

**TOWN OF ANTRIM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**

June 29, 1998

6:00 p.m. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

PRESENT: Chairman Carol Smith, Selectmen Timothy Seeger and Denise Dargie
And Town Administrator Kelley Collins

6:00 – 6:30 p.m. GENERAL BUSINESS

The Board of Selectmen reviewed and signed the following documents: The close out for CDBG Grant #92-113-FSPF ref: Aiken House Study; Revised fee schedule for building permits; (2) Warrants for Yield Taxes- Long & Yarnell, letter to Mr. Showstack denying abatement request; (2) Intents to Cut – Schroepfer & Fox.

6:30 – 6:50 p.m. Meet with Mr. Cuddihy reference repairs to cemetery road

The Road Agent, Bob Varnum, has already taken care of this matter so Mr. Cuddihy did not have to attend this meeting.

7:00 – 7:20 p.m. Meet with Mr. Mattil regarding a tax matter

Mr. Mattil and his brother filed with probate court for their mother's property. The State of New Hampshire Estate Recovery Unit agreed to withdraw the \$119,000 lien if the heirs would provide the unit with some medical records for their mother. Mr. Mattil provided the Town with a copy of the withdrawal of said lien. Mr. Mattil and his brother have already approached a mortgage company and included the back taxes in the mortgage amount. They anticipate this being complete within thirty days.

7:30 p.m. Meet with Attorney Walter Mitchell and Attorney Tim Bates

- **Discuss written agreement of the placement of Bennington Highway Garage in the Tri-Town Landfill** – Attorney Mitchell and Bates have some questions before giving any advice, regarding who actually owns the land at the tri-town landfill. They did not have any really significant problems with the document as presented by Attorney Mayer but they may not have all the information required.
- **Discuss general representation matters** – Attorneys Mitchell and Bates asked if the Selectmen would like them to submit a formal proposal for services per the RFP's sent out a few weeks ago. The Selectmen agreed that they would like Mitchell and Bates to send a formal proposal.
- **Discuss Mr. Forster's complaints regarding damage to his sugar maples** – Some general discussion took place regarding the validity of claims regarding the death and damage to trees. Both Attorneys noted that it is difficult for a resident to prove that the winter maintenance is the ONLY factor that caused damage to the trees.

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8:15 p.m. GENERAL BUSINESS

• **RECREATION ISSUES AT TOWN BEACH:**

Mowing: The Selectmen would like the Town Administrator to call Carter Proctor and obtain a price quote on mowing the Town Beach this week and once every three weeks until the end of the season on Labor Day weekend.

Community Bulletin Board: The Selectmen have no aversion to a Community Bulletin Board at the beach but they would like the Recreation Coordinator to get some prices and work with the Town Administrator to stay within the existing budget.

Beach Sand (raking or replacing): Considerable discussion took place regarding bringing in additional beach sand. The Town Administrator made the Board aware that adding beach sand will require a Minimum Impact Expedited Wetlands Application from the State of NH. The Town Administrator also notes that she would like an opportunity to discuss with the Road Agent whether the sand at the Tri-Town landfill is appropriate for the beach.

Removal Of Debris: The Town Administrator made the Selectmen aware that during the beach clean-up there was more debris than would fit in the truck. The remainder of the debris is still sitting on the beach waiting for the Highway Department to pick it up.

Re-Key Town Gym: The Recreation Coordinator made the Town Administrator aware that she is unable to obtain a key to the Town Gym, because there are no spare keys. There is also some confusion on who has keys. The Town Administrator recommended that the Town Gym be re-keyed by the Recreation Coordinator so that she could gain some control over keys. The Selectmen agreed with this and asked that the Recreation Coordinator keep a master key log and send a copy to their office.

On-Duty/Off-Duty Lifeguard Sign: Some discussion took place regarding whether the Town takes on any additional liability if we have a lifeguard on/off duty sign. The Town Administrator is concerned that if the lifeguard forgets to flip the sign over and someone goes swimming assuming there is a lifeguard still on-duty could the Town be accused of negligence? The Selectmen agreed that it might be better to just post the general hours of the beach and general lifeguard hours.

• **AS MENTIONED AT LAST WEEK'S PUBLIC HEARING ON CDBG GRANT APPLICATION FOR AIKEN HOUSE RENOVATION – ARE WE SETTING UP A COMMITTEE TO LOOK AT THE PARKING ISSUES FOR AIKEN HOUSE AND THE LIBRARY.**

The Town Administrator had an opportunity to discuss this briefly with Bob Bernstein last week. The discussion was basically that is there a need for an additional committee when everyone involved knows who the players are and what the concerns are. The Selectmen agree that the concerns have been clearly stated in the feasibility study and verbally by all parties involved and that it should be the Grapevine, the Library and Mr. Bernstein who continue the dialog on this issue. The Selectmen would like the Town Administrator to memo the Grapevine, Mr. Bernstein, the Library Trustees, Mr. & Mrs. Penny and Pat Webber regarding this issue. In addition, Selectman Tim Seeger would like to request that no one contact

the potential buyer of the Chicago Cutlery Building, at the prospective buyer's request.

- **A.R.T.S. WATER PROBLEMS AND CONCRETE DAMAGE**
The Town Administrator, at Mr. Lang's request, went down to look at the water problems at the A.R.T.S. Facility. The Administrator's recommendation is to hire a couple of contractors to go down and look at the facility. In addition, she would like the Road Agent to take a look at this project to see if he could excavate a trench and a kind of storm drain. The Selectmen agreed with the T.A.'s recommendations.
- **VOLUNTEERS FOR RECREATION COMMISSION//NEXT RECREATION AND LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING IS TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 1998 AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE TOWN GYM.**
The Town Administrator made the Selectmen aware that Janet McEwen who is affiliated the Antrim Next Recreation & Leisure Committee telephoned today to let the Board know that their next meeting is Tuesday, June 30, 1998 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Gym. Mrs. McEwen specifically wanted to invite Chairman Smith to the meeting. Chairman Smith would like to step back from this duty and allow the Recreation Coordinator to run with this. The Selectmen agreed that it was their intention to have the Recreation Coordinator be their liaison to all these groups. In addition, Mrs. McEwen asked about the status of the Selectmen appointing more people to the Recreation Commission. Again, the Selectmen are waiting for recommendations from their Rec Coordinator, Shelly Gardner.
- **OFFER OF A DONATION OF LAND TO THE TOWN FROM THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF MANCHESTER (MAP 8A, LOT 58)**
The Town Administrator made the Selectmen aware that she received a call from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester today regarding a piece of property on Algonquin Avenue (Map 8A, Lot 58) that was gifted to the Diocese in 1995. The Diocese has been trying to sell the property and states there is a problem with the neighbors' septic system encroaching on this property. The Diocese wanted to know if the Town would accept this property as a gift or if they should just quit paying the taxes and allow the Town to take the property by tax deed. The Selectmen would like the Town Administrator to do a little more research regarding the encroachment of the neighbors' septic system before deciding on acceptance of the property.
- **REVIEW MR. FORSTER'S LETTER OF JUNE 25, 1998**
The Selectmen reviewed Mr. Forster's letter of June 25, 1998. The Board remains troubled that Mr. Forster wants the Town to accept the full responsibility for the plight of his sugar maples when our forester states there are a combination of factors that can cause these problems. In addition, the Board is concerned that Mr. Forster specifically asked that the trunks of the trees cut last year be dropped down the bank so that he would have easy access to them. Now Mr. Forster would like all these trunks and debris removed. The Selectmen would like the Town Administrator to get

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a price from our tree service for removal, since removal at the time of cutting is included we assume the company would charge now. Discussion ensued regarding whether Mr. Forster will be asked to pay all or some part of any charges incurred in removing the debris now. The Board is also not sure that another face to face meeting with Mr. Forster would be productive based on his threats to take legal action in the form of affidavits of complaint.

- **DISCUSS STATUS OF ADVISORY A.R.T.S. COMMITTEE**

The Town Administrator made the Selectmen aware that the original temporary ordinance that set up the first Antrim Recycling and Transfer Station had a provision for an advisory committee. The Town Administrator suggested that re-instating a committee may be a good way to assist Bill Lang in getting the best possible prices for our commodities. The Board is undecided between the committee and just asking Bill Lang to get the best prices since he was the one who pointed out that we may not be taking advantage of the recycling market.

- **STATUS OF UNDERGROUND TANK REQUIREMENTS**

The Town Administrator had a conversation with Thomas Beaulieu from NH Department of Environmental Services regarding rules and regulations for underground tanks. Basically, our tank should have been registered with the State of New Hampshire as required in 1985 and it is not. While Mr. Beaulieu cannot give us a formal waiver from the December 22, 1998 deadline for rust protection of all underground tanks, or removal, he did say that the State will probably not go after Towns first and they probably will not enforce #2 fuel oil stringently during the heating season. The Town Administrator also took the liberty of calling a couple of tank removal companies. Lakes Region Environmental gave a price of approximately \$2,500 for the removal and proper disposal of this tank. He could replace the existing underground tank with another underground tank that is under the regulated gallonage of 1,000 gallons for \$1200. The Board agrees that it would not be appropriate to place another underground tank at this site. The Selectmen are very concerned that they were unaware that the "free" heat on the second floor of the fire station would put them in the position of possibly having to convert to propane. The Board would like the Town Administrator to call Lakes Region Environmental and see if they would be willing to come out, for a fee, and drill test borings to see if we have any significant chance of contamination.

- **ADOPT WELFARE GUIDELINES AS PRESENTED**

The Selectmen would like to take the time between now and the July 13, 1998 meeting to more carefully review the welfare guidelines.

- **MARTY QUINN'S REQUEST TO PUT ON A PRODUCTION REGARDING THE BAHAI' I FAITH**

The Recreation Coordinator made the Town Administrator aware that she has received a couple of calls from Mr. Quinn regarding using the upstairs of Town Hall

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to put on a production that portrays the Baha'i faith. Mr. Quinn told the Rec Coordinator that his program has been well received world wide. The Board of Selectmen do not make any judgement on the quality of Mr. Quinn's program but they do not feel that this program would be appropriate for the Town Hall.

• **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 8 AND JUNE 22, 1998 SELECTMEN'S MEETINGS**

The Selectmen approved the minutes of the June 8, 1998 Selectmen's Meeting as printed. The Selectmen approved the minutes of the June 22, 1998 Meeting, as amended.

8:50 p.m. NON PUBLIC SESSION UNDER RSA 91-A:3, II (a)

Chairman Carol Smith made a motion to go in to Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) to discuss the hiring of a public employee at 8:50 p.m. Selectmen Dargie seconded. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Smith – yes; Selectman Seeger – yes and Selectman Dargie – yes.


The Town Administrator and Selectmen reviewed the four resumes and cover letters for the position of Land Use/Selectmen's Secretary. The Town Administrator gave the Board her findings from the initial interview she conducted with all four applicants. The Selectmen will be conducting a second interview with one applicant that the Town Administrator recommends.

Selectman Dargie made a motion to leave Non-Public Session and seal the minutes at 9:17 p.m. Selectman Seeger seconded. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Smith – yes; Selectman Dargie – yes, Selectman Seeger – yes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting this meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by:


Kelley A. Collins
Town Administrator

/kac