

**Enfield Board of Selectmen
Whitney Hall
Enfield, New Hampshire**

MINUTES of October 15, 2012

Board of Selectmen: Donald J. Crate, Sr., Chairman John W. Kluge; Fred Cummings

Administrative Staff: Steven Schneider, Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Executive Assistant; Jim Taylor, Director of Public Works; Richard A. Crate, Jr., Chief of Police

Others: Robert LaCroix; Dan Kiley

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Crate called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Mr. Cummings was not present at this time.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of October 1, 2012. Mr. Kluge noted a typographical error on page 4, Route 4 Water/Sewer Extension Update section, second paragraph. The sentence should read, "It's complex and at some point people will have to talk about this."

Mr. Kluge moved to accept the minutes of October 1, 2012 as corrected, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

Trustees of Trust Funds Report as of September 30, 2012:

Town investments are earning approximately 1% interest.

Enfield Center Post Office – Community Meeting Information:

There was an article in the Valley News about the review process for the Enfield Center Post Office. The Post Office building owner came in and shared his concerns.

Mr. Kluge noted that the person who would be crucial to attend the meeting would be the owner of Artech as they'll be using the Enfield Center Post Office in a major way.

Mr. Crate inquired about the Artech building on the property next to Proctor's General Store. He was informed that a protest petition in response to the Zoning Board of Adjustment was filed on

October 11, 2012, within the 30 day appeal period. The ZBA has to schedule a meeting within 30 days to entertain a motion to rehear the case.

Phil Neily, Zoning Administrator, spoke to Craig Daniels, ZBA chairman, and they will schedule a meeting of the ZBA as soon as possible.

The reason given for the appeal is that it will detract from the petitioner's quality of life. Only what was presented to the ZBA on September 11th can be appealed, limiting the appeal to the setbacks. The ZBA could allow setbacks that use the averages of the surrounding properties so Artech would be allowed to build closer to the lot line.

The Board discussed the past record of zoning appeals. The ZBA has reheard cases in the past.

Mr. Kiley and Mr. LaCroix thought the appeal was an effort to delay the project long enough for the ground to be frozen so construction could not start this year.

NH State Library Conservation License Plate Grant Award:

Carolee Higbee, Town Clerk, and Phil Cronenwett applied for and were awarded a grant for \$1,100 for conservation of public records. The funding will aid in the organization of records stored in the Town vault.

IV. BOARD REPORTS

None.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

FastRoads:

WaveGuide will begin residential construction for FastRoads this week. Fiber was installed at the FAST Squad building last week.

Mr. Cummings arrived at this time; 6:10 PM

Rebecca Stewart – Granite State Future:

Mr. Schneider forwarded an email from Rebecca Stewart to the Board of Selectmen regarding Granite State Future, a regional planning effort throughout the State. Mr. Schneider and Mr. Kiley, as members of the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission Board, are actively working towards getting this project moving. This program is a chance for communities in our regional planning commission to discuss how they want our area to look, including, but not limited to transportation and housing issues.

Mrs. Stewart trusts Mr. Schneider and Mr. Kiley represent Enfield well, but she things this is a step toward Enfield losing its ability to govern itself.

Mr. Schneider explained that this will not bind Enfield in any way. There's a box at the Town Clerk's desk where people can share their ideas. Representatives of the program have been to several events in many communities gathering and disseminating information.

The Board of Selectmen received a letter which includes three questions the Selectmen can answer as individuals. They can submit their answers to Mr. Schneider and Mr. Kiley.

Huse Park:

The Huse Park ironwork is completed and we have it. We now need to get Mr. Stacey to do the stonework to repair the pillars that were damaged. When repairing the ironwork they used the lettering and letter support in a new galvanized and painted metal pipe. Mr. Schneider learned of a local blacksmith, so in the future if Enfield needs a blacksmith there's one located at the Baltic Mill.

Proposed Walkway Update:

The Selectmen received an update on the proposed walkway from the Upper Beach Parking Lot to LaSalette from Bob Cavalieri. The update provided estimates for materials and installation of gravel and hardpack or a boardwalk, from various sources.

Mr. Kluge noted that this is the walkway that we thought would be done with volunteer work and not cost anything.

Mr. Schneider said the question is how to make a pathway and allow drainage.

Mr. Kluge and Mr. Crate thought the Town should wait a while to see what happens with the water.

Mr. Schneider and Mr. Taylor talked about the proposed project and discussed just mowing a path.

Mr. Taylor said, he at least hoped to go down and back with a mower, which is supposed to be done yearly but hasn't been done in a few years due to the level of construction activity.

Mr. Kluge felt that was a good place to start; mow it and encourage people to use it and see what happens.

Mr. Crate noted that Mr. Cavalieri is looking for money in the budget.

Mr. Kluge felt that if money was put into the budget we're leveraged to spend the funds.

Mr. Cummings disagreed. He said if funds were budgeted the Board did not have to spend the money if the Board doesn't think the project is feasible. If Mr. Cavalieri does a petitioned warrant article they would be leveraged to spend the funds.

Mr. Taylor spoke to the State engineer who thinks it may dry out over time.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

VII. BUSINESS

Robert LaCroix – Land Issue:

Mr. Schneider explained that Robert LaCroix wanted to talk about the property we've had up at Town Meeting the last couple of years.

Mr. LaCroix passed out the original letter, dated November 3, 2009, from the State of New Hampshire proposing an agreement with the Town to purchase the property for \$45,000, plus a one-time administrative fee of \$1,100.

At the 2011 and 2012 Town Meetings it was proposed the Town purchase the State land and swap it for land owned by Mr. LaCroix, which land is located within the wellhead protection area on Lovejoy Brook Road. The vote at each Town Meeting was opposed to the article. Mr. LaCroix said it seemed like no one wanted to vote for anything that cost them money.

Mr. LaCroix distributed to the Board a new proposal for this property.

Mr. Cummings asked, in laymen's terms, what the proposal means. It was explained by Mr. LaCroix that he give the Town a check for the purchase of the State property in his name and the Town would purchase the portion of the property located in the wellhead protection area for the same amount of money in installments over a three year period.

The NH Dept. of Transportation (NHDOT) was doing to put the property out to bid in August, but did not do so. Mr. LaCroix spoke to Lou Barker of NHDOT and they haven't done anything with any railroad property, but may do so next year. Mr. Barker does not know the value of the property at this time.

Mr. LaCroix owns property abutting the State parcel and has some options for that property if the land is considered. Sewer is going down McConnell Road and it might be better for him to connect sewer off McConnell. Mr. LaCroix has proposed from companies for that property and sewer will open up the whole area behind Lake Sunapee Bank. Mr. LaCroix could open up traffic onto route 4 and McConnell and us all the property behind Lake Sunapee Bank.

As a point of information only, not related to the above properties, Mr. LaCroix mentioned he has proposal for the land behind Shaker Valley for a shopping center; no anchor store, but one large thing has been signed up already. It will be quite a project for a lot of money.

Mr. Kluge asked, if the Board was in favor of this, does it go to Town Meeting.

Mr. Schneider said the Town can do three yearly appropriations for the purchase.

Mr. Cummings fears that bringing it to Town Meeting it would be shot down.

Ms. Bonnette believes the purchase of real property needs to go to Town Meeting for a vote.

Mr. Schneider agreed that it does have to go to Town Meeting. The Town has the right of first refusal on the State-owned parcel.

Mr. Cummings wondered if the Town could write a letter to the State supporting the sale to Mr. LaCroix and avoid getting the Town directly involved in the purchase.

Mr. LaCroix suggested the Town could write a letter to the State saying they are in support of the sale of the property to Mr. LaCroix as part of a deal to trade for another property.

Discussion ensued regarding Town Meeting reaction to the land swap article in the past two years. There was no support for doing the swap and plenty of support for not doing it.

Mr. Cummings mentioned that Tim Jennings said at Town Meeting that we don't need to own it to protect it.

Mr. Kiley responded that Mr. Jennings was wrong.

Mr. Kluge said, from what he's hearing, there has to be a Town Meeting vote and looking at the politics of it doesn't think it would stand at Town Meeting.

Mr. Kluge and Mr. Cummings said the proposal makes sense and are supportive.

Mr. Cummings feels one thing that hurt at Town Meeting was that Mr. LaCroix wasn't in attendance to talk about it.

Mr. LaCroix agreed with Mr. Kiley, that Mr. Jennings was wrong. The Town doesn't have the right to draw a wellhead protection are over a property and change the use without paying for it; it's illegal. The State has mentioned that the Town needs that property.

Mr. Cummings told Mr. LaCroix that we're all disappointed it didn't pass.

Mr. Crate informed Mr. LaCroix that he's abstained from all of this and that's why he is not speaking.

Mr. Kluge said if it has to go to Town Meeting it probably only has a chance if Mr. LaCroix is there and has the paperwork.

Mr. LaCroix didn't see the sent in coming to Town Meeting or coming back from Florida in March. This slows things down for him, but he'll wait for it to come up for auction. He added that it will slow development significantly and thus significantly slow the receipt of taxes.

Mr. Schneider will talk to Lou Barker of NHDOT to see where the State is on the auction.

Mr. LaCroix mentioned that he can bring in sewer from Route 4 and turn around and go back but it takes up space that could otherwise be built upon.

Solid Waste/Recycling:

Mr. Schneider distributed a memo to the Selectboard regarding solid waste and recycling options. Mr. Schneider and Mr. Taylor met with Northeast Waste (NEW), also known as Casella, to talk about potential changes to our solid waste collection and disposal, changes to reduce costs, improve service and increase recycling. NEW gave proposals for every other week pick-up of both trash and recycling, alternating weekly trash and recycling pick-up, just weekly curbside recycling, and subscription recycling with current weekly curbside trash pick-up. The memo lists some pros and cons for each option.

- 1) In the case of rubbish and recycling collection in the same week, NEW would distribute 96-gallon totes to every property – one for trash and one for recycling. Pick-up of both trash and recycling would take place every other week.
- 2) Alternating pick-up would involve pick-up of trash one week and recycling the next week.
- 3) Weekly recycling would add recycling each week to the current weekly trash collection. This option could decrease the higher tipping fees of solid waste disposal by diverting recyclables from the waste stream.
- 4) Subscription recycling with weekly curbside trash pick-up would continue trash pick-up as is currently done and individual households could pay NEW individually for recycling pick-up at curbside.
- 5) Curbside pick-up contracted by the Town could be discontinued with curbside collection contracted by homeowners with private haulers.
- 6) Maintain the status quo.

Mr. Crate feels that two weeks between trash collections is a long time and the 96 gallon totes would be an eyesore.

Mr. Cummings supports Option 1. If people have an issue with holding their trash for two weeks they can take their trash to the transfer station. A lot will go into the recycling bin, which will save a tremendous amount of money.

Mr. Schneider informed the Board that Bethlehem, NH and Proctor, VT moved to bi-weekly recycling and trash pick-up. Plainfield, NH does every other week alternately with trash collection and recycling. One question to ask about bi-weekly collection is how do you deal with multi-family dwellings? Do they use dumpsters instead?

Recycling curbside would include more than we collect at the Transfer Station. At the Transfer Station we collect only plastics #1, #2 and #7 but curbside would collect plastics #1 through #7, which includes #5 – currently not accepted. Recycling curbside would also include juice cartons, frozen food boxes and Styrofoam trays packaged with meats.

Mr. Kluge noted that Mr. Schneider has a point with the number of toters that would be required at a multi-family dwelling.

Mr. Schneider replied that if the Town is interested in that approach we'll talk to NEW in more detail.

Mr. Cummings wondered about just doing the village.

Mr. Crate asked about the projected savings. He was informed that the savings would be expected to be about \$30,000.

Mr. Schneider informed the Board that if we want to go with this concept (Option 1) NEW would want a longer contract of 10 years as it would require them to invest in toters for each property and buy a new truck to service the Town at a cost of about \$500,000.

Mr. Cummings and Mr. Taylor both stated that the Town of Enfield is the only municipality that picks up curbside and pays for it.

Mr. Kluge was not arguing the fundamentals, but 10 years is a long time.

Mr. Schneider pointed out that curbside recycling saves on tipping fees and it would impact our transfer station.

Mr. Crate stated that he would never support every other week trash collection.

Mr. Kiley said the only way the Town will save is with Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT). Some people say the Town should do away with curbside trash collection altogether. We're the only Town that does that.

Mr. Kluge asked about the current costs. He was informed by Mr. Schneider that costs are now about \$170,000 annually for disposal, \$200,000 for collection and \$100,000 to run the transfer station.

Mr. Taylor reported that about 10% of trash collected curbside isn't that of Enfield residents, but is left roadside by individuals from neighboring communities.

Chief Crate mentioned that he has a toter and with a family of 6 it's hard to fill up in a week. If you're recycling you'd do even better.

Mr. Kluge said we need to tell people how much money we anticipate saving.

Mr. Crate wonders if you increase the hours at the Transfer Station where are you saving.

Mr. Cummings and Mr. Taylor believe curbside recycling would reduce the use of the Transfer Station for that.

Mr. Schneider can reach out to the two towns doing the bi-weekly trash collection and recycling and see how their seniors are handling it. And perhaps we can get a toter in to a Selectboard meeting for the Selectmen to see.

Mr. Kiley suggested they could pick up trash weekly and recycling every other week.

Mr. Cummings noted there's a huge push by the Budget Committee to reduce this expense and a number of members are asking why we're still doing it.

Mr. Schneider said if we can improve or maintain our level of service and reduce costs it's a home run. We've gone out to bid for trash collection services but there aren't a lot of firms to choose from.

Mr. Crate responded that the Budget Committee may be upset, but the taxpayers are paying for that.

Mr. Kluge noted only PAYT keeps getting shot down.

Mr. Kiley added that unless you incentivize recycling it won't happen.

Mr. Crate asked who picks up the metal at the transfer station and what do we get for it. He was informed we get about \$20,000 in revenue annually. He reported taking a 1-ton load of steel to recycle and getting \$1,400 for it. How many 1-ton loads would we get out of the metal dumpster? He suggested the Town truck its own scrap metal to Bristol and get more revenue.

Mr. Cummings inquired about the cost for trash on a weekly basis. He was informed it would be about \$4,000/week.

Mr. Cummings pointed out that as long as trash is kept covered it won't stink.

In response to another inquiry, Mr. Cummings was informed that the cost for recycling collection on a weekly basis would be about \$4,300, but there would be a savings on tipping fees.

It would cost us about \$226,000 annually for weekly collection of both trash & recycling. The 10% of rubbish that does not belong to Enfield residents may be minimized with the use of toters. Any trash left roadside that is not in a toter won't get picked up.

To Mr. Cummings it looks like the Town would save or break even.

Mr. Crate inquired about summer residents. He was informed that all property owners would receive a toter. Casella would provide calendars of collection for people.

The Board continued to discuss various options for trash and recycling collection and associated costs. A Casella representative would be willing to meet with the Board.

Mr. Crate reiterated that he would not be in favor of trash collection every other week.

Mr. Schneider will obtain the cost to do collection of both trash and recycling every week.

Shaker Bridge Painting:

The Board discussed whether or not to restore the painting of the Shaker Bridge that was donated to the Town.

Mr. Kluge is in favor of looking into what it will take to restore it, as is Mr. Crate.

Mr. Schneider informed the Board that the Town received an opinion that while this painting is historic, it is not a great work of art. It is, however, original to the period, so it was not painted from a post card. We can get estimates for restoration. At this time the estimate is at a couple of thousand dollars to repair and restore it, which is greater than the dollar value of the painting.

Mr. Kluge noted that it was given to the Town for display.

Shaker Bridge:

Mr. Kluge asked if the Shaker Bridge was painted underneath. He was informed that it wasn't and wasn't supposed to be. It has a treatment that is supposed to rust.

November Election:

The Board signed a warrant for the General Election on November 6th.

The Town attempted to put out a notice of the upcoming general election. The notice was drafted after speaking with the Moderator and Town Clerk. After a slight revision from Mr. Schneider it was posted to the Enfield Listserv. The Town then received a notice from the Attorney General's Office to "cease and desist" posting the notice as printed. A corrected notice was drafted in consultation with the Attorney General's Office and posted to the Enfield Listserv. A reminder notice, revised yet again, as recommended by the Attorney General's Office, will be posted on the Enfield Listserv closer to the Election. The corrected notice was technically accurate, but the reminder notice will include simpler, clearer language.

Mr. Schneider expects the election to be busy first thing in the morning and during the afternoon and evening commute.

Rt. 4 Water/Sewer Extension Update:

The contractor should be paving this week and done with the section to Baltic Street.

Shaker Bridge / Rail Trail – Letter of Support:

Mr. Schneider has asked the appropriate board to comment. Mr. Schneider has drafted a letter from himself in support of the Rail Trail at-grade crossing and will draft one from the Selectmen.

Dan Kiley reported that Nate Miller, Acting Planner, is sending one.

Mr. Crate asked if we have the light fixtures for the Shaker Bridge.

Mr. Taylor said they have been ordered, but are not in yet. They are being manufactured. The Town did go to bid for installation. The wild card will be getting the meter socket from Liberty Utilities.

Administrative Items – MS-1, MS-4 & MS-5:

The Board was informed that Julie Huntley has drafted the MS-1, Summary Inventory of Valuation, but is awaiting the answers from the NH Department of Revenue to a couple of questions about reporting TIF valuations. The total valuation of the Town has increased. The net valuation is about \$548 million. The TIF District valuation has increased as well.

The Board received a copy of the MS-4, Revised Estimated Revenues, submitted by the Town Manager to the State of NH.

The Board signed the MS-5, Financial Report, for submission to the State of NH.

VIII. Miscellaneous:

Firefighters Association:

Mr. Cummings presented a letter of consent from the Town for the Enfield Firefighters Association to use that name.

FastRoads:

Mr. Crate asked about the cost of service on the FastRoads fiber network.

Mr. Schneider explained that FastRoads is building the fiber infrastructure but is not providing services on the fiber so we don't know what the costs for services will be.

In response to a question from Mr. Crate, Mr. Schneider explained the installation of FastRoads cable. The fiber is installed and terminates at a box on the outside of the home. It's up to the homeowner to distribute the network throughout the interior of the home as required for the service they subscribe to.

Next Meetings:

Next Selectmen's Meeting: November 5, 2012, 6:00 PM, Whitney Hall

General Election: November 6, 2012, Whitney Hall Auditorium – Polls open 8 AM – 7 PM

Permit by Notification:

The Board received a Permit by Notification for the replacement of an existing retaining wall on property owned by Rob Malz.

Exit 17 Paving:

Chief Crate reported that ramps on I-89, Exit 17 will be closed this weekend from Friday to Sunday due to paving.

Mr. Schneider posted a notice of this on the Enfield Listserv.

CONFERENCE

I. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kluge moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion, meeting adjourned.