

**Enfield Board of Selectmen
Enfield Center Town Hall
Enfield, New Hampshire**

MINUTES of August 16, 2010

Board of Selectmen: John W. Kluge, Chairman; B. Fred Cummings

Excused: Donald J. Crate, Sr., Selectman

Administrative Staff: Alisa D. Bonnette, Executive Assistant; Jim Taylor, Director of Public Works; Richard A. Crate, Jr., Chief of Police; David Beaufait, Moderator

Others: Celie Aufiero, Dan Kiley, John Carr, Bob Cavalieri, Kurt Gotthardt, Rebecca & David Stewart, Curtis Payne, Mrs. Fitzpatrick, George & April Farewell, John Esler, Peter Hugo, Erland Schulson, Sandy Foster

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Kluge called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 19, 2010:

Mr. Kluge found one small typo. Mr. Cummings moved to approve the minutes of July 19, 2010 as corrected, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

Town Clerk's Report ~ July 2010:

Mr. Cummings noted that revenues for July were in line with previous months.

Tax Collector's Reports ~ July 2010:

Mr. Kluge noted that collections are going well. Citizens are paying their taxes.

Grafton County FY 2011 Budget:

The budget for 2011 is very close to the budget for 2010.

Minimum Impact Expedited Application – Map 14, Lot 16-1, 50 US Route 4 – Dock Permit

Report of the Hearings Examiner re: Petition to Require Mooring Permits:

Mr. Kluge explained that the report is lengthy and comprehensive. In essence they find no reason to require mooring permits on Mascoma Lake.

IV. BOARD REPORTS

Planning Board:

The developers of Ironman were there reviving their letter of credit from their bank. They are still intent on developing the property. The Town lost \$75,000 in grant funds for the sidewalk so the developers were required to add \$75,000 to the letter of credit. They are keeping their approval for 58 single family homes even though that is not likely to be what they will construct on the site. They are still determined to go ahead with the project.

Mr. Beaufait asked how long the permit was good for. He was informed by Mr. Kluge that it's effective until 2012.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

There is no separate Town Manager's Report.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kurt Gotthardt ~ Streetlight:

Mr. Gotthardt reported that a streetlight just beyond the Enfield Outing Club has been out for over 6 months. Since no one else has noticed or appears to care he is asking for the physical removal of the light. If the light is physically removed the Town no longer pays for it, but if it remains the Town pays for it whether it works or not.

Chief Crate wants to check with neighbors first. He would like to take a look at it and see exactly where it is. There is a corner near the intersection with Shaker Hill Road and Lockehaven Road and a lot of deer cross there.

David Beaufait ~ Shaker Bridge Landing:

Dr. Beaufait reported that the Sailing Club has disassembled the fencing. If there's anything further that needs to be done the Town should let the Sailing Club know. The Club has boats moored along the beach.

Mr. Kluge would be cautious of that.

Chief Crate believes it will be OK for another month. The access road is to be completed this week.

Celie Aufiero ~ Enfield Center Town Hall:

Ms. Aufiero told the Board the Heritage Commission planned to come clean the Enfield Center Town Hall to make room for preservation of the drops. There were disagreements about what was to be thrown out. Some things were discarded when no authority was given to that group. Ms. Aufiero spoke about the old Shoestring Player costumes. Rebecca Stewart told Ms. Aufiero that Mrs. Fitzpatrick said they didn't want the costumes any more.

Mrs. Stewart explained that in her conversation with Mrs. Fitzpatrick she was given distinct and specific permission to use the costumes. Mrs. Stewart promptly returned a WWII uniform that was with the costumes as it was requested of her.

Mrs. Fitzpatrick was here when the Shoestring Players were dismantled. They were looking for a place to put the things they had. They were told the things could be put in the Enfield Center Town Hall. They've been sitting in the hall for a lot of years.

Mrs. Stewart resented her reputation being besmirched by Ms. Aufiero's accusations. Mrs. Stewart did not make unilateral decisions about the pile of things that needed to be removed; that's a misrepresentation. There were a number of people, including Marjorie Carr and Alisa Bonnette discussing the cleaning of the hall. She feels the Commission did a fabulous job of cleaning the building.

Mr. Kluge assumes what's gone is gone. If it should not have gone we're sorry about that. Certainly the Town employees and Commission members can't be held responsible for that. It's not a secure facility by any means. We need to agree there has to be a means of communication. He does not think Selectmen are needed for everything. He doesn't think those present want to get into a situation where we're going to get angry.

Ms. Aufiero said the Shoestring Players hoped to use the stage backdrops again.

Mr. Kluge asked how long it had been since they had been used.

Ms. Aufiero replied three years at least. The costumes were collected over the years.

Mr. Kluge stated that he was done with this topic. The Selectmen are aware of it.

Ms. Aufiero asked for permission to store the costumes. The Board of Selectmen agreed to this.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Shaker Bridge Project:

The closing of the Shaker Bridge took many by surprise. The bridge closing sign for those coming from Lebanon that is currently posted on Route 4A should be on Route 4 so people can adjust their route before turning onto Route 4A. Jim Taylor thinks they moved the sign on 4A closer to Route 4 but he will check to see about alternative placement.

Chief Crate reported complaints from residents because they weren't notified until the day of the closure. Chief Crate spoke to the Chief of Staff in the Governor's Office regarding the lack of notice. Even the District Engineer didn't get notification until 5:30 PM the night before.

Bridge Lights:

Mr. Kluge reported there are still 3 or 4 bridge lights out. He understands it's hard for the Highway Department since you can only see them at night.

It was noted that there is an RFP out for upgrading the bridge lights. It doesn't make sense to expend money to fix the lights that will soon be replaced.

Enfield 250th:

Cleaning of the Enfield Center Town Hall was done in anticipation of the Enfield 250th Celebration.

There is talk about a formal ball, an informal dance and a parade. Dolores Stuckhoff and Meredith Smith will come in to see the Selectmen in the future with details of the plans. They will also make a request for funding.

Kurt Gotthardt suggested that funds be expended on an improved Town logo. The existing Town logo is grainy, not nice and crisp as it should be. It should be reworked so it has a sharp look to it.

Mr. Kluge responded that Mr. Gotthardt is not the first person to notice this.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing to discuss the expenditure of Bridge Capital Reserve Funds for the purpose of covering the Town's share of lighting installation costs on the new Shaker Bridge. The Board of Selectmen is named agent to expend these capital reserve funds.

Mr. Cummings moved to open the hearing at 6:31 PM, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

The estimated cost for the Town's share is \$20,000, but the actual cost may differ somewhat. The balance of the capital reserve fund is just over \$22,000. It was recommended the Selectmen approve expenditure of up to \$22,000 for the project.

Comments from the public were invited. The Board was told to "Go for it," and that it was a "good idea."

The Town pays for the lights on the bridge. We may not see all of the lights at once, but may purchase them as we can afford to.

Mr. Cummings moved to close the hearing at 6:35 PM, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mr. Cummings moved to expend up to \$22,000 from the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund for the Town's share of lighting costs on the new Shaker Bridge, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

IX. NEW BUSINESS**Lake Street Sewer Extension Request:**

Erland Schulson has property on Lake Street. The homes on Stevens Street have utilities for power and phone from Lake Street. Homeowners in the area are interested in improving Mascoma Lake and reducing the risk from lakeside septic systems. While the septic systems are

all in good condition now the homeowners would like the Selectmen to consider a sewer extension on Lake Street.

Sandy Foster, Lake Street resident, explained they were seeing the boring that went across the Lake thought a boring across the river to Lake Street residents would be just a short distance.

Mr. Schulson explained that ledge on Lake Street has made it prohibitive to extend the sewer down Lake Street. Steve Schneider alluded to a figure of \$200,000 to bore under the river. If there are grants available that can help.

There are about 450 sewer users on the existing system. Addition of Lake Street residences would constitute a 2% increase.

Mr. Taylor said there is significant ledge on Lake Street and the pitch goes the other way. There would need to be a pump station. He doesn't know if a gravity feed would be an option. Grant funding is available if people have 80% income of the Grafton County average; more challenging for those that don't meet that.

Mrs. Foster asked if the Town had grant writers.

Mr. Kluge replied that the Town did not. It's unlikely the Town would like to add this to the tax bills or sewer user bills. If the Town can get a grant, great, but otherwise he doesn't think it will fly.

The Selectmen expressed that the Town isn't likely to expend the funds; the cost is prohibitive.

Mr. Cummings added that the Town would gladly allow them to connect but funding is an issue.

Mr. Schulson said that before the homeowners upgrade their own systems they wanted to know if the Town would be receptive. He'd be willing to pay toward the connection.

Mr. Cummings explained that it isn't economically feasible to add these homes, though if they can fund it the Town would welcome it.

Mr. Kluge added that a cost/benefit analysis would be needed. As it is, it would be difficult for the Selectmen to approve.

Mrs. Foster said those 10 or 12 people have paid taxes for lakefront. They don't get any services. They've been there a long time. They would like the Selectmen to take this request under advisement.

Mr. Cummings responded that other areas in Town would probably say the same thing. From his perspective it's tough to say we'll pay the money to hook up those homes.

Mr. Kluge said the Board can't say they'll upgrade in the next 3 months. The Public Works Director can investigate the cost.

Mr. Taylor said we know the cost to bore, but we might also need a pump station.

Mr. Gotthardt added that if a line goes by your home you're required to hook on.

Crystal Lake Road Requests:

John Esler and Peter Hugo, President of the Crystal Lake Improvement Association, came before the Board to discuss a few issues including a request for a ban on through truck traffic, increased enforcement of the 25 mph speed limit and paving of Crystal Lake Road.

Mr. Esler informed the Board that Town Police parked on Crystal Lake Road and monitored traffic. A report of the findings was submitted to the Board by Chief Crate.

Mr. Esler contends that the traffic is too much for pedestrians. The Association had some ideas, such as speed humps. He hopes enforcement will continue.

According to the Chief's report, the majority of vehicles were driving within the speed limit. The highest speeds were 31 mph and 34 mph. But even at 25 mph the road is narrow.

It was noted that because the road is so winding and narrow it may seem they're going too fast.

Chief Crate said the road itself keeps people slow. It's the straight-aways where people speed up. Of those speeding it's generally the people that live there.

Mr. Esler said there is a lot of traffic. Maybe we should talk about a 20 mph limit.

Chief Crate believes the lowest we can go is 25 mph.

Mr. Esler appreciates anything that can be done.

Banning through trucks was requested. Mr. Esler said they've been hammered by gravel pit trucks and Fox Tree Service uses it a lot.

Mr. Kluge is not sure it's possible to prohibit through truck traffic.

Mr. Cummings read a report from Alisa Bonnette with information provided by the attorney on call at the Local Government Center. The report explains the need for strong police and engineering support for prohibition of through truck.

Mr. Esler explained there are two problems: safety of pedestrians, which may in part be psychological as trucks seem to go through fast, and trucks may be the cause of the problem with the alligator cracking of the road.

Mr. Kluge said in all of his times on Crystal Lake Road he doesn't recall a lot of problems with trucks. Maybe there's a project resulting in the increased truck traffic.

Mr. Esler said that just this summer there's been a lot of dump truck traffic. If there's not a lot of through truck traffic why not do a sign?

From Mr. Cummings' standpoint he'd like to see more information on how much truck traffic there is and what types. As for the pavement, a number of roads need new pavement. Paving Crystal Lake Road is not a priority, not only is there the cost of paving, but paving would likely increase with new pavement.

Mr. Esler said it's hard to speed except in some areas. There must be a system to rank roads for pavement. He would like to see where Crystal Lake Road ranks.

Mr. Taylor explained that the Public Works Department is looking to do just that.

Mr. Kluge added that we're in a very tough economic climate. He explained the need to carefully prioritize.

Kurt Gotthardt pointed out that Canaan paved Goose Pond Road and they immediately got complaints about speeders.

Mr. Esler mentioned the suggestion of a speed hump. You have to slow down for those.

Mr. Kluge said the Police Department will pay attention. We'll analyze the paving with everything else. He is hesitant to post the road to no through truck traffic. He is reluctant, personally, to limit rights to use public facilities.

Chief Crate discussed speed enforcement and said the department will continue to look at that.

George Farewell pointed out that people living on Crystal Lake Road sometimes park their cars partway into the travel lane and place orange cones on the other side.

April Farewell wanted to know where the Town owns from the center of the road.

Mr. Taylor replied that he didn't have the information with him, but that he has a map that shows this information.

Mr. Cummings said the moral is the Police will keep an eye on it. We can revisit paving later. Regarding no through trucks he'd like to see what trucks are using the road and when.

Mr. Esler asked if the Town could contact Conkey Gravel and Fox Tree Service and ask them not to use Crystal Lake Road as a through road.

Chief Crate said the town has the same issue with Jones Hill Road. Registrations for trucks are expensive. To force trucks to go around might open a can of worms that could be difficult. We can look at safety issues and damage to the roads due to overweight trucks.

Mr. Hugo, who is new to the community, had the opportunity to speak with Jim Taylor and Steve Schneider. He wanted to thank Chief Crate for being out there quickly. Education is needed. It's good as long as we keep working in the right direction.

Election Issues ~ Ballot Clerks:

The Board discussed the appointment and reappointment of Ballot Clerks (Inspectors of Election). Recommendations were provided by Dr. Beaufait, Moderator.

Mr. Cummings moved to appoint Becky Powell, Judy Finsterbusch and Francine Lozeau and to reappoint Kathy Decato as regular Inspectors of Election, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mr. Cummings moved to reappoint David Stewart as an Alternate Inspector of Election, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Training of local officials is available and Dr. Beaufait will be attending. The State is getting more prescriptive about how ballot machine testing is done. A test will be posted for Wednesday, August 25th with ballot preparation at 1 PM and testing beginning at 1:30 PM. Anyone interested can attend.

Disposition of Used Ambulance:

The Board of Selectmen will get more information from David Crate, Fire Chief, and will discuss this at their next meeting.

Administrative Items:

The Board reviewed and processed the following documents: property tax abatement application denial, property tax abatement approval, property tax refund approval and veteran's tax credit approval.

X. OTHER ITEMS**Disposition of Surplus Truck:**

Mr. Taylor informed the Board of a Highway Department truck that is ready for disposal. Mr. Cummings moved to put the truck out to bid, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday, September 7, 2010, 6:00 PM, Whitney Hall

Moose Plate Grant Status:

The Town was awarded \$10,000 for restoration of the Grand Drape.

Chris Hadsel received a grant for preparing the scenic drops not being restored for proper storage. That process will take place next month.

Ms. Hadsel will begin work on the restoration of the Grand Drape in October and will be installed May or June after the Shaker Bridge Theatre season and before the 250th Anniversary Celebration.

Ms. Hadsel needs a small amount of Tyvek to wrap those un-conserved items.

Enfield Center Town Hall Improvements:

Mrs. Stewart went on to discuss the partial painting of the Enfield Center Town Hall. She understands there was money in the budget. Jim Taylor said there is \$2,500 in the budget for building maintenance. Mrs. Stewart is getting quotes for painting the lower portions as well as some bare spots on the fascia. She was told by Jim Taylor that inmates did painting at the Canaan Fire Station and did a good job. Perhaps professional preparation and inmate painting can be done.

Mrs. Stewart would like to see the building used for something other than storage. She would like the Selectmen to get behind the concept. She would like to encourage people to utilize the building, perhaps for book sales, scout meetings, etc.

David Stewart thought maybe encouraging citizens to sponsor improvements like refinishing the floor, installing composting toilets, refurbishing the stove, etc. Maybe hold an open house. He was impressed with the building when he first saw the inside of it.

Ms. Aufiero said they've toyed with the idea of using the building for a 250th Anniversary production.

April Farewell shared her thoughts on past work and projects that never came to be. She was on the committee that got the ceiling lights and fans installed. Additional parking and sewer for the building are projects that never came to fruition.

It was proposed by a member of the public that Selectmen's meetings from June 1 to September 1 could be held at the Enfield Center Town Hall if composting toilets were installed.

CONFERENCE**I. NON-PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr. Kluge moved to enter non-public session at 7:34 PM, RSA 91-A:3 II (c), Mr. Cummings seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Kluge – aye, Mr. Cummings – aye, motion carried.

Mr. Cummings moved to come out of non-public session at 7:43 PM, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cummings moved to adjourn at 7:43 PM, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.