

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2008, 5:00 p.m.

Corner Meeting House

Chairman Cormier called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.; also present were Selectman Reginald Caldwell, Selectman Jon Pike, Town Administrator K. Jeanne Beaudin, Administrative Assistant Cary Lagace, Deputy Fire Chief Sean McCarty, Ann Busack, Helmut Busack, Eric Zygmot with The Winnisquam Echo and Geoff Cunningham with the Laconia Citizen. Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector Cynthia DeRoy & Officer Christopher Gustafson joined the meeting at 5:55. Also joining the meeting at 6:30 p.m., were Adam Hawkins and Bob Laraway. Chief Baiocchetti joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Selectman Pike moved to accept the minutes of the March 17, 2008 meeting as written. Chairman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Selectman Caldwell abstained.

Board Organization

The Board discussed that the current organization is working well and they felt it should remain the same.

Selectman Caldwell moved to leave current board organization, with Ron Cormier as Chairman, Budget Committee Rep. and Heritage Commission Rep.; Selectman Caldwell as Vice Chairman and Planning Board Rep.; Selectman Pike as Conservation Commission Rep. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Retirement

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed with the Board the retirement letter received from Town Clerk/Tax Collector Carol Lacasse stating she will begin her retirement effective May 30, 2008. She noted that she has prepared a job notice for the Deputy position and the

current Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector Cynthia Deroy will meet with them later in the evening.

Commercial Waste Administrative Fee

Town Administrator Beaudin advised the Board that as a member of the Concord Regional Co-Op Joint Board at a recent meeting there was discussion regarding charging commercial waste administrative fees. Through research she has determined that many communities charge between \$2.60 per ton and \$11.00 per ton for an administrative fee. Although Belmont charges a \$1.00 per ton right now she would like to recommend an increase in that fee.

Chairman Cormier asked that the Board wait until after they can schedule a discussion regarding the possibility of bringing back an Economic Development Committee. He added that he has been approached by several business owners asking that the Board consider doing more for local business. At such time they could discuss how an increase like this would affect business owners.

Discussion with Helmut Busack

Helmut and Ann Busack were present to discuss with the Board their concern regarding recent tax bills that they had received on property that they previously had not received bills for. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that due to new case law units in parks can not be considered stock in trade unless they are on a sales lot and sales are the primary business where they are located. The change may have triggered bills to be issued on units that weren't previously taxed. Ann explained that following the visit from the assessors last year they received bills for units that had not previously, including a unit that had been abandoned by the owner. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that when that unit was transferred into the name of the park owner the back taxes became the responsibility of the park owner.

It was discussed that the structures that are being taxed Mr. Busack is currently using for storage but does have the intention of demolishing when he has time. The units in question are 14 Ham Ave, 37Ham Ave and 41 Ham Ave. The Board agreed that the structures need to continue to be taxed until such time that they are removed. They agreed that because of the new case law that they would agree to abate any tax previous to 2007 but that Mr. Busack would be responsible for any tax moving forward until such time that the structures are removed by obtaining a demolition permit.

Selectman Pike moved to abate the taxes prior to 2007 on the three units in question and Mr. Busack is responsible for the taxes from the beginning of 2007 forward. Chairman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing to amend the Emergency Operations Plan

Chairman Cormier opened a Public Hearing at 5:40 p.m. to amend the Emergency Operations Plan. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the only changes made were to the name of personnel that are listed in the document.

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the Emergency Operations Plan as amended. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Chairman Cormier closed the public hearing at 5:42 p.m.

Public Hearing for grant from Department of Safety

Chairman Cormier opened the Public Hearing at 5:43p.m. in accordance with RSA 31:95-b relative to the acceptance of a grant from the Department of Safety for an Astro Spectra W4 Base Station radio with power supply, desk microphone, antenna and installation valued at \$6,600.

Deputy Fire Chief McCarty explained that the radio will be used at the Winnisquam Station and will be an upgrade from what is currently there. Chairman Cormier asked if this was a better system than what is at the main station and Deputy Chief McCarty indicated that it is not better than the current system at the main station, but better than the one at Winnisquam.

Selectman Pike moved to accept the grant from the Department of Safety for an Astro Spectra W4 Base Station radio. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously

Tax Deeded Properties

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed the tax deed list with the Board, noting that the majority of property due for deeding is mobile homes. She noted that she had surveyed several towns the majority of which do not take mobile homes, due to the liability, however in Winchester a few years ago they attempted to take 10, 7 of the owners redeemed, 1 paid just enough to release the deed and 2 they actually accepted the deeds to and auctioned off. Selectman Pike indicated that he feels it's important to be firm and send a message. Town Administrator Beaudin stated that to be bold, the process of accepting the deeds can be started and then continued through with the ones that require the whole process, she cautioned against the liability of park rent owed for any units that may be accepted that are in a mobile home park.

The Board asked that the units that are due for deeding be researched to determine if there are park rent liens on them. Determine which properties have payment arrangements and then review each property to determine if the Board wishes to accept the deeds of any others. Selectman Pike indicated that in fairness to all property owners he feels the Board needs to show the property owners that they need to pay their taxes or there are consequences. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the process is about 60 day's total. The Board asked to see a refined list that does not include any property that the owner has a payment arrangement on, before they make a decision regarding which deeds should be accepted. .

Yelle Street Light Request

Mr. Yelle submitted a request to have a street light installed at the intersection of Jamestown Road and Route 140. Town Administrator Beaudin indicated that previously there were fees for the installation and monthly usage fees. The Board agreed that the intersection is dark and can be dangerous and were not opposed to having a light installed there. Town administrator Beaudin explained that prior to previous installations PSNH was willing to meet and discuss the location of new lights and they would most likely do that again. The Board suggested that Chief Baiocchetti be asked for his recommendation too.

Joint Planning Board Reminder

Town Administrator Beaudin reminded the Board of their joint meeting with the Planning Board and Conservation Commission on April 14, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Non-Public Session

Chairman Cormier opened the non-public session at 6:05 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Roll call was taken and those present and voting were Ron Cormier, Reggie Caldwell and Jon Pike. Also present was Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin and Deputy Tax Collector/Town Clerk Cynthia Deroy.

Chairman Cormier closed the non-public session at 6:40 p.m. No decisions were made.

Non-Public Session

Chairman Cormier opened the non-public session at 6:40 p.m.. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Roll call was taken and those present and voting were Ron Cormier, Reggie Caldwell and Jon Pike. Also present was Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, Christopher Gustafson, Adam Hawkins and Bob Laraway.

Selectman Reginald Caldwell move to place Christopher Gustafson on unpaid leave effective Monday, April 14, 2008; without guarantee of reinstatement to his former position, leave will continue through August 1, 2008. Selectman Jon Pike seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Chairman Cormier closed the non-public session at 7:05 p.m.

Non-Public Session

Chairman Cormier opened the non-public session at 7:07 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Roll call was taken and those present and voting were Ron Cormier, Reggie Caldwell and Jon Pike. Also present was Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin and Police Chief Vinnie Baiocchetti.

Chairman Cormier closed the non-public session at 8:00 p.m. No decisions were made.

Next Meeting

The next regular Board of Selectmen’s meeting will be Monday, April 14, 2008 at 5:00 p.m., downstairs at the Corner Meeting House.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Ronald Cormier, Chairman

Reginald Caldwell

Jon Pike