

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2008, 5:00 p.m.

Corner Meeting House

Chairman Cormier called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., also present were Selectman Jon Pike, Town Administrator K. Jeanne Beaudin, Administrative Assistant Cary Lagace, Public Works Director Jim Fortin, Deputy Fire Chief Sean McCarty, Fire Chief Jim Davis, Brenda Paquette, David Morse, David McLelland, Ron Mitchell, George & Susan Condodemetraky Lori with the Citizen, Eric with the Winnisquam Echo and Ray Carbone with the Daily Sun. Also joining the meeting later for the Public Hearing on Pleasant Valley were Jon Warzocha with Horizons Engineering, and many residents of the Pleasant Valley neighborhood.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Chairman Cormier moved to accept the minutes of the February 4, 2008 meeting as written. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing on adoption of SB2

Chairman Cormier opened the Public Hearing on the adoption of SB2 at 5:02 p.m. He began by explaining that the request for SB2 consideration came by way of a petition warrant article, which will be on the ballot for residents to vote on at Town Meeting. Susan Condodemetraky asked for an explanation of SB2, Chairman Cormier explained that it is made up of two sessions, the first being a deliberative session and the second is actual voting with the polls being open for the full day. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the timeline for posting notices, accepting petition warrant articles and holding budget hearings changes with everything happening much sooner than they do now. Chairman Cormier pointed out that this method also allows for absentee ballots to be filed. Ray Carbone noted that he had heard that a 3/5 vote is required to pass bond articles. Town Administrator Beaudin indicated that there are currently 59 communities that have the SB2 method and through the discussions she has had with some of those communities they indicate pros and cons with the deliberative session being the biggest concern. Without citizens attending the deliberative sessions they will most likely be addressing their ballot without full understanding of what is being presented and what the consequences of their vote will really be. Chairman Cormier noted that at the deliberative sessions is where articles would be amended without additional hearings being required once

an article is amended. There was discussion that other communities have noted that there deliberative sessions are sometimes smaller than actual Town Meeting and without attendance at those sessions voters may be less informed when casting their ballot. Chairman Cormier closed the public hearing at 5:23 p.m.

WHIP Authorization

The Board received a request from the Conservation Commission for Ken Knowlton to be authorized to sign the WHIP grant application on behalf of the Town.

Chairman Cormier moved to authorize Ken Knowlton to sign the WHIP application. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CDBG Project Authorizations

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed the CDBG project authorization documents; Financial Management Plan, the Code of Ethics and the Conflict of Interest, relative to the CDBG grant with the Board.

Chairman Cormier moved to approve the CDBG Project authorizations as presented. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing on Pleasant Valley project

Chairman Cormier opened the Public Hearing at 5:30 p.m. Jon Warzocha with Horizons Engineering was present to provide information of the feasibility study that is being conducted for the project. He began by explaining the significant water system problems and drainage issues that exist at Pleasant Valley. He explained that his firm visited the neighborhood to identify the problem and then offer ideas for solutions to the problems. The plans showed the proposed layout of a water distribution system to today's standards. It also showed the proposed drainage system which would start from scratch and would include the installation of catch basins and drainage to a lower area that would remove the water from the neighborhood completely. He explained that the systems will require easements throughout the neighborhood. He noted that resurfacing the streets affected by the project is included in the estimate. The total estimated project cost is \$1.65 million derived from recent bids. The project financing would be a combination of a bond for \$1.1 million and a CDBG grant for \$500,000.

David McLelland indicated that in 2008 there have already been 2 water breaks and in 2007 there were 9. A resident asked if all roads affected would be paved and Jon Warzocha indicated that they would replace road as it was prior to construction, so a dirt road would be replaced with a paved road. Jon also noted when asked that there is a 10% contingency built in the costs for problems that they may run into such as sewer line damage or other unforeseen issues.

There was discussion of when the project would start and it was noted that the first step is to get the project approved at Town Meeting and then the rest of the process could take place. It was also noted that last Town Meeting the project failed by just two votes and everyone was encouraged to register to vote and attend Town Meeting for the vote as well as inform their neighbors to do the same. Selectman Pike expressed that the community looks at Pleasant Valley as a mobile home park and feel the issue is a park problem, not realizing that Pleasant Valley is a subdivision with the owners owning their land just as the majority of the

Town does. George Condodemetraky commented that Pleasant Valley is a subdivision with Town owned roads and the Town needs to fix the problems there.

Town Administrator Beaudin indicated that in addition to the CDBG grant, alternative funding sources will also be considered but again can't move forward with researching those until the project is approved.

Chairman Cormier closed the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m.

LRMHPC Abatement Request

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed with the Board a request from LRMHPC to abate taxes on 13 Deer Lane relative to an eviction. They are going to remove the unit and replace it a new one. As their park is a co-op it is not subject to the new case law regarding mobile home parks. Chief Davis confirmed the unit is also a safety concern.

Selectman Pike moved to abate the taxes on the mobile home located at 13 Deer Lane. Chairman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing on the Traffic Ordinance

Chairman Cormier opened the Public Hearing at 6:22 p.m. He indicated that this is the second Public Hearing regarding this ordinance. The ordinance being proposed is an updated version of an outdated ordinance. The ordinance will allow the enforcement of parking restrictions and such as it pertains to keeping the roads clear in the winter. Chairman Cormier read from the ordinance the areas that it will cover. Ron Mitchell asked if there were times associated with the overnight parking ban, Chairman Cormier indicated that there were no time frames listed. That will be reviewed and considered for amendment.

Chairman Cormier closed the Public Hearing at 6:28 p.m.

Non-Public Session

Chairman Cormier opened the non-public session at 6:29 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Roll call was taken and those present and voting were Ron Cormier, and Jon Pike. Also present was Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, Fire Chief Davis and Deputy Fire Chief McCarty.

Chairman Cormier closed the non-public session at 6:40 p.m.

Chairman Cormier moved to remove Fire Chief Jim Davis from probationary status. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Cormier moved to remove Lieutenant Greg Bavis from probationary status. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Pike moved to remove Firefighter Mike Elkins & Firefighter Greg Nichols from probationary status. Chairman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Pike moved to remove Deputy Fire Chief Sean McCarty from probationary status. Chairman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Non-Public Session

Chairman Cormier opened the non-public session at 6:45 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Roll call was taken and those present and voting were Ron Cormier, and Jon Pike. Also present was Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, Public Works Director Jim Fortin.

Discussion followed regarding the substandard job performance of the Building & Grounds Maintenance staff.

Chairman Cormier closed the non-public session at 7:00 p.m.

Selectman Pike moved to terminate James Vargus for poor job performance in accordance with the Town's Personnel Policy. Chairman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next regular Board of Selectmen's meeting will be Monday, March 3, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. at the Corner Meeting House.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Ronald Cormier, Chairman

Reginald Caldwell

Jon Pike