

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 28, 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 McLelland, Administrative Assessor Jeanne Beaudin, and Donna Cilley.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Selectmen Reginald Caldwell moved the minutes of the meeting held on February 7, 2005 as written. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the recommendation of Chief Richard Siegel regarding Firefighter/Paramedic Gina Harris' successful completion of her probationary employment with the Town of Belmont.

New Business:

Conservation Commission Appointment

Selectman Roy Roberts moved to re-appoint Kenneth Knowlton to the Conservation Commission for the term to expire March 31, 2008. Selectman Reginald Caldwell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Data Collection Services Contract

Administrative Assessor Jeanne Beaudin recommended to the Board that the firm of Commerford, Nieder and Perkins, LLC, be awarded the contract for Data Collection Services for the Town of Belmont for 2005 and subsequent annual contracts contingent upon Town Meeting approval of funding. She explained that ¼ of the

Town's improved properties would be measured and listed in each of 4-years, with a sales analysis and update of cost tables in year 5 of the project, unless the Town is mandated to update values sooner by the State of NH. She further explained that any changes in physical data that are found during the measure and list will be updated on the taxpayer's property record. Jeanne recommends that the first quadrant of the Town to be listed should be the area from Mosquito Bridge up over Ladd Hill out Bishop Road to Route 106, which totals about 900 parcels. Jeanne also advised the Board that the Town's ratio had dropped from 89.1% to 77.2% for 2004.

Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved to award the Data Collection Service contract to Commerford, Nieder & Perkins, LLC. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business:

Zoning Ordinance Protest Petition:

Town Administrator Donald McLelland advised the Board of Selectmen that pursuant to RSA 675:5, a Zoning Ordinance Protest Petition had been received on today's date relative to Amendment #1 on the warrant for the Town of Belmont 2005 Annual Town Meeting Ballot. He further explained that receipt of the petition must be posted at the polls on Tuesday, and the moderator must announce that a petition has been received at the opening of Town Meeting. Administrative Assessor Jeanne Beaudin further reviewed for the Board, the RSA. Chairman Watterson advised Jeanne to notify the Moderator accordingly. Discussion followed regarding the posting of the information at the polls.

Town Administrator McLelland updated the Board on the work being done at the old highway garage on Sargent Street. He noted that the State's contractor has excavated approximately 1,000 tons of dirt. They will be installing a new monitoring well at the site. He also noted that the State has paid all costs related to the project, and the Town is continuing to receive reimbursement for the former Huckin's Oil site.

Town Administrator McLelland advised the Board that the water meters were being read and that several problems have been encountered, which will need to be addressed by the Board in the near future.

Non-Public Session:

Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved that the Board enter non-public session at 5:30 p.m., in accordance with RSA 91-A: 3 II (c). Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Roll call was taken and those present and voting were Brian Watterson, Reginald Caldwell, and Roy Roberts.

Chairman Watterson closed the non-public session at 5:45 p.m. No decisions were made during the non-public session.

Public Comment:

Donna Cilley was present at the meeting and discussed with the Board the proposed Aquifer Protection Ordinance and its' devastating effects on the Town of Belmont. She had prepared a map showing the area affected by the proposed ordinance and noted that it will severely limit a property owner's rights to add a deck, build an addition, etc., in the area protected by the ordinance. The Board of Selectmen unanimously agreed with Donna that the ordinance is too restrictive and will have dramatic effects on the Town. She asked that the Board go on record with their position on the proposed ordinance.

Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved that it be publicly stated that the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Belmont are not in favor of Amendment #1 on the Town of Belmont's Annual Meeting Warrant relative to the Aquifer Protection Ordinance. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion followed regarding the other amendments being proposed at Town Meeting relative to the Open Space Residential Development Overlay Zone, the Growth Management Ordinance and the 3 other amendments being considered. Donna expressed strong concerns regarding each of the proposed amendments, and feels that they will be very detrimental to the Town. Discussion continued regarding the need for the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board to hold joint work sessions in the future, when proposals of this magnitude are being considered. Each of the amendments being considered will be hugely impacting. The Board thanked Donna for her comments.

Chairman Watterson thanked Selectman Roy Roberts for agreeing to serve on the Board following the resignation of Doralyn, noting that it had been a pleasure working with him.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Brian Watterson, Chairman

Reginald Caldwell

Roy Roberts