

**Town of New Boston
Selectmen's Meeting
October 22, 2001**

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Gordon Carlstrom at 7:00 PM.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Gordon Carlstrom	Chairman
	David Woodbury	Selectman
	David Delorey	Selectman
	Burton Reynolds	Town Administrator

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPOINTMENT:

7:00 PM Peter VanScoyoc Ceremony Discussion

Peter VanScoyoc, Eric Scoville and Christine Quirk comprised the group that came up with ideas to commemorate the tragedy at the World Trade Center in New York City on September 11th, 2001. Christine and Tom Quirk of Friendly Beaver Campground will be hosting a dinner/dance for the firefighters on December 1st, 2001. Ben St.Armand, a fourth grader, suggested planting a tree somewhere in town in memory of the rescue workers who lost their lives. Eric Scoville suggested that September 11th become an official Town holiday known as "Public Safety Performance Day" and that police officers have the day off with pay, and the volunteer fire and rescue workers receive time and a half on September 11th. The Selectmen thanked them for their thoughts and ideas.

7:10 PM Nic Strong Planning Issues

- **McCullom Road** - a previous issue involving property owners and a developer was discussed and it was decided that the Planning Board will either approve or deny the application put forth by the developer, and someone will pursue litigation. There is no other way for this issue to be resolved, and either way, the Town will be involved.
- **Old Coach Property** – During the revaluation of 1978-1979, a piece of property on Old Coach Road was divided into two separate lots, with the Class V road running through it. The vacant parcel on the opposite side of the road was then taxed as a separate buildable lot. The property has since changed hands and the new owners are requesting that the Town provide them with written documentation for a minor sub-division, for future sale of the second lot. They suggested that the Town seek Counsel's advice on the matter. Dave Woodbury didn't feel that there was any public benefit to spending the taxpayers money on counsel and he suggested that the owners go through the proper sub-division process. He also expressed the opinion that such an opinion of counsel would fail to accomplish the landowner's wishes. The Selectmen agreed to allow Nic to send property profile criteria to counsel for future referral and directed the information be sent to Attorney Drescher.

7:30 PM Gail & Randy Parker Library Lot & Rte 13 Sign

Gail and Randy Parker were present for the signing of the Purchase and Sales Agreement between themselves and the Town for property located behind the Post Office to be used for the proposed new Library. Tim Cady and members of Friends of the Library were also present. Don Grosso is concerned with the placement of driveways, but is in favor of the sub-division and the traffic patterns. If the driveways are not worked out to everyone's satisfaction, then the agreement would not be valid. The Selectmen and the Parkers signed two copies of the agreement with Burton Reynolds as witness. This signing allows the Library to move forward with their plans for the proposed new Library. Dave Delorey moved to have the Library Trustees proceed with their plans, spending up to twenty-five thousand dollars on architectural and surveying fees. Dave Woodbury seconded the motion. All were in favor.

On another matter, the Parkers also requested that the Selectmen send a letter to the State requesting a sign be placed for Rte. 13 South in the vicinity of Dodge's Store. On occasion, motorists have mistaken Mill Street for Rte. 13, instead of following the road in front of the store. The Selectmen agreed to send a letter.

7:45 PM Linda Sizemore Yield Tax Abatements

Linda Sizemore, the Selectmen's Secretary, was present to report on the Timber Tax assessment process. She stated that Bob Todd was in favor of the new computation because it encourages forest management. She also suggested that if there is an increase in abatements in the future, then the Selectmen might want to reconsider the process. The Selectmen signed three abatements that had previously come into the office of Selectmen.

Selectman Delorey excused himself from the Board for this portion of the meeting.

8:00 PM David & Jacquelyn Delorey Speed Limit Sign – Clark Hill Rd.

First, Dave requested a correction to the agenda. The subject matter to be discussed was supposed to be "Deliberate Trespass on the Private Property of 252 Clark Hill Road by the TOWN of New Boston on September 18, 2001. Secondly, he inquired as to whether Lee Murray and Gordon Terry were invited to attend the meeting. The Selectmen replied that they had not been invited. The Selectmen wanted to determine the subject matter of the appointment before inviting them. Dave Delorey went on to ask why his letter of October 5, 2001 had not been answered by either of the Selectmen and why he had not been scheduled on the previous week's agenda. Selectmen Carlstrom and Woodbury explained that there was a backlog due to the holiday and the number of items already on the previous Selectmen's meeting did not allow the addition of his item. Selectmen Carlstrom and Woodbury stated that the speed limit sign that had been placed on Mr. Delorey's property could have been removed with a simple phone call, but was not. At this point, Selectman Woodbury read and responded to the seventeen questions that the Deloreys had presented. Attached to the minutes is a copy of the questions. Selectman Woodbury responded to Mr. Delorey's requests by stating that public documents are available to everyone, and that Mr. Delorey can look up any laws as well as anyone else can. Selectman Woodbury felt that the entire matter was convoluted and crazy and that

the Town does not owe the property owners an apology. He went on to say, "You are feeling sorry for yourselves and taking it out on other people and wasting the town's time." Dave Delorey went on to read a copywritten story to the Selectmen's Board capturing the incident along with the Town's response. He pointed out to the Selectmen that the Road Agent, Lee Murray, allegedly admitted to breaking the Dig-Safe Law in a previous Selectmen's meeting, and that Burton Reynolds issued no written or verbal warning to the Road Agent. He went on to say that the Town Administrator has a lack of communication with other Town officials. Selectman Woodbury stated that the Road Agent will contact Dig-Safe and it will become part of the standard operating procedure in the future. Selectman Carlstrom stated that there was a miscommunication and he apologized for the placement of the sign on his property.

Jacqueline Delorey stated that they should not be treated any less than other residents.

Dwight Lovejoy of Parker Road commented that it seems as if Mr. Delorey is setting two sets of standards, as far as obtaining permits for work. He also stated that the Town employees do the best job that they can, and they don't have to put up with it and can walk away from it at any time.

MINUTES: The minutes of September 17th, September 24th and October 1st were amended and corrected by the Selectmen. Dave Woodbury moved to accept each with the necessary amendments. Dave Delorey seconded the motion. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) **Planning Issues** – Last week's meeting included miscellaneous business. October 23rd will be a work session with hearings for the sprinkler system, Thibeault Corporation, Dr. Brenner, and Dodge's Storage Building. Site walks included M&M and the Apple Barn.
- 2) **Class VI Road Specs** – Selectmen reviewed and amended Gordon's newest version of the agreement. Dave Woodbury moved to approve the October 22nd version with it's amendments. Dave Delorey seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Selectmen also agreed to call the agreement **Class VI Road Considerations**.
- 3) **Selectmen's Meeting Procedures** – The Selectmen reviewed the revised procedures with Burton and made minor changes. The agenda format was discussed. Burton will make the changes. Dave Delorey moved to accept the changes of October 22nd. Dave Woodbury seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Dave Delorey moved to extend the meeting until 11:00 PM. Dave Woodbury seconded the motion. All were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) **Planning Budget** – Burton distributed a copy of the Planning Board's proposed budget for the year 2002. The Planning department is hoping to hire a clerical person for less than \$12.00 per hour. Comp time and overtime were

discussed. The Selectmen will review the budget before the Finance Committee meeting.

- 2) **Review of Personnel Manual** – Chapter 4 Section 4-3 –Burton reviewed the “Separation” section of the manual with the Selectmen. The Town Administrator can issue warnings and suspensions, but based on chapter four, section 3(c), only with the approval of the Board of Selectmen. Dave Delorey recommended that the Board review this section carefully because he feels the Town Administrator has neglected to issue warnings as required by the personnel manual. Burton stated that he turns to the Selectmen for guidance on such issues and the manual requires it. Dave Delorey recited from the manual, stating that incidents must be documented, recommendations be made, and then action taken. Burton informed the Selectmen that the personnel manual was written by his predecessor, Todd Selig, with a lot of input from various other towns.
- 3) **Cemetery Deed** – There was some discussion over how the Town should acquire the Whipple Lot given that the property is not marketable. Dave Woodbury suggested that the Town take a Deed without Covenants, rather than a Quit-Claim Deed, because there are not going to be title problems related to a sale, (the town won’t be selling the property). A Deed without Covenants means you take the property as it is. He also suggested that the three officers sign the deed; Walter Houghton (president), Bob Todd (secretary), and himself (Treasurer).
- 4) **Health Insurance Increase** – Burton attended a presentation on October 22, 2001, which outlined the reasons for the 27.5% increase in insurance premiums. The increase is due to not enough premiums available to cover insurance claims. Burton will provide the Selectmen with an approximate cost to the Town at the next meeting.
- 5) **First Aid Course** – The Fire Department will be holding a First Aid Course which is available to Town employees. It will be held on the Tuesday of November 6th and November 11th from 8-12 or 1-5PM.
- 6) **Other** –
 - **Cable TV minutes** – The Francestown Board of Selectmen is interested in pooling attorney’s fees for the two towns. It would be easier to have an attorney present the Town’s agenda to the Cable company.
 - **Highway Department** – Paul Sizemore is willing to purchase the one-ton pickup truck from the New Boston Highway department for a price of ten to fifteen thousand dollars. Paul also plows for the Town. There were no objections from the Selectmen. The grader goes into the shop for recall work on Friday, October 26th.
 - **Tax Collector** – Paula has asked for an authorization from the Selectmen to receive prepayment of taxes due to closings, as outlined in RSA 80:52A. Dave Woodbury moved to grant the authorization as outlined in the RSA. Dave Delorey seconded the motion. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Willard Dodge suggested that the one-ton pickup truck be put out to bid, even though Paul Sizemore would probably be the best candidate. It would be proper procedure. Secondly, he asked why the Cable TV Company's quality of service isn't part of the negotiations. Dave Delorey responded that it would be part of the contract. We are signing the contract prematurely to include a service level agreement, but the Town cannot demand the quality of technology.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 7) **Personnel – Town Administrator Review (non-public)** – Dave Woodbury suggested reviewing Burton's self-review at home and proceeding with his review at next week's meeting. Dave Delorey wants to discuss Burton's leaving. It was decided to post-pone the review for a week and to include Tammy Duval's exit interview letter on next week's agenda.

Dave Delorey moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 PM. Dave Woodbury seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Prepared by Cindy Romano