

**TOWN OF LITTLETON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WORK SESSION
5:00 PM
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024
125 MAIN STREET, SUITE 200
LITTLETON NH 03561
CONFERENCE ROOM**

TO DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL FUNDRAISER FOR DELLS DAM

Present: Roger Emerson, Chairman; Linda MacNeil, Vice Chairwoman; Carrie Gendreau, Selectwoman; Paul Smith, Interim Town Manager; Michael Cross, Human Resource Director; Vicki Potter, Administrative Secretary; Tom Alt, Conservation Commission; Roger Merrill, Conservation Commission; Robert Blechl, Caledonian Record; Jocelyn Nute Curell, Friends of Remich Park; Courtney Bowler, Friends of Remich Park; Jim Fillion, Friends of Remich Park

Emerson opened the work session at 5:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Curell explained that the Friends of Remich Park (FoRP) are a non-profit group that was dormant for a little while but is making a comeback to enhance and support the Parks & Rec programs. They have some fun things in the works but first thing is the ice-out at the Dells fundraiser (similar to what Joe's Pond does every year) to help the kids summer program, the after-school program and the Parks & Rec overall. They have spoken to the Conservation Commission and are now here to speak to the Board of Selectmen as well. Emerson stated that he thought it was a great idea. Gendreau asked what they can do to help support this idea and if they (FoRP) are intending to sell tickets this year or not. Curell said that they were not expecting to sell thickets for this year but rather to do a mock run to see how it would work out. She showed the BOS a sample mock up of what their tickets would look like if they were to sell them. Bowler explained they did not want to disappoint people by selling tickets and it did not end up working out. Gendreau asked how the clock would work. Fillion explained that it would differ from what Joe's Pond uses because they use AC. He said (after speaking to Littleton Water & Light and an electrician) they thought about putting something out on the pole but it would have cost too much money and that would have to be done every year. Due to safety issues, what they are going to do is put the clock into a plastic container and use a DC battery with a fish line attached to it. When the device goes through the ice, the line will disconnect. They will also have another line attached to the device to help retrieve it when it does go through the ice. They can pull it out. Fillion said that they would ratchet it off from the deck when they put it out. Bowler added that they will have a game camera as a back up just in case. MacNeil asked how far out it would be. Fillion said about 60' because they wanted to be able to retrieve it and they weren't sure how deep it was. Gendreau said the ice tends to melt faster closer to the dam and Fillion said they would keep it out of the flow water. They are planning on letting the fire department, police department, highway department and the neighbors all know. They (FoRP) will show up throughout the day just to make sure it is working and that no one has vandalized it and they will continue working with the conservation commissioners as well. Gendreau asked about the ticket prices. They had not set a price yet but were thinking about a dollar. Emerson asked if half of the proceeds will be going to the winner and the other half to the programs. Fillion confirmed. He also said that they will advertise and market the fundraiser next year to promote it. Smith asked Emerson about what he is looking for regarding the tether. Emerson said they he is just looking for something to make sure that it will not go over the dam if the water comes up too much before they are able to get it out in time. Smith suggested using two tethers instead of one. Fillion said they are open to suggestions. Smith also asked if they know there is a state RSA specifically pertaining to ice-out fundraisers and they will need to obtain a permit before selling the tickets. The police department are the ones to issue those permits. Bowler and Curell said that their treasurer is working on that. Merrill added that a lot of people don't know but, when Bobby Whitcomb passed away he left some money to them and they will be adding a bench in the park as well. He also stated that about 30-years ago when they built the initial playground with taxpayers' money, the Town ended

up paying that money back over a 3-year period by all of the service clubs. They are looking to put in more playgrounds and there is an area there to do that so some of that money may help out with that. Fillion asked if they will have to come back to the Conservation Commission or the Board of Selectmen every year to get permission to hold this fundraiser or can they just continue to do so. Gendreau feels that with this first one being an experiment that they should come back next year to give an update on how everything went. Emerson added that then the Board may be able to add a clause that states it can continue until the Board decided to revoke it for any reason.

MacNeil made the motion to allow the Friends of Remich Park to move forward with their testing experiment for the ice out device on Dells Dam for a future fundraiser. Gendreau seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion passed 3-0.

Bowler added that when they went to the Conservation Commission they thought they did everything they were supposed to do and there were no indications that they needed to go to the Board of Selectmen as well and feels that procedurally it should be added to the policies to be made clearer. Gendreau said that everything should go through the Board of Selectmen because they are Town owned properties. Bowler said she understands that now but felt that there were miscommunications. Fillion asked when the Board would like them to come back to present and Emerson said probably the end of January/beginning of February or just before they want to put it out on the ice.

MacNeil made the motion to go into a non-public work session citing RSA 91-A:3, II(b) *The hiring of any person as a public employee*. Gendreau seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion passed 3-0.