

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

January 11, 1999

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:10 PM by Chairman Strong.

PRESENT:

Harold Strong - Chairman
Lois Briere - Selectman
Susan Clay - Selectman
Burton Reynolds - Town Administrator

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

- 1) Under RSA 91-A:3 II b. all three Board members voted to enter into Non-Public Session to interview a candidate for patrolman with Chief McLaughlin.
- 2) Kim Di Pietro made a presentation she had also given to the Conservation and Forestry Committees. Her concern is with keeping as many Class V roads as possible gravel roads, and to encourage the town to maintain it's rights on Class VI roads. Kim represented a horse riding group. She reviewed several situations (Deland Forest, Cochran Hill Rd, and Pine Rd.) where original agreements to allow the use of the land for riding have been compromised. Based on this record, she is concerned more be done to assure access to forestry and conservation lands and Class VI roads. One suggestion was to limit uses in certain places on these lands but not the whole parcels.
- 3) The Cemetery Trustees, at the invitation of the Board, were in to explain their duties. New Boston's cemetery is private so state rules do not apply. They inspect the cemetery at least twice a year (Memorial Day and in fall), handle bookkeeping for funds they earn and receive from cemetery trusts, do the long range planning like expansion of the cemetery, and decide what special projects will be done such as cutting trees, painting and fixing of fences and gates, fixing of broken head stones, etc. The town funds pay for the work Maureen Mansfield does. This represents the bulk of the expense and includes duties outlined in a 12/98 memo from Maureen. Because the cemetery now relies primarily on town funds instead of it's own to maintain the grounds, should responsibility shift from private trustees to public? Maureen explained how much is received for sales of lots and where the money goes. She did the same for burials. The Board questioned whether some of Maureen's duties weren't more trustee related than maintenance related. While some are, she has been willing to do and it has worked well so no changes have been made. The idea of placing the cemetery maintenance work out to bid was explored. The session closed with Maureen feeling a lot of changes were being discussed about something that is working well.

NEW BUSINESS

The year end 1998 financials look good. We have taken in more in income than anticipated when the tax rate was set and our spending was less than authorized at Town Meeting. Preliminary indications are that there will be a surplus near what we had last year.

OLD BUSINESS

The remainder of the meeting consisted of establishing the revenue estimates for next year, reviewing the capital items budget, and setting Thursday at 1PM to begin going over the Selectmen's portion of the budget.

Motion to adjourn at 9:50PM by Susan Clay, 2nd Lois Briere, all approved.



Burton Reynolds
Town Administrator