

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
June 29, 2015  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Board members present: Gail Cromwell, George Willard, Ken Caisse

Call to order by Cromwell at 6:33 p.m.

Paperwork: Cromwell signed, as Chair, a zoning verification to the State of NH for Skipping Stone Day Care.

Silver Lining Circus Camp: Jackie Davis, of Silver Lining Circus Camp, met with the Board to discuss rental of the town hall from July 13, 2015 through August 7, 2015. Davis informed the Board that they may have another option in New Ipswich. Cromwell informed Davis of the conditions that would be set on the rental and suggested a total rental fee of \$1,000. There is a conflict for the second week of August. Caisse informed Davis that the Fire Department had offered the use of the Fire Station. Davis asked Caisse to thank the Fire Department, but will have to check on whether this would work due to the concrete floor. Davis will need to fill out the town hall rental form. Davis will inform the Board if the building in New Ipswich is available.

Credit Card Policy: The Board reviewed the suggested credit card policy for a town credit card with Citizen's Bank. This credit card would have a \$5,000 limit and would be used for purchases made on-line or at a local vendor where the town does not have an account. Move by Cromwell to approve the opening of a credit card with Citizens Bank and to approve the credit card policy, second by Caisse and voted in the affirmative.

Jeta Grove Religious Tax Exemption Application: The Board reviewed the recommendations from Avitar for the religious tax exemption of Jeta Grove with Tom Hanna, Attorney, and Eric McCord. Cromwell informed the Board that she had spoken to Mark Stetson of Avitar and he had made a change to the recommendation for M 09 L 005 due to clarification of information. Cromwell suggested that Jeta Grove pay the taxable amounts and then the Board could negotiate a PILOT for 2016. Hanna asked some questions regarding the assessments. Hanna stated that in his opinion the only taxable properties would be M 09 Lot 003, because this property was acquired after 4/1/15, and the Kantner house, due to the fact that the Kantners did not move out until 6/10/15. Hanna also stated that the 125 acres in current use (CU) is the most fundamental part of the monastery. The Monks are using this land for meditation and are living in tents. Cromwell informed Hanna that she had spoken to the Town Attorney who informed her that the land would need to be removed from CU before the tax status could be changed. Hanna spoke about a letter from the prior Board regarding the CU taxation once the Monks start building their Kutis (huts). Cromwell informed Hanna that they could appeal the Boards decision regarding what is exempt and what is taxable. Move by Cromwell that the Temple Selectboard acknowledges receipt of an application by Jeta Grove Foundation, aka Jetavana Monastic Community/Temple Forest Monastery, requesting exemption from taxation under RSA 72:23, III (religious). Certain portions of the property will remain taxable for the current year, 2015, according to the schedule of property prepared by our assessor as of June 29, 2015. A revision of the schedule is anticipated for the 2016 tax year, second by Caisse and voted in the affirmative.

Motion to adjourn at 7:29 pm by Cromwell, second by Caisse and voted in the affirmative.  
Minutes submitted by Debra Harling

~ Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at 6:30 pm, Town Hall Annex ~