

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2008, 5:00 p.m.

Corner Meeting House

Chairman Cormier called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.; also present were Selectman Pike, Selectman Caldwell, Town Administrator K. Jeanne Beaudin, Administrative Assistant Cary Lagace, Town Planner Candace Daigle, Water Department Manager David McLelland, Mark Mooney, Lisa Clutters, William Stanley, Geoff Cunningham with the Citizen, Eric Zygmunt with the Winnisquam Echo and Ray Carbone with the Laconia Daily Sun. David Hall, Brian Loanes, Greta Olson Wilder, Parks & Recreation Director Janet Breton and several others from the Community Forum group joined the meeting for 6:00 p.m. discussion.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Minutes**

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the June 2, 2008 meeting as written. Chairman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Public Hearing to accept Overlook Drive**

Chairman Cormier opened the Public Hearing to accept Overlook Drive at 5:01 p.m. in accordance with RSA 674:40-a. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that Mr. Mooney had petitioned the Town to accept Overlook Drive and all required documents have been received. Mr. Mooney has worked with the Land Use office to meet all of the requirements. Town council has reviewed all of the documents and the title search is complete, the Board of Selectmen just needs to sign the deed. With no further discussion Chairman Cormier closed the Public Hearing at 5:05 p.m.

Selectman Pike moved to accept Overlook Drive as requested. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

## **Public Hearing to amend Governing Work in a Public Way Ordinance**

Chairman Cormier opened the Public Hearing to amend the Governing Work in a Public Way Ordinance at 5:06 p.m. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the existing ordinance has hours of operation that significantly limit the work hours for contractors. It was realized most recently with the work to be done on Cotton Hill and Union Road, the contractor pointed out that the hours limit work from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. which just doesn't work with the areas short construction season it. The ordinance also states no work between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. which will remain in the ordinance. The requested change would only remove the limited work hours. With no further discussion Chairman Cormier closed the public hearing at 5:09 p.m.

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the amended Governing Work in a Public Way Ordinance as amended. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

## **Public Hearing to amend Water System Rule & Regulations/Rate Structure**

Chairman Cormier opened the Public Hearing at 5:10 p.m. to amend the Water System Rules & Regulations/Rate Structure. Town Administrator Beaudin advised the Board that following the 2005 Rate Study for the Water Department adjustments were made to the Rate Structure for the Water Department, however following the two recent Water Department projects involving waterlines on Route 3 and the new well there is not enough revenue to fully fund the system. Underwood Engineers have reviewed the rates and revenues and discovered an error in consumption in the 2005 study that may be part of the problem today. Their review projects a \$52,000 deficit before year end and they recommend a rate increase affective immediately. They are proposing an increase of approximately 60% which is just above the State average.

Chairman Cormier asked were the funding is coming from for the current shortfall, Town Administrator Beaudin indicated that the fund balance has been utilized to this point.

Selectman Caldwell moved to amend the Water System Rules & Regulations and Water Rate Structure as proposed. Chairman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

## **Dog Park Discussion**

Town Administrator Beaudin introduced Lisa Clutters who was present to request the Board's support in efforts to create a dog park. She noted that Lisa had been working with Rick Ball in an effort to locate a parcel of Town owned land that might accommodate such a park. Lisa introduced William Stanley a young man from Belmont who has his own business providing dog related services. Lisa explained that they were present to ask the Board for Town resources for the establishment of a dog park. William went on to provide the Board with a presentation that included pictures of other dog parks from here to Florida that he was familiar with. Their hope is to create a membership type park where a dog owner would pay an annual fee that would get them a pass code to the gated park. Will noted that once or twice a week he may go into the park to provide an agility course for a small fee.

There was discussion that Concord has a dog park that is run through their Park & Rec. department. Lisa Clutters commented that her idea is to have the park staffed and cleaned by volunteers. Chairman Cormier indicated that there may be liability issues and financial issues that would need to be handled through the creation of an organization. There was discussion that as far as liability Lisa was hoping to have a waiver that is signed as part of the

membership. The Board agreed that waivers don't work and ultimately if it were on Town owned property the Town would be liable. Selectman Caldwell commented that the Town could donate the land to the organization once it was created and then the organization would have the liability.

The Board supported the proposed dog park but felt there were still many questions to be answered as far as amount of interest, location, liability, and business plan. Chairman Cormier asked that Lisa and William work on these issues and bring back an updated proposal to the Board when they are ready. He added that they should refine the search for a parcel of land with Rick Ball to help them better prepare their business plan. Town Administrator Beaudin noted that they would also need to meet with the Planning Board for their requirements once a parcel is selected. It was noted that a parcel approximately 1 acre or more in size would be needed. The Board thanked Lisa and William for coming in with their proposal.

Lisa and William thanked the Board for their time and support.

### **Economic Development Committee Draft Charter**

The Board reviewed a draft mission statement for the Economic Development Committee. Town Administrator Beaudin noted that she had received a few schedule preferences back but they were kind of all over the place. Chairman Cormier decided that he would pick a date and time for the initial meeting then work with the group to establish a good time for everyone. He set the first meeting for July 7, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. at the Corner Meeting house. Meeting notices will be sent out to all members and associate members.

Chairman Cormier moved to accept the Mission Statement for the committee as written. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Commercial Tipping Administrative Fee**

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed a report that showed the administrative fees used by other communities for commercial tipping fee billing. She is recommending to the Board that the fee for Belmont be raised to \$2.50 per ton.

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the increase to the administrative fee for commercial tipping billing services as proposed. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Yelle Jamestown Road Light Request**

Town Administrator Beaudin discussed with the Board a letter that was received from Mr. Yelle of Jamestown Road. He had requested that a street light be placed at the Jamestown and Route 140 intersection as it is very dark and dangerous at night. Town Administrator Beaudin had met with Bill Smith of PSNH to determine the cost and best location for a light at that intersection. The installation will cost \$268.30 plus the monthly usage of approximately \$400-\$500 per year. The Board agreed that it was a dangerous intersection and a good location for an added street light.

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the proposal for the installation of a street light at the intersection of Jamestown Road and Route 140 as requested by Mr. Yelle. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Belknap 4H Fair Request**

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed with the Board the request from the Belknap 4H Fair requesting one- way traffic on Mile Hill Road the days of the Fair. They also requested that the Board waive permit fees as they have in the past.

Selectman Pike moved to accept the request of the Belknap 4H Fair to allow one way traffic on Mill Hill Road and waive permit fees. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Town of Tilton Regional Services Meeting Request**

Town Administrator Beaudin discussed with the Board a letter received from the Town of Tilton wanting to hold a meeting to discuss regionalization of Fire/Rescue services. It was discussed that the Board as well as the Fire Chief have concerns about approaching this type of services but would be open to discussing it with other communities.

Chairman Cormier agreed to attend such a meeting but noted that the meeting must include Laconia as they are the hub of the Lakes Region.

### **Video Equipment Discussion**

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed with the Board 2 quotes for the video equipment needed to record Board of Selectman Meeting. The quotes from Great Northern Video were for \$9,379 and \$11,358. The \$9,379 proposal does not include installation; the \$11,358 includes installation of two mounted cameras, mikes for the Board's table one for the Town Administrator's table and one on the podium. Metrocast will reimburse to Town \$4,000, Town Meeting approved \$5,000 leaving a balance that would over expend the account by \$2,358. Town Administrator Beaudin noted that the camera's will be permanently mounted, limiting the outside assistance needed to run them. Chairman Cormier expressed that with the need to get information to the community regarding the new SB2 process that the Town will follow this year the Board must go ahead with the purchase of the equipment.

Chairman Cormier moved to accept the \$11,358 proposal for installation of video equipment for the purpose of recording Board of Selectman meeting as well as meetings of interest to the community to be aired on Public Access TV. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Police Department LED Lighting Request**

Chief Baiocchetti sent a memo requesting the purchase of LED lighting for the older cruisers. Kevin Baron has done the research to get the older cruisers outfitted, the new cruisers are being outfitted with them at the time of purchase. He has determined that the fuel savings would be great because the vehicle does not have to be running for these lights to work. The LED lights are run off of battery packs. Chief Baiocchetti is proposing the cost come from the Capital Reserve account used to purchase the new SUV and pushing the purchase of the new SUV out a few years.

Selectman Caldwell moved to authorize Chief Baiocchetti to out fit the older cruisers with LED lights with the funds being expended from the Capital Reserve account. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

## **Community Forum Member Discussion**

David Hall spoke on behalf of the Community Forum group explaining to the Board that they had originally begun meeting in March to discuss youth activities and the issues with in the community as the youth are involved. The first meeting had 44 people attend with a smaller group continuing to meet after that. The group would like to make a difference in the community and pointed out some of the topics discussed as problems, lack of parental involvement, no community center, not enough law enforcement with in the park. They wanted to provide the Board with their goals and proposed activities.

He noted that they have tried to involve Janet Breton and will work with the Parks & Rec. department if necessary. Some of the activities they would like to do include, movie night, fishing day, family park day, & a farmers market. There has been talk with the Boys & Girls Club for the possibility of a satellite office. They feel one of the biggest obstacles is communication and hope by talking with the Board tonight to address that problem. Chairman Cormier noted that there are a lot of good ideas but it sounds like they need a community center to hold some of the events. David added that although that it would be nice to have a community center the group feels that people make the community and as long as they have a community to center there events around they can make it work for now. Chairman Cormier added that if this group is able to begin these events and begin to build the community involvement they just may be able to show the community that a center is needed.

Selectman Pike commented that if the group is going to hold any activities that would generate income they would have to have a mechanism to handle the funds. There was also discussion of liability for trips and other events and they may need to become a branch of the Parks & Rec. Department. Mrs. Hall commented that the group thought a Town of Belmont label is intimidating to some residents and they may choose not to participate. The group would like to start small and encourage collaboration, and they don't want a name that is going to affiliate them with the Town. Chairman Cormier expressed that the liability has to fall on someone, communication can be worked on and how does all of this fit together. David Hall commented that the group wants to function separate from Parks & Rec. but incorporate and work with Janet when necessary. Mr. Hall added that some comments from the kids are that the restrooms should be open more, and seeing the officers more is important. Janet noted that there has been some vandalism to the fountain, so the restrooms are open when she is at the Recreation office. She added that she is in the process of hiring staff that will run programs in the evenings in the park and Bryant Field and get equipment out, which will allow the restrooms to be open more as well. She commented that they can work to make positive change. Selectman Caldwell added that he feels eventually the good will override the bad.

Chairman Cormier added that the Parks & Rec. Department has come a long way in a short time and the creation of the group shows growth.

## **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.

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

**Next Meeting**

The next regular Board of Selectmen's meeting will be Monday, July 7, 2008 at 5:00 p.m., at the Corner Meeting House.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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Ronald Cormier, Chairman

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Reginald Caldwell

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Jon Pike