

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 20, 2009, 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, Selectman David Morse, Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, Police Chief Vinnie Baiocchetti, Public Works Director Jim Fortin, CEO Steve Dalton, Peter Harris, Deputy Fire Chief Sean McCarty, Ken Knowlton, Philip Brouillard, Peter DeJaeger, and Kinney O'Rourke of the Laconia Daily Sun.

Those present stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Selectman Pike moved the minutes of the meeting held on May 4, 2009 as written. Selectman Morse seconded the motion and the minutes passed unanimously; with Chairman Cormier abstaining.

Chairman Cormier moved the minutes of the meeting held on May 6, 2009 as written. Selectman Pike seconded the motion and the minutes passed unanimously; with Selectman Morse abstaining.

New Business

Sun Lake Village Current Use Penalties & Accrued Interest

Philip Brouillard was present at the meeting to discuss his letter dated April 21, 2009 with the Board of Selectmen in which he requests consideration of an additional abatement on the values assessed on the Land Use Penalties issued on property he owns in Sun Lake Village, which is located on Route 3 in Belmont. Town Administrator Beaudin provided a spreadsheet and comments to the Board on Mr. Brouillard's request. She explained that at the time the LUCT's were assessed no creditable sale data was available for the property and assessing staff used the listings found for the lots. As Mr. Brouillard explained these listings were unrealistic. Upon further appeal to the Town relative to the assessed values of the lots for 2007 and 2008, the Town agreed to adjust the values and subsequently the values detailed on the spreadsheet are the values agreed upon for 2007. Selectman Morse had several questions regarding the

process used to establish the initial penalties and raised concerns regarding the proposed request by Mr. Brouillard. He noted that the values suggested seem to represent current value in today's market versus what they would have been at the time of the change in use. Selectman Morse commented that the current listings on the lots are reflective of the values under consideration for the 2007 penalties and he notes this is a concern to him. He asked to review the abatement file relative to the appeal of the 2007 and 2008 assessed values. Selectman Pike and Chairman Cormier agreed to delay a decision on the request until Selectman Morse can review the files. Chairman Cormier inquired if the Conservation Commission had any comment on the process. Ken Knowlton was present and noted his primary concern was the future impact on other Current Use Penalty appeals and fees already paid. Town Administrator Beaudin assured the Board and Ken that the facts in this request would not set precedence for future penalty cases. The Board thanked Mr. Brouillard for attending and will take the matter up again at their meeting on June 1, 2009.

Curbside Collection Contract

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed the proposal from Bestway relative to renewing the Town's current contract with them which is due to expire December 31, 2009. After reviewing the proposed costs for a 5-year renewal; Chairman Cormier reminded the Board and Town Administrator that he holds firm to the belief that for such a large contract we should seek proposals. Town Administrator Beaudin will prepare an RFP and get it out to all trash vendors for consideration and submittal.

Revenue/Expenditure Review

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed the latest revenue report through April 30, 2009; she noted a significant decline in revenues specifically noting the reduction in interest and penalties collected on overdue taxes, interest on investments has taken a big hit primarily due to cash flow, commercial tonnage reimbursement is also down significantly which is related to the economy as well. She noted that motor vehicle fees are off about 10% through the end of April. It was noted that the motor vehicle fees had recovered from the prior month's level of (28%).

Town Administrator Beaudin explained that she had generated a new expenditure comparison report which will be updated monthly. The current report compares the period from January 1 through April 30 for the years 2008 and 2009. She noted that overall expenditures are down about 1% from last year. The most significant decrease is in the Highway Department; down 17% from last year, also General Assistance Vendor Payments are down by 36%.

Other New Business

Assistance for Firefighter Grant

Town Administrator Beaudin noted that the Board's packet this evening contained a memo from Fire Chief Davis relative to the Department requesting a grant from the Assistance for Firefighter grant program. The memo notes that the grant would be used for a fully compliant sprinkler system and updated radio box fire alarm for the current Fire Station. The estimated cost of the project is \$175,503 and the grant would cover 95%. Selectman Pike moved to authorize the department to apply for the grant; Selectman Morse seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Abatement Request

The Board considered a request from Frank Dalton relative to a mobile home located on his property at 142 Shaker Road. The home's owner is deceased and the bank has deeded the unit to Mr. Dalton however there are outstanding back taxes on the unit that Mr. Dalton is requesting the Town to abate the old taxes. Selectman Pike moved to abate the 07, 08 and 09 liens with the understanding that taxes would be owed going forward for 2009; Selectman Morse seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

ARRA Funds

Town administrator Beaudin advised the Board that a letter had been received from DOT relative to ARRA funds for the BRATT trail; she noted that the Town's project had not been selected to receive funds although we had been on the original potentially eligible list developed by DOT in March 2009. She also reported on a hearing the Town had before the TE Committee this afternoon for additional funds to complete Phase 1 of the trail. The committee voted to authorize \$70,000 towards Phase 1 and stipulated that the Town would need to use funds approved for Phase 2 to complete the original project. The Town would then have to reapply for Phase 2 at a later date.

Old Business

Inspection Ordinance Committee Appointments

CEO Steve Dalton was present at the meeting to propose the following appointments to a committee formed for the purpose of working him on the Inspection Ordinance; his recommendations were as follows: Glenn Worsman, Howard Warren, Steven Woodbury, Deputy Fire Chief Sean McCarty, Selectman David Morse, and Mark Condodemetraky. Chairman Cormier stipulated that the committee should complete their work on the ordinance as soon as possible and that the committee not be an ongoing group. Selectman Pike and Morse agreed and the Board set 90 days as the time limit for the project. Selectman Pike moved to approve the list of appointees as recommended by CEO Steve Dalton; Selectman Morse seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4 Holly Tree Lane – Romprey Agreement – Deferred to June 1, 2009

Heritage Commission Request

Chairman Cormier updated the Board on a request from the Heritage Commission that a committee be formed to be known as the Village Revitalization Committee; the Committee would be made up of volunteers on existing committees. He asked the other Board members to think about the matter and it will be placed on the agenda for June 1, 2009.

Non-Public Sessions

Chairman Cormier called the non-public session to order at 6:00 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Those present and voting were Jon Pike, David Morse, and Ronald Cormier. Also present was Town Administrator Beaudin, CEO Steve Dalton and Peter Harris.

Mr. Dalton reviewed the status of the Harris property with the Board of Selectmen and recommendations for closure of the ongoing compliance matter.

Selectman Jon Pike moved that in accordance with the recommendations of the Code Enforcement Officer and Town Counsel to accept an application for a junkyard license from Peter Harris relative to property located at Tax Map 231 Lot 006 and further noted that the application will contain a plan designating the junkyard area and will note that the total cars or associated parts of cars cannot exceed 80; Selectman Morse seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Harris and Mr. Dalton left the meeting at this time.

Chairman Cormier moved to enter non-public session at 6:20 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A3 II (b). Those present and voting were Jon Pike, David Morse and Ronald Cormier. Also present was Public Works Director Jim Fortin and Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin.

Discussion followed with Mr. Fortin relative to restructuring of the duties and responsibilities of the Public Works Department and Water Department due to recent staff changes. The Board reviewed a proposed organizational chart and agreed with the proposed changes. It was determined that an ad would be placed for an employee to be hired for the Public Works Department and Town Administrator Beaudin would prepare proposed wage and step changes for the Board's next meeting for discussion.

Chairman Cormier closed the non-public session at 6:35 p.m.

Chairman Cormier moved to enter non-public session at 6:36 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A3 II (b). Those present and voting were Jon Pike, David Morse and Ronald Cormier. Also present was Police Chief Vinnie Baiocchetti and Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin.

Chairman Cormier closed the non-public session at 7:05 p.m. No decisions were made or previous action of the prior Board changed during the session.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Ronald Cormier, Chairman

Jon Pike

David Morse