

**Town of New Boston
Selectmen's Meeting
November 5, 2001**

A. **CALL TO ORDER:** A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Gordon Carlstrom at 7:04 PM.

B. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

C. **APPOINTMENTS:**

1) 7:00 PM Barbara Woodland Library Trustee Appointment

Barbara Woodland was present to speak to the Selectmen about her interest in becoming a Library Trustee. She has been involved with the church for twenty years and wants to become involved with the community. She sees the Library as an important part of the Town and has used its resources for both research and pleasure. Barbara would be serving the remainder of Ellen Ruggles term until March 2002, when she would have to run for re-election. This is a volunteer, elected position. Dave Woodbury moved to appoint Barbara Woodland as Library Trustee until March 2002. Gordon Carlstrom seconded the motion. Both were in favor. Persons interested in becoming alternates to the Library Trustees may contact either Tim Cady or any one of the Trustees.

2) 7:10 PM Chief Begin Police Department

Chief Begin was present to give an update on the Police Department.

- Presently, the full-time officers are fully staffed. Patrick, who was recently hired, seems to be working out very well.
- The ACF, or Automated Clearing Funds, will be available from the federal government as soon as the paperwork is completed to facilitate the purchase of new police software.
- Last week there was an anthrax scare on one of Goffstown Truck Company's school buses. The white powder on the bus turned out to be flour from a student's school project. State and local officials handled the situation appropriately; however, the bus company did not handle the possibility of contamination well. Containment is most important in these instances, and the Chief will be talking to the Truck Company regarding this matter.
- DARE program – the Chief recently attended a two-week training course to become certified to teach the DARE program and will be doing so in the spring for New Boston's sixth graders. The Chief would like to also instruct the fifth grade students of Weare, who have not had the program for the past three years. It would involve one day a week for seventeen weeks in the fall. The Chief has had discussion with the Town of Weare about covering New Boston's calls when he is not available. The Chief would still be fulfilling his forty hours a week in New Boston. The Selectmen agreed to this decision as long as the hours and the finances work out for New Boston.

- The Chief's one-year probationary period has expired and Burton will be writing a letter to the Chief on behalf of the Town.
- Chief Begin and the Selectmen discussed pro-rating the penalty clause in the police hiring contracts.
- Speeding Complaints – The Chief has received a lot of complaints regarding speeding in various areas of Town and he has spent many hours observing traffic, only to find that the majority of cars are within five to ten miles of the speed limit for the roads. He will continue to monitor traffic in New Boston.

A motion was made by Gordon Carlstrom and seconded by David Woodbury to enter into a non-public session at 7:40PM according to RSA 91A: 3 Section II (a), for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

A motion was made by Dave Woodbury and seconded by Gordon Carlstrom to exit the non-public session at 8:12 PM.

At the conclusion of the non-public session, Road Agent Lee Murray announced that he is planning to retire from the Highway Department as of March 2003. This represents the end of his current term.

3) 8:00PM Forestry Committee Open Space Group

Graham Pendlebury of Dougherty Lane presented an outline for the formation of an Open Space Committee. The purpose of the committee would be to protect the rural character of New Boston and the quality of life of its citizens. It would also contribute to the local economy by fostering the forest resource base. The means of achieving these goals would be to target areas and parcels of land for protection using the FLESA study data, protected lands maps, and information from area use committees and organizations. A first project would be proposed, which has a good chance for success, and lastly, the committee would report to the Board of Selectmen with a 2002 budget. The group would be formed of five members, with one or two from existing committees, and meet once a month or as needed. After some discussion, it was decided that recruitment of potential applicants would ensue while Burton Reynolds looked into the Town's ability to form a committee. A beginning budget amount would be determined for the next Selectmen's meeting on November 19, 2001. This budget would be for administrative purposes to get the committee started. This item will be on the agenda again for November 19, 2001.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of October 22, 2001 were reviewed and corrected. Gordon Carlstrom moved to accept the minutes with the corrections. David Woodbury seconded the motion. Both were in favor.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Howe Bridge** – Holden Engineering is recommending the rehabilitation work, rather than replacement of the bridge. The Selectmen reviewed the work to be done and will give it their approval as needed.
2. **Health Insurance** – Burton did not yet have a figure for the cost of health insurance for the year 2002 because town employees have yet to make their

elections based on the announced 27.5 % increase. He did say that for now, monies from the Health Care Spending Account that are not spent by employees would be put back into the general fund.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Town Employee Salary Plan** – Burton discussed with the Selectmen the general status of employees pay rates. It was agreed upon that the majority of employees should be below market rate unless they have shown outstanding performance in their job. Market rate is for those employees who have reached full potential in their job achievements.
- 2. Municipal Association Convention** – Burton attended this convention this year and reported on the most interesting and worthwhile subjects that were covered. He informed and encouraged the Selectmen to attend any or all of the convention next year.
- 3. Chauncy Easement** – This matter is up to date. Brenda Linde provided Jed Callen with the Conservation Committee's recommendations and Jed is reviewing them. Selectman Woodbury will be attending the Planning Board's weekly meetings beginning November 6th, and will keep the Board of Selectmen informed on this matter.
- 4. Highway Budget** – Burton provided the Selectmen with copies of the Highway Department's budget and the line items were reviewed. Line items that had increased were for paving, salt, and calcium chloride. Selectmen will meet with the Finance Committee to review the budget.

F. OTHER:

- 1. Letter from Mrs. Byam** – Ernie Thibeault is coming to the Planning Board meeting of November 6th to address the paving and financial issues of Byam Road.
- 2. Remembrance Ceremony** – Burton received a response from the Municipal Association clarifying the Town's ability to declare a holiday. The Town may have a remembrance ceremony, but only the State can declare a holiday or a day off from work. Burton will notify the group that came up with the ideas for remembering September 11th, and it will be an agenda item in the future.
- 3. Dave Wilson** – It was suggested that something be done to recognize the death of Dave Wilson. The Selectmen will sign a card to be sent from the Selectmen's office.
- 4. Road Grading** – Lee Murray is looking for input from the Selectmen regarding the road grading done in front of Mr. Dave Delorey's house. The Deloreys are concerned that the berm that was created will not keep the rainwater away from their septic system. A ditch line is in place and should direct the water away.
- 5. Granite State Gravel Pit** – The Selectmen reviewed Burton's letter to Mr. John McClellan regarding the expansion of the gravel pit and the adverse affect that the new entrance would have on the neighborhood. Burton will make the necessary changes and instruct the owners of the pit that this needs to be approved by the Planning Board.

6. **Evaluations** -- Evaluations for the department heads have been completed. The Selectmen need to review and sign off on them.

H. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Joe Nangle raised the question of when cars for sale on landowner's property becomes a business. The Selectmen discussed, and agreed that probably when the cars are not owned by the landowner.

Dave Woodbury moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 PM. Gordon Carlstrom seconded the motion. Both were in favor.

Prepared by Cindy Romano