

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2006, 6:00 p.m.

Corner Meeting House

Chairman Watterson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., also present were, Selectman Reginald Caldwell, Selectman Ronald Cormier, Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, Administrative Assistant Cary Lagace, Chief Baiocchetti, David Morse, Water Department Manager David McLelland, Eric Anderson, Lakes Region Planning Commission Representative Kim Koulet, Mike Kitch with the Laconia Daily Sun and the Citizen Reporter.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Watterson asked Selectman Cormier, Budget Committee Representative, if the Budget Committee had discussed the Road Management Program, Selectman Cormier indicated that Underwood Engineers had come to the Budget Committee meeting and provided the presentation that the Board of Selectmen had received. He explained that they had some discussion regarding the project but felt with the exception of the Cotton Hill Road project the first years projects were being addressed and they would look at it again in the 2008 budget.

Minutes

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the November 14, 2006 meeting as written. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the November 20, 2006 meeting as written. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearings relative to the Town of Belmont proposed application to the Community Development Finance Authority relative to Pleasant Valley.

Those in attendance were advised that there are informational packets available at the back of the room if they didn't receive one when they came in.

Chairman Watterson opened the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m.

He read the following information to the audience: Community Development Block Grant funds are available to municipalities for economic development, public facility and housing rehabilitation projects and feasibility studies that primarily benefit low and moderate income persons. Belmont is eligible for up to \$500,000 a year each for public facility/housing projects, economic development projects, as well as in emergency funds. Feasibility Study funds are available for up to \$12,000 per year.

Purpose of Community Development Block Grant funding request:

A proposed implementation application to the Community Development Finance Authority for up to \$500,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds for the road, drainage, and water system improvements at Pleasant Valley. The majority of residences in Pleasant Valley are occupied by low and moderate income households.

This project conforms with Belmont's Housing and Community Development Plan's Goal of:

Encouraging Water and Wastewater systems that meet DES Regulations

Funding request: up to \$500,000

Chairman Watterson asked for input from the audience. Eric Anderson indicated that he thought during the public meeting regarding the project when they filled out income survey's that there was more than \$500,000 available for the project, Town Administrator Beaudin explained that due to some recent change the maximum available for this project is \$500,000. He then asked what the project cost will be. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that preliminary figures are \$950,000 for the drainage portion and \$550,000 for the water portion, totaling \$1.5 million. Mr. Anderson inquired if there are other State funds that may be available, Town Administrator Beaudin explained that she will be looking into many other options however it has come to light recently when working on another project that the Town's debt is so low that they don't qualify for some of these programs.

There was discussion regarding the on going problems in Pleasant Valley including water line problems that are requiring frequent trips there for repair and the continued drainage problems leaving standing water in several areas. Mr. Anderson's concerns are that with winter coming the standing water is beginning to freeze and cause additional problems including safety concerns of falling on the ice.

There was discussion regarding the application process and when the grants are awarded. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the grading for the grant will include what the Town believes to be the expectation of the Town Meeting vote. Selectman Cormier asked what happens if the Town is awarded the grant but the required balance gets voted down at Town Meeting, Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the project can't go forward.

It was noted that there is an annual expense associated with the problems in Pleasant Valley of approximately \$35,000 to \$50,000. Town Administrator Beaudin added that \$4,000 had been spent on having the drainage system cleaned out and it only made one catch basin functional.

Chairman Watterson closed the Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Watterson opened the second public hearing at 6:31 p.m. to discuss the proposed Housing and Community Development Plan.

Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the Housing and Community Development Plan has been updated several times over the years for other projects that the Town has undergone and this is an additional updated version for this project. It updates house types, diversity of economics, infrastructure, facility improvements, long term goals, to list a few and outlines a three year plan.

Chairman Watterson asked for public comment, with no input from the audience he closed the public hearing at 6:32 p.m.

Chairman Watterson opened the third public hearing at 6:33 p.m. to discuss the Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan.

Although this project does not involve any displacement or relocation of persons (or businesses), if the Town were to undertake a CDBG project which involved displacement or relocation they would follow this plan. The plan outlines the measures that would taken to find comparable, suitable housing for persons (or businesses) displaced or relocated.

Chairman Watterson asked for public comment, with no input from the audience he closed the public hearing at 6:37 p.m.

Lakes Region Planning Commission Report

Kim Koulet of Lakes Region Planning Commission(LRPC) was present to bring the Board up to date on some of the programs and functions of the LRPC. He explained to the Board that they look at all Lakes Region communities and determine how they can best work together. Areas that they work at creating programs in are Regional Transportation, Land Use studies, School Enrollment Studies and Regional Economic Development.

Some newer programs that are being worked on are Innovative Zoning and GIS of Agricultural property to promote the farming lifestyle and showing the agricultural contributions.

The Board of Selectmen thanked Kim for coming in.

2007 Budget

Town Administrator Beaudin explained to the Board that Janet Breton adjusted line items within her budget that needed the Boards vote. The adjustments do not change the overall budget amount.

Selectman Caldwell moved to change line item 4520-110 to \$23,647. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Caldwell moved to change line item 4520-719 to \$8,680. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Caldwell moved to change line item 4521-101 to \$14,520. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Town Administrator's Report **DES Land request**

Town Administrator Beaudin advised the Board that representatives from NH Department of Environmental Services had come to Town Hall and advised that Mr. Fleischhacker was offering a parcel of land he owns off of Chestnut Street to the State as a gift and the State was informing the Town so if they had any questions or concerns they can address them. If there are no objections the State would like a letter stating such.

Selectman Caldwell move to sign a letter indicating no objection to the gift of this land to the State. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Zoning Board Resignation

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed with the Board the resignation letter of John Olmsted from the Zoning Board due to relocation. The Board of Selectmen signed a letter thanking Mr. Olmsted for his service.

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the resignation. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Corrective Deed

Town Administrator Beaudin explained to the Board of Selectmen that Land Use Technician Rick Ball, in doing some research discovered that there was a parcel of land with a mobile home on it on Dutile Road that incorrectly stated the Town of Belmont as the owner and a corrective deed has been created to record that property to the rightful owner. The Board signed the corrective deed.

Letter to State of NH regarding Route 3 Project

Town Administrator Beaudin discussed the letter she prepared for the Chairman of the Board to sign stating the Board of Selectmen intend to include a warrant article on our 2007 Annual Town Meeting which will represent the Town's share of the proposed project costs. Town Administrator Beaudin reminded the only other method of funding would have the State attaching the Highway Block Grant funds the Town receives. The Board agreed that the letter needed to be signed.

Fire Department Study

The Board was informed that John Altmann and Derrek Johnson of Public Safety Research Group are in Town and working with Fire Department Staff and other Town staff to finish the Fire Department Study. They advised they should have a draft written report for the Board the first part of next week. They have been advised of the importance of this document and the multiple items pending the study's completion and they have indicated that they will meet the 15 week timeline.

Non-Public Session

Chairman Watterson moved to enter non-public session at 7:10 p.m. under RSA 91-A:3 II c, Selectman Cormier seconded, roll call was taken and those present and voting were Ron

Cormier, Brian Watterson, and Reginald Caldwell. Also present were Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin and Police Chief Vinnie Baiocchetti.

Chairman Watterson closed the non-public session at 8:30 p.m. Selectman Ronald Cormier moved to terminate the present contract with Samyn-D'Elia based on work product received to date and the firm's ability to meet the needs of the Town of Belmont relative to the New Police Department project. Selectman Reginald Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the urgency of getting the project back on tract. Selectman Cormier moved that the Board contact BreadLoaf Corporation for the purpose of discussing their availability and ability to put together a viable program for the project for timely submission to the Budget Committee and voters of Belmont. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Brian Watterson, Chairman

Ronald Cormier

Reginald Caldwell