

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2007, 5:00 p.m.

Corner Meeting House

Chairman Ronald Cormier called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m., also present were, Selectman Jon Pike Selectman Reginald Caldwell (5:20), Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, Administrative Assistant Cary Lagace, Acting Public Works Director Jim Fortin, Fire Chief Jim Davis, Deputy Fire Chief Sean McCarty, Parks & Recreation Director Janet Breton (5:15), David Morse, Bob Schmidt, Gretta Olson-Wilder (5:34), Reporters with the Daily Sun and Citizen Newspapers, and Eric with the Winnisquam Echo. Chief Baiocchetti joined the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing on E911 Ordinance

Chairman Cormier opened the Public Hearing regarding the E911 Ordinance at 5:03 p.m. He explained that at the previous Public Hearing, the E911 Ordinance was presented that will regulate 911 numbering guidelines to today's standard for numbering. He noted that there are no changes to the ordinance since the first Public Hearing. With no public input, Chairman Cormier closed the public hearing at 5:05 p.m. Selectman Pike moved to accept the E911 Ordinance as written. Chairman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Countryside Circle & Tioga Drive

Jim Fortin explained that he would like to do some low cost, minimal work road projects that can be completed this year. Countryside Circle and Tioga Drive resurfacing will require an overlay and minimal other work. Chairman Cormier asked where these roads fall within the road management program, Jim indicated that they were slated for 2007. The Board agreed to have these two roads resurfaced.

Mr. Bob Schmidt of 6 Oak Drive was present to provide to the Board, letters from the residents of Granite Ridge Condo's regarding the condition of Plummer Hill Road. He expressed that they feel the condition of the road has really deteriorated and want to the Board to be aware of it so that work can be done on the road in the future. The Board advised that Plummer Hill is in the Road Management plan to be reconstructed in 2010. Selectman Pike indicated that he does travel Plummer Hill and is aware of the condition of the road, and he added that he feels the traffic on the road has increased since the gas station was built. Town Administrator Beaudin suggested that a traffic counter be placed on the road to determine the level of traffic traveling the road. Mr. Schmidt thanked the Board for their time and the Board thanked Mr. Schmidt for bringing the matter to their attention.

Chairman Cormier noted that the State is holding their 10 year plan meeting where they will discuss the Route 93 widening, which he feels will have affects on this region as well as the other projects they may be panning. Town Administrator Beaudin expressed that she thought Land Use Technician Rick Ball usually attends those meetings, she will confirm with him.

Wage & Salary Study

Town Administrator Beaudin explained to the Board that she received the draft version of the Wage & Salary Study 2 weeks ago, has reviewed the document and met with LGC to go over a few questions. The final version should be available for the Board to review within a week. She will discuss recommendations with the Board at that time.

Budget Sessions

Town Administrator Beaudin advised the Board that she has received all department budgets and will begin meeting with each department this week to review their requests. She asked the Board what meeting schedule they would like to set for their budget work sessions. Chairman Cormier indicated that he would like to approach budgets a little differently this year by focusing more on capital requests rather than operational budgets which have limited areas for change. He feels that the operational budgets are pretty lean and are dictated by items that can't be changed much. He would like each department to prioritize their capital requests. Selectman Pike indicated that he was in agreement with Chairman Cormier. The Board agreed to the following schedule; Monday, September 17th 4:00 Budget Work Session - Operational, Monday, September 24th, 5:00 Regular meeting and Monday, October 1st 3:00 Budget Work Session – Capital.

There was a brief discussion regarding preparing roads list early enough so that engineering can be done and prep work can be done before hand. Selectman Caldwell inquired what the status of Old State Road, Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the problem is being looked at further to determine the extent of the Towns responsibility and noted that the Town has not received an administrative order from the State at this time. Selectman Caldwell commented that he has spoken to a couple of contractors that made him think that the extent of the drainage being considered is extreme. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that it is being determined at this time if it is the Town's drainage causing the problems in that area.

Town Administrator's Report

Cotton Hill Road engineering is moving forward, with easements being finalized at this time. Jim Fortin has suggested that while working on Cotton Hill that Vineyard Way be addressed so that area will be finished at one time. Town Administrator Beaudin noted that Bean Hill, Horne Road and Union Road drainage design is being completed. The Route 106 waterline relocation project required by DOT has been sent to Underwood to develop a scope of service.

Town Administrator Beaudin received a call from Bestway Disposal that the commingled plastics area is receiving items that do not belong in that area and has asked her to notify residents that plastic toys, pails, appliances, etc. are not part of the co-mingle of plastic. She noted that recycling may be contributing to the drop in tonnage going to Wheelabrator which fell in 2007 to 4605 tons from 5160 ton in 2006. She will run a notice in the newspaper for residents to be more careful with plastics and reminding them to pick up recycle bins at Town Hall. She added that Town Hall is participating in recycling and has noticed a significant decline in the amount of trash at curbside for pick up.

Minutes

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the August 6, 2007 meeting as written, Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the August 14, 2007 meeting as written, Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the August 20, 2007 meeting as written, Chairman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Selectman Pike abstained.

Miscellaneous

Town Administrator Beaudin reminded the Board of their joint meeting with the School Board on Thursday, September 27th at 6:00 p.m.

David Morse requested that the Board send a letter supporting an increase in the excavation tax to legislators. He expressed that with the number of gravel pits in Belmont it could significantly increase the amount of revenue. Town Administrator Beaudin commented that there may have been a bill that failed this year pertaining to that, she will check the bulletins. Selectman Pike expressed that he thought he Board could endorse a letter to the State Representatives.

Parks & Recreation Discussion

Chairman Cormier began by stating that there are a couple of issues that have arisen to prompt this meeting. Selectman Pike stated that he has been approached by several people indicating that there is confusion with how the Parks & Recreation Department is running. Chairman Cormier explained that when there was a commission they had much more responsibility which wasn't what was wanted and it was requested that it become a Recreation Committee, which the Board of Selectmen did. As a committee the responsibility is far less and

the Recreation Director is supervised by the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen, with the committee members assisting, guiding and suggesting recommendations for equipment, programs and events. The committee is not expected to dictate what and how the Director does things. The committee as a group should approach the Board of Selectmen with questions and concerns. Regarding the Skate Park closure, the Board did not need to consult the committee and made the decision to close it for 30 days following Janet approaching them to close it for 7 days.

Recreation Committee member Gretta Olson-Wilder expressed that in 2004 the committee did it all and were trying to determine what they can do now. They want to do more and are looking for more opportunities for the community. She stated as a taxpayer she would like more out of the Parks & Rec. Director position and would like to see it be full-time. She feels there are events that could be happening but Janet doesn't have the time because she is working part-time. She inquired if the committee could plan events; Chairman Cormier indicated that would be a good idea and having the Rec. Director help enact them. She asked what the process is for requesting the position be full-time; Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the committee should write a letter to the Board with justification for the request. It was discussed that the Rec. Director should sit as an advisory member on the committee.

Chairman Cormier commented that this is still a new position and there is still some learning going on, it will take time. Selectman Pike expressed that if the Rec. Director continued to request help from other departments it may free up some of her time. Town Administrator Beaudin pointed out that other departments do have their own schedules but would be willing to help when they can. Chairman Cormier suggested a work study person or something like that; Town Administrator Beaudin indicated that she does have the application for requesting assistance from Americorp. Selectman Caldwell thought Janet should be asked if she wanted the position to be fulltime, Gretta interjected that with the morning hours Monday through Thursday it isn't conducive to the position and most that would be served by the program would be at hours later in the day. Chairman Cormier suggested that perhaps Janet could continue at the current level and an individual could be added to assist in running the programs. Town Administrator Beaudin added that if an activities director or someone along those lines were hired Janet could continue with the administrative/organizational portion of it and have someone to actually run the programs.

Janet pointed out that a lot of the time she has requests for certain programs, which she has the ability to plan but is very limited with facilities to hold the activities at. She also pointed out that last year she hired a gym attendant that worked a couple nights a week monitoring programs at the gym at the school which worked out very well. Chairman Cormier commented that perhaps two part-time positions would work out well if the person were flexible enough to work different hours each week depending on what was scheduled for activities. It was noted that if the director position were made full time it would only add another 10 hours per week where if another part time person were added there would be more hours of coverage. Gretta added that she is looking at this whole thing as being proactive in the community with hopes of having a positive affect on the youth. Chairman Cormier asked Gretta to take the information discussed back to the committee for their further discussion.

Non-Public Session

Chairman Cormier moved to enter non-public session at 6:35 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a) & (c). Roll call was taken and those present and voting were Ronald Cormier

and Reginald Caldwell. Also present were Town Administrator Beaudin and Police Chief Vinnie Baiocchetti.

Chairman Cormier adjourned the non-public session at 7:30 p.m.

Next Meeting

The Board of Selectmen's next meetings will be as follows, Monday, September 17, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss Operating budgets, Monday, September 24, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. for a regular meeting and Monday, October 1, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. to discuss Capital budget items, all meetings will be held at the Corner Meeting House.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Ronald Cormier, Chairman

Reginald Caldwell

Jon Pike