

TOWN OF RYE – BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, July 08, 2019

5:45 p.m. – Rye Town Hall

Present: Chair Phil Winslow, Vice-Chair Keriann Roman, Selectmen Bill Epperson

Others Present: Town Administrator Michael Magnant, Acting Town Administrator, Becky Bergeron

5:45 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Winslow called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

**II. NON-PUBLIC SESSION (1) per RSA 91-A:3, II (b) Hiring
(2) per RSA 91-A:3, II (c) Reputation**

At 6:02 p.m., Phil Winslow made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II (b) Hiring. Seconded by Keriann Roman. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Roman – Yes, Epperson - Yes

At 6:21 p.m., Keriann Roman made a motion to come out of Non-Public Session. Seconded by Phil Winslow. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Roman – Yes, Epperson - Yes.

At 6:26 p.m., Keriann Roman made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Reputation. Seconded by Phil Winslow. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Roman – Yes, Epperson – Yes.

At 6:33 p.m., Phil Winslow made a motion to come out of Non-Public Session. Seconded by Keriann Roman. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Roman – Yes, Epperson - Yes.

6:30 p.m. RECONVENE PUBLIC MEETING

III. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Winslow called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Rye Fire & Rescue Jet Ski 1 is operationally ready at the dock and in-service.

Chair Winslow announced that the Jet Ski is docked in the Harbor and is ready to go. He noted that there has already been a call for service, for a paddle boarder that was out too far and needed assistance getting back to shore.

B. Chair Winslow reported that the Town had a visit from the Army Corp of Engineers for a tour of Rye Harbor. The Board will be sending in a second letter to Senator Shaheen to ask for her assistance in getting the funding for the dredging project. It has been twenty-eight years since the last dredge. If the funding becomes available the plan is to start the dredging in the fall of 2020.

V. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – (at the beginning of the meeting, for any comment by any Rye resident on any topic. Requested time limit, up to 5 minutes each person.)

- **Karen Allen, Rye Public Library Trustee**, presented the Board with an update of the summer events at the library.
 - Magician, Norman Ng, had 125 people in attendance at his performance
 - The Patricia Quinn Little Free Library is at the Cable Road Ext. Beach. Many people are using it and there are some great volunteers that are taking care of it.
 - Tuesday, July 10th, 6:30 to 7:30, the Library is hosting the Little Red Wagon Theater Group from the UNH Department of Theater and Dance.
- **Burt Dibble, 106 Harbor Road**, noted that the LCHIP application was submitted one day before the deadline. He asked if there was any confirmation that it was received.
 - Chair Winslow asked that Acting Administrator Bergeron check with Janice Ireland and get back to Dr. Dibble.

VI. **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS** – (to be discussed at the meeting only if pulled off the consent agenda by one of the three Selectmen.)

A. Chief Walsh - Event Permit Application: Cystic Fibrosis Foundation CF Cycle for Life.
Saturday, 7/13/19, 6:00 am – 4:00 pm

B. Chief Cotreau- Ocean Rescue Swimmer Grant Opportunity in Hampton July 10-12, 2019

C. Appointment: CIP Committee – Unlimited Term

1. Jerry Gittlein: Requests appointment as a member, letter rec'd 7/02/19
2. Recommendation letter rec'd 5/29/19 from Mae Bradshaw, Chair
3. Recommendation letter rec'd 5/30/19 from the Rye Planning Board

Vice-Chair Roman asked that Consent Agenda Item A be removed for discussion.

Chair Winslow asked that Consent Agenda Item B be removed for discussion.

Motion by Phil Winslow to accept Consent Agenda Item C as presented. Seconded by Keriann Roman. All in Favor.

**A. Chief Walsh - Event Permit Application: Cystic Fibrosis Foundation CF Cycle for Life.
Saturday, 7/13/19, 6:00 am – 4:00 pm**

Chief Walsh reported that all the paperwork and insurance is in order. The map route is the same as last year.

Chief Walsh also reported that Primex is taking the lead on the application for the Granite State Quest event permit application and is still working on the details of the insurance. The Board has not officially approved that application yet.

Motion by Keriann Roman to accept Consent Agenda Item A as presented. Seconded by Phil Winslow. All in Favor.

B. Chief Cotreau- Ocean Rescue Swimmer Grant Opportunity in Hampton July 10-12, 2019

Chair Winslow asked if this was a swimmer's course.

Chief Cotreau explained that it is a five-day course. The first two days covers boat rescue and the last three days focuses on swimmer rescue. The department is taking advantage of the last three days.

Chair Winslow noted that the department will be paying for the participants and will have to also backfill the shifts.

Chief Cotreau confirmed. He added that the cost will be between \$2,200 and \$2,600 for the hours. The program came out of discussions from Seacoast Communities with Commissioner Quinn and Assistant Commissioner Plumber. These are 2016 unexpended funds from various homeland security grants. The funds are being collected and repurposed for this program.

Chair Winslow stated that it is money well spent.

Motion by Phil Winslow to accept Consent Agenda Item B as presented. Seconded by Keriann Roman. All in Favor.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Dennis McCarthy, Public Works Director – Hiring of Building & Grounds Workman Liam McDonough.

Public Works Director McCarthy recommended hiring Liam McDonough as the Building & Grounds Workman. Mr. McDonough is currently working for the Town of Raymond's Public Works Department. Mr. McCarthy stated that he will be meeting with the Finance Director to finalize the formal offer letter.

B. Interview with Wireless and Telecommunications Services RFP Respondent Isotrope – By Telephone with David Maxson.

Chair Winslow stated that the Board was very impressed with Isotrope's proposal. He noted that the coverage inspection included the dead spots, but offered an additional proposal of an option test drive of the Town to map the actual signal levels. He asked Mr. Maxson to explain the difference between the two.

Mr. Maxson explained the difference between peer modeling and coverage modeling. Peer modeling estimates the coverage needs based on historic data from other towns' coverage needs. Coverage modeling is using the same methods the wireless company uses, by reconstructing the coverage based on where the facilities are. The Town ends up with a composite map of coverage from all facilities. Mr. Maxson stated that he does not recommend doing a drive test, unless there is something peculiar about the terrain that is challenging for predicting coverage. Rye is not a town that has peculiar terrain that would interfere with the computer modeling. Some towns opt to use the drive test approach and it is a good way to validate the computer predictions.

Chair Winslow stated that the Town can't force the carriers to put in service, but if there are pocket dead areas that are small geographically, what options are there to get service to those areas?

Mr. Maxson commented that outside the Communication Overlay District, the wireless companies could put in small cells on the utility poles, in areas where there is a high density of subscriber use. The best approach from a zoning perspective is to create the rules that encourage sensible, intrusive deployment anywhere in the Town. That way the Town can say no to one proposal and agree to a better proposal four miles away, and not be in violation of the Public Communications Act 1996 by effectively prohibiting service.

Chair Winslow asked if Mr. Maxson would assist in rewriting the ordinance, to allow this to happen.

Mr. Maxson agreed. He noted that he has been involved with over five hundred zoning and planning board hearings and is knowledgeable about the pitfalls, when a wireless company goes into a town with a proposal that doesn't fit the ordinance, but the proposal might actually be a suitable solution for the community.

Vice-Chair Roman asked if the process of mapping and the assistance with the ordinance language would fit into his timeframe in order to have it completed by December.

Mr. Maxson said that the December deadline is great. He added that it is mostly driven by the Town's public process (how much public input, etc.). His company will move quickly as the Town's timeline unfolds.

Vice-Chair Roman explained that the plan is to form a committee to work on the language and work with the consultant to have a zoning ordinance ready to be presented at a formal public hearing in late November or December. She asked who would be on the project team.

Mr. Maxson stated that he is the point person. He does all the zoning language and public hearings. He also does the engineering, except when it is convenient for him to hand it off to his business partner. His business partner does the drive testing work and the map generation using the data collected by Mr. Maxson.

Selectman Epperson asked about technology. He noted that there are fewer tall obtrusive towers being built and more going to smaller technology. He asked if this small cell technology is a viable alternative to the towers for Rye, where it is relatively flat.

Mr. Maxson replied no. He explained that it would be a supplement in places where there is high density in order to relieve high volume wireless traffic.

Chair Winslow explained the importance of having the reverse 911 system in place. He stated that the Town is not able to effectively use it currently.

Mr. Maxson explained that reverse 911 is almost an old concept, as it deals with land lines. The way that the wireless companies are dealing with public safety emergency alerts, is on a cell site by cell site bases.

Chair Winslow thanked Mr. Maxson for talking to the Board.

Motion by Phil Winslow to authorize the Town Administrator to negotiate a contract with David Maxson of Isotrope. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in Favor.

Vice-Chair Roman explained that there were three proposals received. Isotrope was the only local firm. It came in with many local references. It is also the less expensive one. She stated that regardless of the cost, it seemed to be the best fit for the Town.

C. Patricia Weathersby – Pulpit Rock Tower

Patricia Weathersby of 26 Neptune Drive and Betsy McNaughton of New Hampshire Fish and Game gave an update to the Board regarding the Pulpit Rock Tower. They also questioned whether there was any interest in furthering the discussion of the Town taking ownership of it.

Pulpit Rock Tower is located between Neptune Drive and Pulpit Rock Road, off of Ocean Blvd. It was a World War II observation tower built to watch for enemy ships. It is one of fourteen towers built between Kennebunk, ME and Rumford, MA in order to protect Portsmouth Harbor and the Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard. This is the last one of those towers that is still opened to the public and not owned by the public.

Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower have been working with the current owners of the tower, NH Fish and Game Department, over the past twelve years to clean up the tower, restore it and to provide public access. NH Fish and Game acquired the tower from the Federal Government in the early 1970's as part of the surplus property program. NH Fish and Game has said that they no longer have a use for the property and do not want to own it. Through the program, it can be offered to another government entity and transferred at no charge. This went to a town vote in 2011 on a warrant article. It received 60% approval. The reason it did not get transferred is that a last-minute amendment to the warrant article required the

Friends of Pulpit Rock to come up with \$130,000 to make the transfer happen. Of the \$130,000; \$90,000 was an estimate for the repairs and \$40,000 was for an endowment for future upkeep.

Since that time, Friend of Pulpit Rock entered into a ten-year lease with NH Fish and Game to further their mission to restore the tower and to chip away at the projects that had been estimated to cost the \$130,000. The lease is currently in year five and all the projects have been completed. Mrs. Weathersby explained that in 2010, the Board of Selectmen hired Emanuel Engineering to do an engineering study of the tower, which was paid for by the Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower. She offered to provide a copy of the study to the Board. Mrs. Weathersby pointed out that the study showed that the tower is structurally sound. She added that the Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower received two \$10,000 Moose Head Grants to help fund some of the work. They have also been fund raising as much as possible.

Mrs. Weathersby summed up by stating there has to be great interest from the public to keep the building accessible. It is a really interesting historic building that provides wonderful views of the coast. It would be great if it could stay open to the public.

Mrs. Weathersby stated that she would love to talk to the Heritage Commission. She asked if the Board of Selectmen would be interested in pursuing the idea of ownership any further. She offered to take the Board on a tour off the property and provide more information as needed.

There was talk regarding having an endowment set up for the property. Ms. McNaughton of New Hampshire Fish and Game stated that for a property that size, an annual endowment of \$10,000 to \$20,000 is sufficient. This is raised through donations, annual appeals, and grant funds.

Chair Winslow stated that this would have to go on the Town Warrant. It is important that the Town's people understand that there are costs associated with the ownership.

Mrs. Weathersby stated that the "Friends" would be happy to work with the Heritage Commission through the transition. The initial funds for the endowment will come from the Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower.

Mae Bradshaw of the Heritage Commission recommended that Mrs. Weathersby put together a package of the preservation plans, the Emanuel Engineering report, the stewardship plan, as well as, some kind of a current inspection report that shows what has been completed, prior to talking to the Heritage Commission.

Mrs. Weathersby agreed. She also pointed out that it took three years to get a lease approved for the "Friends" from the Federal Government. This process will take about four to five years.

Selectman Epperson asked why the Federal Government has to be involved in the transfer if NH Fish and Game own the tower.

Ms. McNaughton explained that because it is a National Historic Monument the Federal Government still has oversight. However, if there are no government entities that want it, it would go back to the GSA Administration that oversees real estate and it would be auctioned.

Chair Winslow recommended that the Friends of Pulpit Rock approach the Heritage Commission directly. He asked that Mrs. Weathersby get back to the Board with an update on the process.

Steven Borne, 431 Wallis Road and Chair of the Rye Civic League, pointed out that the reason the Heritage Commission was established in the first place was to address this ownership.

Vice-Chair Roman stated that she is in favor of looking into this further.

D. Dennis McCarthy & Kim Reed – Septic ID Mapping

Kim Reed, Zoning and Planning Administrator, introduced Emily DiFranco and Robert Hartzel from Comprehensive Environmental, Inc. She explained that they are looking for a town to be a test pilot for a septic ID mapping system. Ms. DiFranco and Mrs. Reed have been working together since 2010 on the Parson's Creek Watershed. Ms. DiFranco was instrumental in the success of the application for the Town's first 319 Grant.

Ms. DiFranco and Mr. Hartzel did a presentation of a new method and program that could be used to determine the source of the pollution in the Parson's Creek Watershed. If the program is successful, the Town will get credit for it on its MS-4.

Parson's Creek Watershed is a 2.28-acre coastal watershed, which runs from Wallis Sands State Park to about Petey's. New Hampshire DES has identified Parson's Creek as impaired and not meeting water quality standards. The big concern in Rye is bacteria. When bacteria is identified, beaches are closed and any area that has been impaired has to be cleaned up. The first step was to write a watershed base plan. This defines the watershed, water bodies associated with the watershed, and some of the sources that could be contributing to the bacteria impairment. By writing the plan, the Town then applied for 319 Grant funds in order to implement the plan. The Town has also funded water sampling since 2012, to identify where the bacteria counts are highest in order to focus the efforts. There was more targeted sampling and the dogs were brought in a couple of years ago. Basically, these tests have shown that there are high levels of bacteria throughout the watershed and there are some human sources. None of this testing has shown where the problem is coming from. Some of the implementation funds have been used to put in BMP's to take care of the stormwater issue. There has been a lot of outreach and public education about pumping septic systems and planting rain gardens. The last couple of rounds of the grants have been used to address septic systems. After a study on the soils in the Parson's Creek Watershed, it was identified that most of the soils in the watershed are not suitable for a conventional septic system, this does not mean no septic systems. One of the outcomes from the 319 Grant is the Pump Out Ordinance.

Mr. Robert Hartzel did the presentation of the septic ID mapping program. This program includes small unmanned drones, which aid in ecological application. They are used to take pictures, filter the data and put it into software in order to get the ecological information from it. Also, vegetation mapping, being able to document changes in the wetlands over time, septic system investigations, infrastructure inspections, looking at culverts and dams, looking at shoreline erosions, and getting more engineering applications related to topography using video. With infrared cameras a different signature color can be

assigned to each species. Mr. Hartzel explained that this technology has been around for decades. It was originally developed as part of the drug enforcement trade.

Ms. DiFranco explained that this technology has not been used on drones before. It has been used on unmanned aerial aircrafts on a bunch of different projects across the country. This is an EPA approved method. The goal is to use the drones with the infrared cameras to fly over Parson's Creek Watershed, to try to identify some failed septic system signatures. These would then be followed up on.

This program will be done at no cost to the Town of Rye. The pilot project will not be done in the whole watershed. They will focus only on the areas that have already been identified as being impaired. The concentration will be the coastal area from Wallis Sands Beach, down to Petey's, up Marsh Road and Wallis Road.

Mr. Hartzel spoke about drone regulations. The current federal regulations came in force in 2016, it separates commercial and recreational uses of drones.

Commercially

- The air space is a maximum of 400 feet.
- The pilots have to pass a FAA Certification.
- The pilot must maintain a line of sight with the drone at all times.
- If the pilot cannot see the drone, they have to have a spotter that has direct radio communication with the drone at all times.
- A drone can only be used in Class G or uncontrolled air space.
- In order to use a drone in military installations or airports, you must apply for a waiver from the FAA.
- Cannot fly over people or look in windows.

There are other rules on the books that trump these rules in the matter of privacy. In New Hampshire, there is a rule that you cannot use drones to do surveillance on people that are hunting, trapping or fishing.

Chair Winslow stated that the use of the data obtained would have to be restricted to septic issues.

Mr. Hartzel agreed. He added that it will be the Town's data, and the Board will have the authority to control it.

Ms. DiFranco stated that this pilot program is not something that she would recommend to a Town that doesn't have substantial information about their septic systems. The work that Rye has already accomplished lends itself to this next step. With the Board's approval, they can get started. Comprehensive Environmental will send out notification to the residents, if the Board wishes. There are no rules about notification.

Chair Winslow stated that there would have to be notification. He added that he would like to give it some thought and not rush into it.

Vice-Chair Roman recommended that the Board get advice from the Town's attorney regarding privacy and the Fourth Amendment. She also questioned whether this data would become subject to a right-to-know request.

Mr. McCarthy reminded the Board that on the Town's website every property in town is outlined in extreme detail.

Selectman Epperson stated that the Board agrees that the next step is to have Attorney Donovan weigh-in on this, and that if this moves forward that proper notification goes out to the areas involved. He added that beyond this, the Town has spent a lot of time and money trying to solve this problem.

The Board will address this issue again at their next meeting.

**Motion by Keriann Roman to move Discussion Items E and F to the end of the meeting.
Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in Favor.**

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Letter rec'd from Ronna Werner, Mel & Jean Low, Jane Holway & Madeline Chichester re: the future of the Parsonage

Chair Winslow asked if any one of the people that signed the letter would like to speak on this issue.

Mel Low, 650 Washington Road, referred to an article in the Portsmouth Herald regarding affordable housing in the Seacoast area. He recommended that the Town focus on affordable housing. Mr. Low stated that the Town should get a lease from The Housing Partnership for less than the ninety-nine-year lease, and not displace the people that have lived there for many years. He pointed out that the only affordable housing in Rye is the Parsonage and White Birch. Mr. Low stated that he heard a rumor that the Town wants to trade the Parsonage for the TD Bank building.

Chair Winslow stated that Mr. Epperson, Mr. Low and he, had been on the Parsonage Committee. At the time, the Committee asked Marty Chapman if The Housing Partnership would consider a twenty-year lease, instead of a ninety-nine-year lease. Mr. Chapman found that he was unable to get the funding that was needed to renovate the building with a shorter lease.

Selectman Epperson reminded Mr. Low that the Parsonage Committee and the Planning Board were very active in trying to find land that would accommodate affordable housing, to no success. He stated that the Parsonage has eight units. If the Town acquired the bank building though a swap, with the three areas out back of the building, there is a possibility of having twelve units for affordable housing.

Mr. Low disagreed with using the bank property for affordable housing because the septic system is too far in the back of the property. Also, the land next to Parsons Field and the Town Forest is too valuable to the Town. It is the most prime piece of property in Town. It is what makes Rye such a great community.

Selectman Epperson pointed out that the location is perfect for the elderly to walk to the library and town hall and other areas. It is centrally located to the center of Town.

Mrs. Jean Low pointed out that last year the Town voted against buying the bank and twenty years ago the Town voted against selling the Parsonage. She also stated that the Parsonage septic system is under the library parking lot. To sell the Parsonage to a private individual now, would be going against what the Town decided years ago. She noted that the town's people like the idea of keeping the affordable housing at the Parsonage. She added that she feels that it is really important for Rye to do its part in providing affordable housing, even if it is not low income, it could be workforce housing. Mrs. Low pointed out that there are teachers and firefighters that work in Rye that cannot afford to live here.

Selectman Epperson stated that the Board is trying to find a solution to the problem. There are a lot of alternatives and options. Anything that is decided will have to go to the Town for an approval.

Chair Winslow stated that the key to this issue was the funding. The Parsonage Committee realized that they needed someone to come in with about a half of million dollars to rehab and make it ADA compliant. That just couldn't happen. The alternative was to give a lease to someone for ninety-nine years. They did not want to make that commitment on behalf of the Town. Chair Winslow reported that the original lease with The Housing Partnership has expired. The Town has extended the lease for one year. The Partnership is outsourcing the tenants into suitable housing. Two of the tenants have already moved and there are six still there. If the remaining tenants cannot be placed in suitable housing within the year, there is a provision to extend the lease for a second year.

Vice-Chair Roman explained that at the time of making the decisions on the Parsonage the options were; let the lease lapse or enter into a new lease for ninety-nine years. In order for The Partnership to get their funding, it required a ninety-nine-year lease or the Town would have to give The Partnership ownership of the building. The other alternative is the Town becomes a landlord. The Board cannot take ownership back on the building and then transfer it to someone with a deed restriction that it must be used for affordable housing.

Chair Winslow stated that the only other alternative is to ask the Town to fund the renovations.

Mae Bradshaw, 106 Harbor Road, Chair of the Historic Commission and member of the Heritage Commission, reported that the Town received a grant effective July 1st. It relates to putting the Parsonage on the State Register of Historic Buildings. She asked if the contract has already been entered into with the CLG.

Town Administrator Magnant stated that he has not received an award letter from the CLG.

Ms. Bradshaw stated that she thought that she had forwarded it on when she received it. The grant is for \$8,000. She added that the Town will have to go out with an RFP to do the study. The State inventory being done will put that building into a historic context and will provide an avenue for grants going forward. She promised to forward the information to the Town Administrator.

Chair Winslow stated that the Board appreciates the comments and concerns and will not take this matter lightly.

- E. Distribution Easement from Eversource that is required for the 14-acre parcel at 0 Port Way so that Eversource can provide power from Port Way to the tower compound

Vice-Chair Roman asked if this is just an easement for the Town land. She asked if there has to be an easement over the rest of Port Way from the private land owners.

Acting Town Administrator Bergeron stated that it is her understanding that this is just the easement over the Town's property.

Chair Winslow stated that the Town already has an easement from the private land owners.

Vice Chair-Roman noted that this document does not say that Verizon will be using the Town's easements on the private land. She asked for clarification.

Chair Winslow asked that Acting Administrator Bergeron get clarification from the Town's Attorney on this point.

Motion by Phil Winslow to authorize the chair of the Board of Selectmen to sign the proposed easement deed for Eversource. Seconded by Keriann Roman. All in Favor.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Town Hall Renovation Plan

Chair Winslow asked Acting Town Administrator Bergeron to put together a matrix of possibilities and get some best estimates on costs on each. He noted that if the Board does not have a plan, bringing in an architect is a waste of money at this time.

Some of the alternatives are as follows:

1. Take the building as it is now with eleven offices and second floor holding office space.
2. Second floor open for meeting space, offices on first floor, move to Trolley Barn with a small building to house additional office space.
3. Appraisal on the Parsonage and TD Bank building. Move the Town Clerk and Assessor's office to the TD Bank, deed the back two acres to the Conservation Commission.
4. Move the Town Hall to the Parsonage and lease the Town Hall to the Heritage Commission

Selectman Epperson suggested entertaining a committee to create a plan for the overall picture. He recommended that at the next meeting the Board reach out to the public with this idea. He also recommended using the information from the charrette.

Town Administrator Magnant pointed out that the money was appropriated for designing the interior of the Town Hall, the space the Town already has.

Vice-Chair Roman recommended that the architect come in to show the space that is available, how it can be made ADA compliant, how to maximize the use of the space and what it is going to cost.

Chair Winslow suggested that the Board wait until next Monday to see what ideas come from the charrette meeting. Then at the next Selectmen's meeting make a decision on whether they want to move forward with the RFP. It is important to get as much public input as possible.

The Board agreed.

There were several comments from the public on this matter. The Board recommended that there be a lengthier discussion at the June 15th meeting.

F. Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting, Monday, June 24, 2019, 6:00 pm Town Hall

Vice-Chair Roman stated that the second non-public session was change to litigation not reputation.

Motion by Phil Winslow to accept the meeting minutes of Monday, June 24, 2019 as amended. Seconded by Keriann Roman. All in Favor.

2. Non-Public Session, Monday, June 24, 2019 (1) Per RSA 91-A:3, II (b) Hiring

Motion by Keriann Roman to accept the minutes of the Non-Public Session, Monday, June 24, 2019 Per RSA 91-A:3, II (b) Hiring as presented. Seconded by Phil Winslow. All in Favor.

3. Non-Public Session, Monday, June 24, 2019 (2) Per RSA 91-A:3, II (e) Litigation

Motion by Keriann Roman to accept the minutes of the Non-Public Session, Monday, June 24, 2019 Per RSA 91-A:3, II (e) litigation as presented. Seconded by Phil Winslow. All in Favor.

X. NEW BUSINESS - None

XI. OTHER BUSINESS - None

ADJOURMENT

Motion by Keriann Roman to adjourn at 9:36 p.m. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in Favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

DRAFT MINUTES of the Board of Selectmen's Meeting 7/8/19
See meeting of 7/22/19 for approval/corrections

7-8-19 Corres. A

To: Rye Selectmen

Having attended the June 26th Selectmen's Meeting in order to air our deep concern about the Parsonage, we felt compelled to formally restate what troubles us. We felt the expression of our concerns fell on deaf ears, as though plans were already in place to proceed in another direction.

The use and re-purposing of town-owned properties seem to take priority over the **displacement** of individuals and families who live in the town center. What does this say about what Rye stands for? Are we truly interested in attracting and supporting economic diversity in our town?

The current Board of Selectmen may not understand the history of the Parsonage apartments. For years the Housing Partnership showcased the Parsonage as a model of what could happen when a town works cooperatively with an established non-profit organization. To have affordable housing units in a prominent historic building, adjacent to the library, was unique. Over time what had been a stunning model developed unsafe interior and exterior conditions.

Presently there is an impasse regarding the lease. The residents of the Parsonage will have to be relocated to other communities. As longtime Rye citizens we have been exceptionally proud of the Housing Partnership program in the heart of our seacoast town. The future of the Parsonage represents what we value, and the use of this historic building remains a town-wide matter, not to be decided by a small group of elected officials.

Signed,

Rene F. Warner
William R. Low *Madeline L. Cluckstein*
Jason M. Low *Jan Holway*
June 30, 2019

