts to apply for Northern Borders Regional Commission funding with the assistance of SMPDC.

Dutton made a motion to accept a resignation of Abby King from the Conservation Committee and Bicycles, Walkways, Trails Committee, which was seconded by Klinepeter and passed unanimously.

Klinepeter made a motion to accept the resignation of Tom Rebmann from the Economic & Community Development Committee, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed potential appointments to the Bicycles, Walkways, & Trails Committee. The two applicants are not property owners or residents. Kingsbury expressed his thoughts that they should not be on the committee and making decisions on things that might impact taxpayers when they are not taxpayers themselves. Dutton agreed. Dutton made a motion to appoint Dawn Canales and Michael Simoneau to the Bicycles, Walkways, & Trails Committee, which was seconded by Klinepeter. The motion failed with a 0-3 vote.

Haley provided a review of potential grant application for Betterment Funds to be used for economic development assistance. Klinepeter made a motion to support applying for the grant, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

Haley provided her Town Managers Report. Klinepeter made a motion to accept the report, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

Other Business: Dutton asked about flashing stop and yield signs at the Route 302/5 intersection. Haley said MDOT recommended waiting to see if there were issues and that nearby homeowners don't like them. Klinepeter reminded people to wear orange during hunting season and recognized some new businesses in town. Kingsbury commented on the new brush disposal policy.

Public Forum: There was a brief discussion on potential fencing options at the West Fryeburg Road cemetery.

Klinepeter made a motion to approve Payroll Warrants #36 & 38 and Accounts Payable Warrants #37 & 39, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

Dutton made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Klinepeter and passed unanimously.

Date: 11/18/21

Thomas Kingsbury
John Klinepeter
Jan A Dutton

