

**Town of New Boston  
Selectmen's Meeting  
April 24, 2000**

Chairperson Lois Briere called a regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:07 PM.

**PRESENT:**

Lois Briere	Chairperson
Gordon Carlstrom	Selectman
David Delorey	Selectman
Burton Reynolds	Town Administrator

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**7:00 PM      Municipal Resources      Building & Planning Reviews**

Pat MacQueen and Wally Stickney from Municipal Resources were present to answer questions from the Selectmen and other concerned residents or organizations regarding the scope of their work in New Boston. They are here to provide the town with 40-50 hours of professional guidance and recommendations with respect to the operation of the Building and Planning Departments. The Selectmen, members from the Boards, and various individuals will meet with Municipal Resources to develop a list of issues that the town would like them to address.

**7:30 PM      Nic Strong      Planning Board Coordinator**

Nick Strong was present from the Planning Board to discuss whether an independent firm should update the zoning ordinance. There would need to be money in the town budget for this. There are sub-committees in place for Village Preservation, Land Use Planning, and the Heritage Commission. Municipal Resources suggested that the townspeople do the planning themselves because they have an invested interest, will work harder and come up with a better product than an outsider. Municipal Resources is willing to help finalize the last step.

**NON-PUBLIC:** RSA91-A: 3 Section II

**8:00 PM      June Hicks      Town Treasurer**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1) **Town Hall Roof** - at the cost of \$785.00, Ron Therrien will evaluate condition of existing roof, do repairs on slate roof, and also give an estimate of what it will cost for a new roof using various materials; i.e. slate, new slate, shingles, or metal.

- 2) **Conference Room Chairs** - Town Hall needs chairs for the conference table. Burton suggested putting off this purchase for a while as the budget may be tight in the fourth quarter. Fireproof metal file cabinets are more important.
- 3) **Planning Issues** -
  - a) **Sub-Committees** - A regular member of the planning board will be on each sub-committee and these will be posted around town. Volunteers are needed. Chairpersons are:
    - Village District** - Paula Bellemore
    - Heritage Commission** - Sue Martin
    - Land Usage** - Bob Todd is on the committee, but not the chair.
  - b) **Alternates** - Sue Martin has volunteered for planning board alternate.
  - c) **Parker Academy** - is trying to open a private high school for grades 9-12. It will be housed in the old Parker Mansion on Riverdale Road. Tuition is being advertised at \$6,000.00 per year, per student and a minimum of 50 students is needed. Private schools may not be required to adhere to many issues that public schools do.
- 4) **Transfer Station Trailer Repair Quotes** - All final quotes came in higher than the originals. There is \$12,000.00 in the budget for this expense. Gordon made a motion and Dave seconded, to give the bid to J.W. Fleet to do the repair work at a cost of \$10,275. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) **Cell Phone Carrier** - Carrier plans were researched by Dan McDonald, then reviewed by Burton, Jim McLaughlin, and Lee Murray. U.S. Cellular has better coverage than Bell Atlantic and provides additional minutes. Gordon made a motion and Dave seconded to allow U.S. Cellular to terminate contracts with Bell Atlantic and pay termination fee, which will be recovered after two months' time into contract with U.S. Cellular. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote. It was also agreed to send company flyers to department heads.
- 2) **Septage Agreement Renewal** - State law requires independent septic removal contract for the town. Various methods can be used in calculating the increase in charge for this service. The simplest method is to use single family home building permits to determine the percentage of increase in growth in the town. Current monthly fee is \$460.00, with an additional \$12.88 per month or \$103.00 for the remaining 8 months of the contract in the 2000 calendar year. This is \$103.00 over the budgeted amount and in the future they will be pre-determined for budgetary purposes using the above method. Presently we have a contract with All-Clear Septic of Weare.
- 3) **Internal Controls** - Financial controls are in place and it is the responsibility of Selectmen and department heads to stay within their budgets. The DRA oversees the budget process and provides a format so that towns are the same throughout the state. They provide some expertise in spending related issues such as the verbiage of warrant articles. Discretionary bills need to have

detailed information written on them and they need to be signed by department heads and contractors as well.

- 4) **2000 Audit Overview** - Town Hall was faced with new hardware, software, and new employees and has encountered certain problems integrating everything. The auditors have outlined changes that need to be made and have spoken with personnel regarding these changes. They will be back to check and make sure things are being done correctly. The Audit will be available in print during the summer.
- 5) **Landfill Monitoring Contract** - This contract will be over-budget by \$1305.00 due to an increase in the contract fee. Next year Bonnie will put this out to bid and get quotes from other companies.
- 6) **Other** - Burton met with the Fire Wards regarding the return of the prior fire inspector. Measures will be taken to overcome some of the anxiety between everyone involved. There will be a lot of control in the beginning regarding priorities, number of hours, and daily activities. Burton, Dan and Chuck will meet on a monthly basis and more often if necessary, until trust is regained on both parties.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Brandy Mitroff raised a question concerning the morale of the fire wards and Chuck returning as fire inspector. Burton explained that the fire wards feel they have a moral and legal obligation to make the relationship work.

J.W. Fleet will have the transfer station trailer repairs completed in a two to three week timeframe.

GZA contract renewals should be done in advance. Cost is up due to contract fee and expense of tests that need to be done in April 2000. GZA has also written into the contract that future notice will be given for renewal of contract. If necessary, the extra cost can be deferred to year 2001 so that it can be included in the budget.

Gordon made a motion and Dave seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:44 PM, all in favor.

Cindy Romano