

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2000

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairperson Clay at 7 PM.

PRESENT:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Nangle asked if the Town had any policy requiring a survey of property when people where offering to give parcels to the Town. The Board said "no", that each case was reviewed and where there was deemed a need one was done either at the Town's or the current owners expense.

APPOINTMENTS

- 1) Bill Brendle wanted the Board to begin thinking about the trucks that will likely use Parker Road once the bridge to Goffstown is complete next summer. He suggested making the road a "No thru trucking" street. The Board said they would consult with the Road Agent and the Police Chief. They also want to review the excavation permits for that area of Town. If the road is to be posted, a public hearing will be held.
- 2) Later in the meeting, at 8:45 PM, all three members voted to go into non-public session to discuss issues that are now before Town Counsel. The session ended at 9:15PM No decisions on any of the issues were made so none were announced.
- 3) Bonnie Bethune outlined her desire to have another Transfer Station worker take her Tuesday shift so she could do the required administrative work of the job. She was asked for more information. The Solid Waste Committee has recommended an increase in the fee for construction debris from \$10. to \$20/cu yd. The Board voted unanimously to implement the new fee March 1, 2000. New residents of 141 Beard Rd. found 20-25 tires on the property. Should Bonnie charge them \$1 for each tire? The Board felt "yes". But did not mind Bonnie suggesting they seek reimbursement by the previous owner. The bids to refurbish the '89 Trailer we use to transport waste were reviewed as was the soundness of doing so. This same process was done to the '87 trailer back in '95 and it has held-up well. Getting a good used trailer is not likely given the strong market for them. We will continue to use as a primary trailer until 2002 when we plan to buy a newer and larger trailer while trading the '87 trailer. Should we open more hours at night? Bonnie is looking into the cost for lighting. Given that everyone commutes, would Sunday hours actually be more accomodating at some point in the future?

4) Paul Dickson is a ham radio operator who lives in town. He wanted to make the Board aware of the services ham operators can provide in emergencies. He will be contacted when an update to our Emergency Management Manual is made later in the year. It was agreed that ham operators could provide an important role should general communications be out.

MINUTES

The minutes of 1/3/00 were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

1) Under "Planning Issues", the CIP changes inserting the \$250,000 for Town Office upgrades in the 2005 to 2006 range with some CRF's was applauded. In general, the CIP report was now closer to what the Selectmen were hoping it would be. After Town Meeting and the new members to committees are set, the Board wants to discuss the CIP Committee representation and the timing of the process. The thought is that a late summer to early fall start would allow the process to end just as budget season begins-which would avoid some meeting conflicts, allow the capital budget to be better established for the Finance Committee, and have a major project done before Planning has to deal with zoning amendments and the like at year end. The status of the petitioned zoning amendments including especially one for the village district were discussed. It was questioned whether some of the problems seen with some of the petitions could be cleaned-up at the Deliberative Session discussion. Burton would call the DRA.

2) A list of warrant articles for 2000 were presented including all the CIP items. The Board wants to include the Highway Tractor in a more thorough review of our Highway Heavy Equipment later in the year so that was not funded. The Police cells are being removed so the public can focus on just the monitoring equipment. The cells have been controversial. Finance and the Selectmen feel the monitoring equipment is important so it was decided to separate the two issues. The Fire Department had asked that two articles be placed on the warrant. The Board agreed with Finance to fund the oil tank replacement but postpone the station floor resurfacing until next year. All the other articles were approved, with the one library article the exception, awaiting a meeting with the Daniels. It was decided a CLU exception would be offered if that was one of the major reasons the Daniels did not want to include some of the land near the barns. Should some of these warrant articles for small amounts like the Red Cross request or the Host Homes program be built into the budget? Burton felt all new purposes of expense should 1st receive voter approval before they are included in the operating budget. What about the retirement plan changes? These are an improvement upon a current plan and a personnel issue that should be left to the discretion of the Board and thus be part of the operating budget. The change involves the Town now participating in funding retirement for full-time employees. The Town would fund ½ of whatever the employee is contributing up to an employee contribution of 6% of salary. So the Town's maximum contribution would be 3%.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Year-end 1999 revenue will be above that used when the tax rate was set. The exact numbers were not ready yet.
- 2) We will end the year well within the budget approved at Town Meeting. Again, all the bills are not yet paid so a final figure was not available. A detailed sheet outlining all the expenses for every line item in the budget will be printed and used as a reference document for questions at the Deliberative Session.
- 3) The Board approved Burton and Sarah meeting to discuss updating a very old arrangement the Town has for dealing with the Library expenses. The goal is to make the process more in line with that used for all other departments and to relieve Sarah of any paperwork she is willing to let the bookkeeper do for her.
- 4) The Board voted a \$50. donation to the Library in memory of Mary Statt.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 PM. Motion Gordon Carlstrom, 2nd Lois Briere. All in favor.

Burton Reynolds
Town Administrator