

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2007, 5:00 p.m.

Corner Meeting House

Chairman Cormier called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m., also present were, Selectman Reginald Caldwell, Selectman Jon Pike, Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, Administrative Assistant Cary Lagace, Ray Carbone with the Daily Sun and Elson Moody.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the March 19, 2007 meeting as written, Chairman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Town Meeting

Chairman Cormier began by stating that the voters expressed that they didn't want to spend given the results of Town Meeting and he was a little disappointed with the turnout. Selectman Caldwell added that only 6% of the voters is not good. Selectman Pike suggested that perhaps a different approach that might encourage voters to participate needs to be considered for this coming year. Selectman Cormier pointed out that everything that was voted on had gone through the lengthy process to get to where it was and the community had every opportunity to participate in that process. He added that all of the same issues still exist and need to be addressed and the Board needs to decide how they want to proceed with handling these issues.

Selectman Pike suggested that the Board send out a survey to the community with the top 6 issues and ask the voters what they would like to see addressed and how it should be addressed. He suggested that a forum then be held to discuss the results and determine how to move forward. Chairman Cormier expressed that he liked the idea of the survey but felt there would still be no turnout for the meeting. Selectman Caldwell expressed that it feels like there is no community spirit. Chairman Cormier stated that he felt it would be tough getting follow through on the survey but that the issues need to continue to be pushed. It was discussed that

Town Administrator Beaudin would contact the Schools to see if they would be willing to assist in distribution of the surveys as well as using the media and other locations in the community to leave survey's at. Selectman Cormier asked Town Administrator Beaudin over the next couple of weeks to come up with the 6 biggest issues and form them into a survey that will ask the community what is wanted and where they would want it to be.

Town Administrator Beaudin advised the Board that the MS-2 was before them to be signed which is a statement of appropriations which between the budget amount and revised revenues shows that the tax rate should go down to approximately \$7.83 from \$9.04. She also noted that she has contacted Donna Lane the grant writer for the Pleasant Valley project to advise that the vote failed so the application for the grant will need to be pulled. There was a brief discussion regarding moving forward with some engineering work and that there may be funds available through a feasibility grant.

With the route 3 project being approved at Town Meeting Town Administrator Beaudin has advised the State and will begin applying for funding. Laconia Savings Bank has indicated that there is no benefit to applying for both bonds together so the well project will go out to bid before funding for that project is applied for. She noted that David McLelland is in the process of putting together information for the well bid.

Town Administrator Beaudin indicated that she will be holding a staff meeting next week.

Town Administrator's Report **Concord Street Drainage Project Update**

Town Administrator Beaudin advised that Board that the easement needed to do the drainage project on Concord Street has been received and the Town can now move forward with that project. She noted that it could be done as part of the sidewalk project if the Board of Selectmen doesn't want the project done by the Public Works Department. After a short discussion the Board agreed that the projects should be done together and go out to bid as one project. Selectman Cormier expressed that it needs to be done in a timely fashion. Town Administrator Beaudin indicated that Bill Stack will be contacted and advised of this change.

Joint Meeting w/Planning Board 4/9/07

The Board was reminded of their joint meeting with the Planning Board on April 9 at 7:00 pm. Town Administrator Beaudin pointed out the document provided by the Land Use Office showing what the Planning Board wishes to discuss with the Board during that meeting.

Town Administrator Beaudin advised the Board that a representative from DRED will be attending their April 16th meeting and she will advise the Planning Board of this presentation. The Board was asked to provide some topics they would like to discuss. Selectman Cormier expressed that if some indication could be given as to why businesses are not coming to Belmont that would be important in helping to determine what they are looking for so that Belmont may be able to focus on some changes that would draw businesses to the community.

It was noted that the funding is still available for the feasibility study of sewer/water on Route 106. Selectman Cormier expressed that the study should be pursued.

Town Administrator Beaudin reminded the Board that following the brief Primex presentation at their April 16th meeting that Bob Bennett will be present to discuss road work for this year. Chairman Cormier expressed that the Board would like Bob to provide a maintenance plan with guidance from the recommendations provided in the road study. He added that he felt the reconstruction work should go out to bid. He also noted that there is funding to have to road lines painted this year.

Town Administrator Beaudin advised that she had received information from Litter Free NH offering daffodils to communities that organize road clean up. Selectman Caldwell pointed out that there are already several local groups that do road clean up and perhaps they could be incorporated into this project.

Elson Moody asked the Board to address the trash between the village store building and the building next to as he feels it's a hazard and eye sore. The Board advised Mr. Moody that is not there responsibility, but Town Administrator Beaudin will ask the Code Enforcement Official to look into it to see if there is a violation.

Non-Public Session

Selectman Caldwell moved to open the non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c) at 6:08 p.m.. Roll call was taken and those present and voting in the affirmative to enter non-public session were Ron Cormier, Reginald Caldwell, and Jon Pike. Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin was also present.

Chairman Cormier closed the non-public 6:30 p.m. No decisions were made.

Next Meeting

The next regular Board of Selectmen meeting will be Monday, April 16, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at the Corner Meeting House.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Ronald Cormier, Chairman

Reginald Caldwell

Jon Pike