TOWN OF SEABROOK

SELECTMEN’S SPECIAL MEETING OCTOBER 20, 2017

Present: Theresa A. Kyle 2:00PM

 Ella M. Brown

Aboul B. Khan

William Manzi

Mrs. Kyle opened the meeting at 2:12PM.

**CMAQ GRANT**

Mr. Manzi explained this a grant application to go in for the town and is a federal grant administered by DOT. He said both the chairman Jason Janvrin and vice chairman Mike Rabideau from the planning board are here to answer any questions.

Mrs. Kyle asked why they were not given notice before now. Mr. Manzi said in order for this to go forward it requires that the board approve it. Mrs. Brown asked if it had been held and when did they get notified of this grant. Mr. Manzi said they are not looking at the raw grant this is just to support the grant and the supporting documentation is there which was worked on by Tom Morgan.

Mrs. Kyle wants to know why they are getting it now and when was it first put out from the federal government. Mr. Manzi said there has been discussion that this would be coming and it is something that the town has done before. Jason said the DOT usually gives a 6-week window but this time they gave 2-weeks and the planning board did submit a letter with the intent of applying. Tom Morgan was asked to work on it this time and he delivered the grant paperwork to them on Monday. They did not know about the paperwork until after the planning board meeting on Tuesday evening.

Jason said this project entails more than just the rail trail as it would help with pedestrian improvements as well as pave the cut through between the library and the old Shaw's building. He said the total project is $235K with the federal grant of $188K and a match by the town of $47K with exaction fees. Mrs. Kyle asked if this is the one that Dave Baxter indicated he didn't feel could be used towards the rail trail project. Jason said they could also look at using money from the Friends of Seabrook Rail Trail and the highway block money. He said it would not come from the town as there was $25K passed in a warrant article. Mrs. Kyle said they have also had a request to use money from these funds to continue the Route 1 widening north.

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Mr. Khan said they are here to discuss this grant which is due by 4PM today in Concord and they should focus on this. Mrs. Kyle said she doesn't like the fact that it was put on Facebook that they refused to meet on this when in fact they did not even know about it. She is sick and tired of being blamed for something they knew nothing about and putting out only the half truths. Mrs. Brown agreed they should have known earlier and one member of the board had a funeral to attend that she is missing and doesn't feel it was necessary. She said it before and will say it again that no money is coming from the town for the rail trail project.

Mr. Khan asked how much taxpayers money will be used for this project. Jason said the $25K from the warrant article and then the remaining $22K which could be from Friends of the Seabrook Rail Trail. Mr. Manzi explained further that the article for $25K was raised and appropriated for the rail trail project by taxpayer dollars. He said if the rail trail were going to give the $22K then it should be in writing by them but there is still time for that. He said if Seabrook were to get this grant they would still need to hold a public hearing to accept the grant money.

Mrs. Kyle asked how they do work on the rail trail that they have no M.O.U. for. Mr. Manzi said they don't but the grant application can move forward. If the grant was accepted they would need to move the M.O.U. to the forefront for acceptance. If it were not approved then no money can be spent. It is not quite clear yet whether or not an M.O.U. would be approved.

Mr. Khan said the highway block grant was additional money that came to the town and why they could dedicate the $22K. Mrs. Brown said she is not against the rail trail but said no money is coming from the town and she feels that the money can be better used somewhere else. Mrs. Kyle said we have pipes under Blackwater Bridge and sheet pilings that need repair where this money could be used. Mr. Khan said they need to have recreation in the town for people and this is in the heart of the town. He said the articles were passed by the taxpayers and if they didn't want this it would have been turned down. He said without the town government help this project will not go forward.

Mrs. Brown said a few weeks ago the highway department came to the board for a gazebo which had no money coming from the town and Mr. Khan voted against it. Mr. Khan said the people never for the gazebo, they voted for the rail trail. He said they

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could put an article on the ballot to see if the taxpayers want it.

Mr. Khan proposed they approve moving this application forward with a warrant article in March for another $25K to see if it passes and then the project would move forward or not. Mr. Manzi said they only need to approve putting the application forward. It can be decided upon at a future date as to how to fund the project by the town. Mrs. Kyle said they can apologize but she is not in favor of supporting this project.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To approve application

 and sign a letter of

 support with the

 knowledge that they need

 to put an article on the

 ballot in March for $25K

 and the board has the

 authority to change this

 at any time.

Mr. Manzi said Jason cannot bind the rail trail as he is not an officer of this committee. Mrs. Brown said she will support the project with no money coming from the town. Mr. Manzi said the application goes in with the town acknowledging the match but it still needs to come back before the board and if they do not accept it due to funding it would not proceed.

Mrs. Kyle said they have a duty to the town and have a commitment to look over the documents. Mr. Manzi does not disagree with her on this and suggested they put a policy in place that they do not consider something like this going forward without an acceptable time frame.

No second on motion, motion failed.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To send a letter of

 support and rail trail

 to match funds.

No second on motion, motion failed.

Mr. Khan asked that they have a little more discussion to see if there is an avenue they would consider. Mrs. Kyle said it is over two motions were made and not passed and said the way it was handled was utterly disgusting.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To discuss setting a

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Second: Ella M. Brown policy for any matter

Unanimous that comes before the

 board come to them in

 a timely fashion.

Mr. Khan asked for reconsideration on the grant. Mrs. Kyle said she is not willing to reconsider and she is going to call Mr. Khan out of order for trying to move something that is not getting a second.

MOTION: Ella M. Brown To adjourn the meeting

Second: Theresa A. Kyle at 2:57PM.

Unanimous

Approved and endorsed

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Aboul B. Khan, Clerk

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_