

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

January 3, 2000

### PRESENT:

Susan Clay-Chairperson  
Lois Briere-Selectman  
Gordon Carlstrom-Selectman  
Burton Reynolds-Town Administrator

This combined public hearing and Selectmen's meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by chairperson Clay.

### PUBLIC HEARING

Purpose was to have the Selectmen "accept" a sliver of land next to Woods Lane now owned by David Poole. Tax lot 4-23 subdivision notes show there is some question as to whether this prescriptive road is 2 ½ or 3 rods wide. It was decided to assume 3 rods. The plan was done assuming 2 ½. The ½ rod difference is to be deeded to the Town. Gordon made a motion to accept, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lois with all three voting to accept.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

none

### MINUTES

Minutes of the 12/27/99 meeting were approved as written with Susan abstaining because she was not at the 12/27 meeting.

### OLD BUSINESS

1) Budgets that are not directly set by the Board were discussed as well as some warrant articles. It was decided that any new subjects of expenditure like the Red Cross request and the Host Homes program for kids should be warrant articles so taxpayers could directly say whether or not they wanted these funded. Target tax rate for 2000 is in the \$25. range, up from \$22.70. This would exclude any increase due to the school fund balance changing.

Cemeteries: per hour rate looked high compared with rates charged by commercial mowers. It is a long-time arrangement and everyone is pleased with the quality of the work done. Focus for now should be on whether cemetery remains private. Gordon to meet with Trustees to discuss a possible warrant article.

Recreation had asked that both employees jump 2 steps on the wage program. Because the secretary is now more of an assistant, the Board felt those additional duties justified the two step jump. The director's job remains unchanged so the normal increase was deemed appropriate there. Burton was directed to write to the Rec Commission asking that it be understood that reimbursement from Summer Program wage expense be set at 50%. Now, that is what is given but it was established more as a dollar figure. The Board wants it to increase as wage expense increases.

Highway had increased due to more money for paving and hired equipment expense. The paving was driven by an analysis of the cost per mile to pave and how long a paving job normally holds-up.  $\$32,000/\text{mile} \times 50 \text{ miles of paved roads} / 10 \text{ yrs} = \$160,000/\text{yr}$  just to keep the current paved roads in good shape. The '99 budget had only \$80,000 in it. Hired equipment expense is up because the State increase it's rates and to be competitive we need to pay their scale. The sign budget was up considerably due to the expense of putting up speed limit signs. It was decided this should be done over 2 years instead of one and that line reduced.

Transfer Station has payroll increases due to additional hours. The Board will meet with Bonnie next week to discuss the merit of these proposed changes.

- 2) A meeting with the Daniels on the purchase of the Whipple Barn property for a library/recreation center is set for Wed., Jan 12 at 7:30
- 3) Under Planning, the CIP schedule was reviewed. Lois was asked to impress upon the CIP the need to include the Town offices renovations and to use a CRF approach. It was also hoped the final CIP would more closely align with input from Finance and the Town Administrator. The other topic was the quality of the work product from our Town engineers, Dufrense-Henry. The Planning Board is looking to improve communication in particular.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Several taxpayers had asked for waivers of interest on their tax bills. The Board approved the two cases presented.
- 2) Bob Todd presented a deed for three parcels which total about 30 acres in the Great Meadow area. With these parcels, the Town would now own about 1/2 of the Great Meadow.  
On a separate issue, Bob asked the Board if they had any interest in a lot owned by Alan Sherburne across from the Lydia Dodge lot on Old Coach. He understood it was for sale. He had walked it with Road Agent Lee Murray. It was good forest land and also had sizable deposits of sand and gravel which the Town Highway could use. The Board asked Bob to write to Alan on behalf of the Town.
- 3) A letter from our insurance carrier concerning making comments at the time of an auto accident were to be made available to Town employees. The carrier just asked that employees refrain from making judgements about who is at fault. Let the police report settle the issue.
- 4) Letters of appreciation were to be sent to Karen Craven and George Whipple. Karen was our bookkeeper most recently (to 12/31) but also had held other positions including Treasurer over about 20 years. The Board also approved including a gift certificate. George Whipple provided \$2,000 worth of work for just the cost of fuel and machinery moving expense to improve the shooting range used by the police up behind the Transfer Station. It is now much safer, contains noise better, and has improved drainage.
- 5) A non-public session was entered into at 10 PM under RSA 91-A:3IIa in order to do the evaluation of the Town Administrator. Susan-yes, Lois-yes, Gordon-yes. Exit non-public at 10:30 PM.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

This was heard before going into non-public session. Joe Nangle was encouraged to discuss the status of the easement process for the Marvel land with Jed Callen.

A motion to adjourn was made by Gordon Carlstrom with 2nd by Lois Briere at 10:31 PM

Burton Reynolds  
Town Administrator