Board of Selectmen Special Meeting (Via ZOOM) Thursday, October 8, 2020 MINUTES

Present: First Selectman Daniel Jerram, Selectman Alesia Kennerson, Selectman David Rosengren, Administrative Assistant Christine Hayward.

First Selectman Jerram called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM and stated that the full Board was present, along with some members of the public participating via electronic means.

Discussion/Action regarding 8-24 referral of proposed water and wastewater asset sale to Planning and Zoning Commission:

First Selectman Jerram informed those present that the final presentation regarding the proposed water and wastewater asset sale had been completed on October 6, 2020, and that the next step in the process is to go before the P&Z Commission for an 8-24 review.

MOTION: by Kennerson to forward the potential sale of water and sewer assets to the Planning and Zoning Commission for their 8-24 consideration; seconded by Jerram.

Mr. Jerram stated that the most recent presentation held on Tuesday evening allowed for a lot of questions and answers and felt that it was a success. He stated that there were about 35 people in attendance (via ZOOM) and that there were new and different questions presented. Ms. Kennerson agreed, stating that she believes it is apparent that it (the proposed sale) is something that the townspeople should have the opportunity to vote on.

Selectman Rosengren asked what authority the Planning and Zoning Commission has with respect to this transaction. Mr. Jerram explained that this is a Statutory Requirement (CT General Statutes 8-24) for P&Z to consider whether or not this proposal is consistent with the Plan of Conservation and Development. A positive referral from the P&Z would mean that if a vote were to occur, it would require approval by a simple majority whereas a negative referral would require a 2/3 majority approval. Mr. Rosengren questioned why this approval is necessary. Mr. Jerram replied that all sales of property or leases are required to go through this process. Mr. Rosengren stated that this is not property that is being sold. Mr. Jerram countered that there are some components of real property being sold, such as the underlying land beneath the wells and the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Rosengren stated that this is the first he has heard of that and stated further that the sales agreement does not mention real property. Mr. Jerram replied that the final sales agreement has not yet been drafted. Mr. Rosengren stated that he believes it is premature to go before the P&Z without a definition of what property will be part of the sale. The First Selectman stated that there are 4 pieces of real property that are included in the sale and identified them as the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the land beneath it, the two well houses and the land, and the wet well and the land it sits on. Jerram further explained that the Blackbridge Well sits on property that abuts the New Hartford Elementary School and will be subdivided into a separate parcel when the sale occurs. Selectman Rosengren expressed his dissatisfaction that the property is not clearly defined at this point and stated that he is not in favor of this proposal. Ms. Kennerson stated that she was of the opinion that this should go forward. Jerram called for a vote on the motion.

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In Favor: Kennerson, Jerram Motion Carries. Opposed: Rosengren

Discussion of Downtown Pavilion Ceremony to honor David Childs – Saturday, October 10, 2020:

First Selectman Jerram announced that a ceremony has been planned for Saturday to honor David Childs. He stated that this is an opportunity for friends and family to get together to honor his contributions to New Hartford. David was a member of the Board of Finance, the Economic Development Commission and devoted countless personal hours on many projects. He created and administered the Fishing Derby for roughly 10 years prior to his death. He was involved in the Bear Affair and Dog Daze and was recognized by the Chamber of Commerce with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009. David created the Friends of New Hartford charitable giving fund which has raised over \$100,000 and has donated things such as the Community Announcement Board for the benefit of New Hartford.

Mr. Jerram proposed that the pavilion be named the Friends of New Hartford Pavilion in David's honor. Mr. Jerram further proposed that the pavilion be designated as a place to honor volunteers each year; perhaps gathering nominations around Thanksgiving and then have recipients honored by raising their names into the rafters of the Pavilion each year. Jerram noted that Dave set a high standard of volunteerism.

Ms. Kennerson approved of the idea of having nameplates in the rafters, but did express concern that they be able to be seen. Mr. Rosengren stated that this is "a noble idea and long overdue."

MOTION: by Kennerson to officially name the Pavilion "The Friends of New Hartford Pavilion," seconded by Rosengren.

Mr. Jerram stated that he would investigate the cost of a plaque that could be placed on the pavilion and also would get an idea of how much the cost would be for individual nameplates that could be used to honor volunteers in the future.

Unanimous.

Mr. Jerram extended a public invitation to all to attend the dedication ceremony on Saturday. Mr. Rosengren expressed concern that public assembly was being promoted. He asked what protocols would be in place to protect the safety of all who attend due to the current COVID situation. Mr. Jerram replied that he would have masks available for those who may need them. Mr. Jerram also stated that the current restrictions in place for outside assembly are limited to 150 people and it was doubtful that there would be that many in attendance.

MOTION: by Kennerson to adjourn at 7:35 PM, seconded by Jerram.

Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Hayward, Administrative Assistant

NO ATTACHMENTS