

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 3, 2005, 5:00 p.m.

Corner Meeting House
(Downstairs)

Chairman Brian Watterson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Also present were Selectman Reginald Caldwell, Selectman Roy Roberts, Town Administrator Donald McLlland, Administrative Assessor Jeanne Beaudin, Chief Richard Siegel, Melanie Nelson of the Citizen, Malvina Cherrette, Norman Lord, John and Gary Merrill, and Mike Rowell.

Minutes

Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved the minutes of the meeting held on December 16, 2004 as written. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Roy Roberts moved the minutes of the meeting held on December 20, 2004 as written. Selectman Reginald Caldwell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the non-public session held on December 20, 2004 as written, noting that the minutes are to be sealed for a period of ten-years. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing 31:95 (b)

Chairman Watterson opened the public hearing at 5:02 p.m., relative to the acceptance of an Emergency Management Performance Grant in the amount of \$7,500 from the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Bureau of Emergency Management. Chief Siegel was present at the meeting and explained that the grant is to be used to update the Town's Emergency Operations Plan. He explained that the grant is a 50/50 grant, and that the Town's portion of the match is Town staff man-hours dedicated to the project; to date the Town has expended \$7,100.01. Town Administrator McLlland noted that the plan is very comprehensive and a draft copy is available in his office for anyone wishing to review it. Chief Siegel noted that once the plan is complete each department would receive a copy.

Chairman Watterson closed the public hearing at 5:05 p.m. Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved to accept the Emergency Management Performance grant in the amount of \$7,500 from the NH Department of Safety, Bureau of Emergency Management. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Payment in Lieu

Administrative Assessor Jeanne Beaudin explained the Agreement for Payment in Lieu of Taxes between the Town of Belmont and the Belmont Elderly Housing, Inc. She noted that the agreement is prepared annually based on the municipal and county portion of the tax rate applied against the current assessment of the property.

Selectman Roy Roberts moved to approve the Agreement for Payment in Lieu of Taxes between the Town of Belmont and the Belmont Elderly Housing, Inc. Selectman Reginald Caldwell seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Other Correspondence

The Board reviewed Jeanne's memo dated December 29, 2004 relative to allowing elected officials to participate at their own expense in the Town's Dental insurance program.

Selectman Roy Roberts moved to authorize elected officials to participate in the Town's Dental insurance plan through the Local Government Center effective January 1, 2005 at their own expense. Selectman Reginald Caldwell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Town Administrator McLelland advised the Board that they had received a request from Ginger Wells-Kay to be reappointed to the Conservation Commission. He explained that the Board should receive a recommendation from the Conservation Commission relative to the reappointment. Chairman Watterson noted that he would be attending the Commission's meeting this week as Selectman Roberts would not be available, and he will bring it up at the meeting.

Through Trucking Ordinance Enactment

Chairman Watterson opened the public hearing to enact an Ordinance Prohibiting Through Trucking on South Road at 5:15 p.m. He noted that the issue has been discussed several times during recent meetings of the Board.

Malvina Cherrette and Norman Parent were present at the meeting and voiced their concerns relative to the proposed ordinance to prohibit trucking on South Road. Ms. Parent questioned the legality of a 3-member Board enacting such an ordinance. Selectman Roberts explained that the Board had been discussing the matter for several

months and had actually voted to post the sign prohibiting through trucking on South Road, before being advised that the process required the enactment of an Ordinance, which would then allow the Police Department to enforce the posting. Selectman Roberts noted that the Town had received complaints regarding the truck traffic on South Road. Discussion followed regarding the bridge on Shaker Road, which will need repairs in the near future, and those present asked how they would then be able to conduct business from the Parent pit if the bridge were closed. John Merrill inquired if the Board would allow the trucks to use South Road when and if the bridge is repaired.

Chairman Watterson pointed out that South Road was not intended to be a through road; it is a neighborhood road, whereas Shaker Road is a through road.

Selectman Caldwell inquired how many of Merrill's trucks use South Road per day; John Merrill indicated 9 loads per day. Selectman Caldwell noted that he shares the concerns of those present regarding the limitations being suggested for South Road, and he wonders how the Board will address future complaints on other roads in Belmont.

Town Administrator McLelland noted that the Board would have the authority to allow the trucks to use South Road in the event the Shaker Road Bridge is repaired.

Malvina again asked how this 3-member Board could make this decision; should not the Town Meeting vote on it? Chairman Watterson pointed out that it is within the authority of the Board of Selectmen to enact this type of ordinance.

Discussion continued on the matter and Town Administrator McLelland suggested that the Board take the matter under advisement and table any decision on enacting the ordinance until their next regular meeting, which is scheduled for January 24, 2005. Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved to continue the matter until the Board's meeting on January 24, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

It was noted that John Merrill would again approach Mr. Nutter about access through his pit onto Waring Road.

Non-Public RSA 91-A:3 II (c)

Chairman Watterson called the non-public session to order at 5:50 p.m. Roll call was taken and those present and voting were Brian Watterson, Reginald Caldwell and Roy Roberts. Also present were Town Administrator McLelland and Administrative Assessor Jeanne Beaudin.

Jeanne reviewed a request for a hardship abatement and the documentation submitted by the taxpayer.

Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved to approve the abatement request as recommended. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Watterson closed the non-public session at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Brian Watterson, Chairman

Reginald Caldwell

Roy Roberts