

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

MINUTES of March 1, 2010

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

Administrative Staff: Steven Schneider, Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Executive Assistant; Richard A. Crate, Jr., Chief of Police; Jeff Hunold, Police Corporal

Others: Paul Currier, Mount Cardigan Snowmobile Club; Dan Kiley; Kurt Gotthardt; Bart Thurber

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Crate called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

Planning Board Notice ~ March 10, 2010:

Mickey's Roadside Café is doing a site plan for additional seating. The Cronenwetts are moving a driveway access.

Tax Collector's Report ~ February 2010:

The numbers are on par with what we've collected in the past. If we were to go to tax lien now we would have double what we normally have, but there's still 8 weeks remaining before liens will be placed. People of Enfield typically find a way to pay their taxes.

Town Clerk's Report ~ February 2010:

Year to date revenues are \$5,000 behind last year. Revenues collected in February 2010 are close to \$10,000 behind revenues collected in February 2009.

III. BOARD REPORTS

There were no Board Reports.

IV. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Police Department Staffing:

Mr. Schneider would like to welcome Jeff Hunold back to the Enfield Police Department on a full-time basis. He is returning as a corporal and has already assumed some administrative duties. Everyone is pleased to have him back on the full-time staff.

Police Chief Crate said Jeff Hunold is doing a great job as expected. The Department is glad to have him back as a full-time officer. The Department is now fully staffed.

Google Request for Information:

Google has issued an RFI for communities regarding installation of fiber to the home. WCNH, the 8 town consortium, will make a submission to Google. As of today, 300 communities have submitted questions. One question is the minimum size of the project: 50,000 – 500,000. With 8 towns, the WCNH consortium has about 30,000. Does the project have to have the minimum? If so, WCNH may link up with the southwest regional planning commission. WCNH is in the southwest region doing an application for a second round of stimulus funding. This won't cost the Town anything. Work completed to date is easily transferrable to this project.

Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Advisory Committee:

The TIF Committee met last week. They've reviewed both projects that appear on the 2010 Warrant. Lee Carrier has a series of overheads regarding Article 6, the addition of a Main Street sewer extension to the TIF Plan.

The Committee reviewed the Huse Park/Community Building article. Presenting this article at Town Meeting will be challenging. The Town Meeting's role is to approve the inclusion of this project on the TIF Plan Project List, not to approve the design of the project. The Committee has debated the amount of information to be presented at Town Meeting. It will be a balancing act to provide information without discussing the final design of the project. Mr. Schneider looked to the Selectmen for input.

Mr. Kluge would prefer to keep it generalized. With detailed information the Town Meeting could spend a lot of time pulling apart the plans.

Mr. Crate asked how many plans they would show.

Mr. Schneider replied that several plans can be posted in the entry way, but we don't know if we want to have overheads for all of the plans. The Committee can show choices as long as Town Meeting knows they aren't approving a design plan.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kurt Gotthardt ~ Town Meeting Display:

Mr. Gotthardt would like to put up a display of the trail map at Town Meeting. He was instructed to contact David Beaufait, Moderator, about this as Dr. Beaufait is in charge of the Town Meeting.

Kurt Gotthardt ~ Status of Snowmobile Trail:

Mr. Gotthardt asked about the status of the snowmobile trail on the Bicknell Brook property.

Mr. Schneider replied that the Police Department has met with the homeowners and they were told they can't use the trail anymore.

Police Chief Crate stated that the covenants of the property include snowmobiles as an allowable use. The problem is they cut trees without permission. The Police Department has contacted a forester and they will come back after the snow is gone to review the damage done.

Mr. Schneider explained that a trail had been cut from Bicknell Brook to Crystal Lake.

Mr. Gotthardt reported there were fresh snowmobile tracks today. They extended beyond previous GPS coordinates he had. The tracks stopped at a blow down but the trail seems to continue beyond the blow down to another trail. The tracks started at a house on Grafton Pond road and ended at the blow down.

Mr. Schneider responded that the Town would send someone out there.

Paul Currier said the Mount Cardigan Snowmobile Club is not responsible for this.

Discussion ensued regarding the Police Department's ability to prosecute for various violations. Depending on the size of the trees, cutting without permission can be a felony.

Mr. Gotthardt noted that the Upper Valley Land Trust contact is Peter Helm.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Regional Associations ~ Bart Thurber:

Mr. Thurber didn't know if anyone had a plan, but there are 8 petitioned warrant articles. The Enfield Listserv is a great tool, but you can't post attachments. Mr. Thurber obtained an Advance Transit report regarding the advantages, disadvantages and costs of free ridership and he was able to pass that on to Jean Patten directly, but wasn't able to post it to the Listserv.

Mr. Thurber reported that LISTEN didn't get a petitioned article together in time. Based on the Town Report and services provided by LISTEN in 2009 Enfield residents are receiving about \$60,000 in services. LISTEN requested \$2,900 and won't be able to present their case. Mr. Thurber said he can do an amendment to the operating budget, but that may bring up discussion of the other regional associations. LISTEN will continue to support Enfield even without Town support. The Town would have received \$10 to \$12 back for \$1 invested.

Mr. Thurber is considering an amendment to each article so they're all funded at 2009 levels, the difference between 9 cents per \$1,000 in valuation based on the amounts requested in the petitioned articles and 7.5 cents if level funded. Mr. Thurber doesn't know the best way to go about it.

Discussion ensued about the merits of different approaches:

1) proposing an amendment to the operating budget to include funding for LISTEN, but not addressing those associations that submitted petitioned articles for funding,

- 2) proposing and amendment to the operating budget to provide level funding to all regional associations that received funds in 2009 at 2009 levels, or
- 3) not proposing any amendment to the operating budget, not addressing funding for LISTEN in 2010 and proposing amendments to each of the petitioned warrant articles individually.

It was pointed out by Mr. Cummings that once an increase to the operating budget is approved it's up to the Board of Selectmen how to spend that money.

Mr. Cumming would like to see an amendment to the operating budget for funding the regional associations at 2009 levels.

Mr. Kluge said if LISTEN can be included, that would be good.

Mr. Thurber said he may be making things more complicated than they need to be.

Mr. Schneider will contact the Town's attorney for a recommendation and will then talk with Mr. Thurber about the best way to approach the issue. We need to be sure it's clear and simple.

Mr. Schneider reported that Exeter funds 25+ regional associations every year and puts one third of them on the warrant for Town Meeting vote each year. This provides them with a good idea of the support of the voters at least every three years for each association.

Mr. Crate said he was dumbfounded the Budget Committee didn't have the regional associations in to their meeting to listen to what they offered.

Mr. Cummings pointed out that it was a philosophical discussion and decision.

Mr. Kiley said individual warrant articles may not be a bad thing. The town can get a feeling of the support by the townspeople for each individual association.

Mr. Thurber will wait and talk to Mr. Schneider after Mr. Schneider has had the opportunity to speak to the Town's attorney. He may also pass on a proposed amendment to LISTEN this year in order to avoid confusion.

Goss Lane:

Paul Currier representing the Mount Cardigan Snowmobile Club, requested permission to install a gate on Goss Lane. Goss Lane, for a distance of 1600', is a Class VI road off of Potato Road. Beyond the 1600' the Goss Lane has been discontinued. The purpose of the gate is to prevent damage to the road by wheeled vehicles.

The Board reviewed a map of the trail the snowmobile club would like to establish.

The club has met with the Society for the Protection of NH Forests which owns property along which the trail runs. Due to deed restrictions they are unable to put in a gate, though they would like to. The snowmobile club is trying to work with a Grafton resident to put a gate at the other end of the trail, but have been unable to acquire permission to date.

It is understood that the gate on the Enfield end would not be locked, but it would have a chain around it. This has served as deterrent enough in other locations. The gate would be similar to the one on Mud Pond Road.

The Board of Selectmen had no objection to installation of a gate provided Mike Sousa, Highway Supervisor, is consulted about the location. The Town sometimes uses Goss Lane to turn around the grader.

Mr. Cummings moved to allow the Mount Cardigan Snowmobile Club to install a gate on Goss Lane, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mr. Currier asked about a sign. There was no decision made by the Board.

Chief Crate asked what would have to be done to allow the gate to be locked. He was informed that the road would have to be discontinued or be given a trail designation by the Town. Trail designation would allow the Town to retain ownership. A Town Meeting vote would be required but it could revert back after 10 years.

Kurt Gotthardt feels Goss Lane would be ideal for a trail. There are conservation easements on a portion of it already so there would be no building.

Mr. Kluge asked if Haffenreffer Forest allows logging. If so, they might want to maintain it as a Class VI road to maintain access. It was noted that during a recent logging operation they chose not to use the Class VI road as access as they did not want to invite traffic onto the property.

Mr. Currier said that if the snowmobile club can't get permission for a gate in Grafton they may want to put up a sign to inform people that there is a gate at the Enfield end.

Town Meeting:

The Board discussed Town Meeting. The Board will get a script of each article including who is to make the motion to accept the article, who is to second the motion and who will be invited to speak to the article. The order of motions and seconds by the Board was determined.

The Board also discussed the schedule of coverage of the Selectmen at the March 9th election. Mr. Schneider can serve to fill in for any Selectmen who needs a break from coverage.

Enfield 250th Anniversary:

The Town turns 250 on July 4, 2011. A meeting was held with the Heritage Commission, Lions, Lioness, Historical Society and Shaker Museum regarding Enfield's 250th Anniversary. Fifteen people attended the meeting. A steering committee will be set up to schedule/coordinate events. They discussed how to organize the different groups so all are included, how to be sure too many things are not going on at the same time, and how to get out to other locations around Town, such as Enfield Center and Lockhaven.

Forty communities are celebrating on the same day. Enfield may be part of a larger regional event. Questions remain as to who pays for it and how it will be funded. Will individual fundraising be done by organizations for their own events? Perhaps donations can be collected for a permanent feature, such as engraved bricks or a sculpture.

There are plans to come up with a logo, theme and tag line. They may have a contest and obtain comments from the public. An announcement is expected at Town Meeting.

The goal is to have the logo done by July 4th of this year so they have a year of planning and promotion. A past celebration included a play, fireworks, fishing derby, picnic/box lunch, and a dinner banquet and dancing at the Crescent Beach motel. The community really got into it the three day event.

Mr. Cummings asked if the Enfield Family Fair would precede the 250th celebration.

Mr. Schneider responded that the Lions were at the meeting, but that he would be meeting with them again in the near future to discuss their participation. A lot of planning will be involved.

Paul Mirski would like to have colonial re-enactments.

Mr. Cummings asked if Canaan's anniversary is on the same date. Mr. Schneider informed him it was.

Mr. Kluge noted that there's going to be a lot going on at the Enfield Family Fair site. The movement has started already.

Mr. Schneider said the logo could be used for fundraising such as commemorative plates. There has also been discussion of a boat parade, etc. The first step is to establish a logo.

Comcast Renewal:

The Board reviewed and approved a Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement extension until April 30, 2010.

Administrative Items:

The Board reviewed and approved Petition & Pole licenses for Shaker Hill Road and Ibey Road.

VIII. OTHER ITEMS

Next Regular Meeting:

Monday, March 15, 2010, 6:00 PM, Whitney Hall

CONFERENCE

I. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Cummings moved to enter non-public session at 7:15 PM to discuss a personnel issue, RSA 91-A:3 II (a), Mr. Kluge seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Cummings – aye, Mr. Kluge – aye, Mr. Crate – aye, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mr. Cummings moved to come out of non-public session at 7:28 PM, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mr. Cummings moved to accept the resignation of Ken Daniels with regrets, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cummings moved to adjourn at 7:30 PM, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.