

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

**MINUTES of November 15, 2010**

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

**Administrative Staff:** Steven Schneider, Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Executive Assistant; Jim Taylor, Director of Public Works

**Others:** Dan Kiley,

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Cummings moved to accept the regular session minutes of November 1, 2010 as printed, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mr. Cummings moved to accept the non-public session minutes of November 1, 2010 as printed, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

**III. COMMUNICATIONS**

**Notice of NH DOT Public Officials/Public Informational Meeting:**

This meeting has been well publicized. The NH Department of Transportation will hold this meeting on Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the Public Works Facility to discuss the Rail Trial Crossing at Main Street.

**Martha Chesley Correspondence ~ Route 4 Sewer Extension:**

Ms. Chesley expressed her displeasure at the announcement of a Route 4 sewer extension just a short time after she was required to install a new septic system. She is unwilling to allow grown survey data for the proposed sewer extension to be collected on her property.

Mr. Cummings said it has not been a secret that the Town was going to look into a water & sewer extension on Route 4.

Mr. Taylor explained that Ms. Chesley put in her new system last spring. Her system was failing and running down Route 4. She had to do something to correct the problem.

Mr. Schneider informed the Board that when sewer goes by the Selectmen can grandfather the property for a time. Crews have been surveying, but will not be able to get data from the Chesley property.

Mr. Crate said the last time sewer was installed homeowners were allowed not to hook on until their system failed.

**Shoreland Permit Application ~ Map 22, Lot 23, Proposed Single Family Home**

**Shoreland Permit Application ~ Map 37, Lot 35, Huse Park Culvert**

**IV. BOARD REPORTS**

**Budget Committee:**

The Budget Committee has reviewed the General Government budget. No real decisions have been made yet. The Police budget will be reviewed on Thursday.

**Planning Board:**

The Planning Board had a packed house; word spread quickly about the proposed Watershed Protection ordinance. Dwight Marchetti and Shirley Green spoke in favor of the ordinance. Other than that, comments were opposed. A straw pole of the Planning Board resulted in no members in favor of the ordinance as written. Suzanne Laliberte spoke strongly against it. Mr. Kluge doesn't know if the Conservation Commission will come back with the ordinance in another form.

Mr. Crate pointed out that the ordinance would still have to go to Town Meeting for approval.

Mr. Schneider said the goal is to give the Town the opportunity to address issues the State is unable to due to a lack of funding. What began as a Shoreland issue spread to the watershed area covering 80% of the Town. The Conservation Commission is not discouraged. Mr. Schneider thinks they understood the ordinance as proposed was pretty restrictive.

Mr. Kluge noted that there are definitions that were so restrictive you could do little with your property if it fell within the watershed area.

Mr. Schneider doesn't believe the ordinance will come back for Town Meeting approval in 2011, but does think the Conservation Commission will take a look at it.

Mr. Kluge doesn't think it will pass a vote at Town Meeting if it's more restrictive than the current State regulations.

**Enfield Village Association:**

EVA has a meeting Saturday at which time they'll consider how to redefine their mission statement and discuss economic development.

**Other Committees:**

The Tax Increment Finance Advisory Committee meets tomorrow, the State has its public informational meeting on Wednesday and the Budget Committee meets Thursday.

**V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT****Tax Rate:**

The 2010 tax rate was set. The Town rate is \$5.95 as was said at Town Meeting in March. \$68,000 was used to reduce the tax rate bringing the undesignated fund balance to 6.1% retainage. The State recommends not going below 5%; 6.1% is within the range used by the Town in the past. One revenue was adjusted upward allowing the Town to use less of the undesignated fund balance to reduce the tax rate to the desired \$5.95 per \$1,000 valuation. Tax bills will be mailed out November 22<sup>nd</sup> and due December 29<sup>th</sup>. The total tax rate is \$20.52, resulting from an increase of 44 cents in the Town rate, 12 cents in the County rate, 74 cents in the Local School rate and 20 cents in the State School rate.

**School Renovation:**

Mr. Crate reported that the school will be coming back with an addition to the school.

Mr. Schneider added that School Board Chairman Gerding had the plan at the elections. The School intends to have an informational meeting in each Town. The estimated cost is \$24 million for the renovation.

Mr. Cummings pointed out that the previous plan for new construction was \$39 million.

Mr. Schneider added that the State doesn't pitch in for renovations.

Dan Kiley said the State doesn't have the funding program again.

Mr. Schneider stated that they need to get a 60% majority vote. While the School received a majority vote in Enfield on the previous proposal they did not get 60%.

**Police Vests:**

Mr. Cummings had requested the cost on police vests. Police Chief Crate would like to replace 6 vests at a cost of \$650 each. Mr. Schneider will look to see if funds are available at the end of the year for this purchase.

**New Highway Truck:**

Mr. Crate saw the new Highway 1-ton truck; it's a nice looking truck and they did a good job setting it up.

Mr. Schneider noted that as it idles it doesn't produce any emissions.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS****Dan Kiley ~ Shaker Bridge Theatre:**

Mr. Kiley expressed his opinion that it was ridiculous that everyone was tripping on the floor installed by the Shaker Bridge Theatre (SBT) in Whitney Hall.

Mr. Cummings asked who gave SBT permission to screw the stage floor down to the hardwood floor.

Mr. Kluge would like to know the terms of SBT's lease. What do they pay and when do they have exclusive use?

Mr. Schneider said they still have an active theater. Mr. Coons does everything from building the sets to directing.

Mr. Crate asked how many years the lease was for.

Mr. Schneider believes it was for a 3-year initial term. The Town has ultimate right to use the space when we need it. Mr. Coons has control of performances that take place.

Mr. Crate said the Enfield Village Association isn't the Town, but they're still taxpayers. He thinks the lease agreement should be reviewed closely.

Mr. Schneider informed the Board the amount of money they pay is minimal.

Mr. Kiley's concern is the control of the space they have.

Mr. Cummings stated there were a lot of problems with the floor.

Mr. Schneider acknowledged the floor was higher this year, but it has been there each year.

Mr. Crate would like to know how many Enfield residents attend SBT productions.

Mr. Kluge feels there's value in having people come to Enfield; it's good for local business.

Mr. Schneider added that the space was little used prior to the lease to SBT. Use by any theater group was desirable. There were handicapped issues with the floor at the November elections.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **Comcast Franchise Agreement:**

The Board received a letter from Attorney Kate Miller regarding the Town's negotiations with Comcast. Mr. Schneider drew the Board's attention to the last paragraph expressing Comcast's concern if the Town asks for another point of origin in the last two years of a five year agreement. Comcast feels this is too little time to add the cost to subscribers.

### **Huse Park:**

There was a meeting last week of some Huse Park supporters. There's a 1940 agreement that says the Sates is responsible for replacing the drainage pipe under the park. There are 260' of pipe. There was a desire to put in the new pipe this year. If we did the work we'd have to put off other things that need attention. Jim Taylor, the engineer and the State are discussing the pipe, which will be 42" concrete.

Mr. Crate thinks a 42" pipe is overkill.

Mr. Schneider relayed discussion of the pipe size and that the State is committed to 260' of 42" pipe. A Shoreland permit has been applied for. In the early spring we can dig the trench.

Mr. Crate said an excavator would be needed to dig the trench. Do we have the money in the budget? Do we have a trench box?

Mr. Schneider explained the project would be funded with TIF dollars.

Mr. Taylor said the Town does have a trench box.

It looks like Route 4 will be unaffected. The sidewalk will be disturbed. The culvert replacement has to be completed before anything else happens.

Mr. Crate feels waiting until spring is a good idea.

Mr. Taylor reported the State wants a manhole designed to they have plans on file.

#### **Shaker Bridge:**

The contract for reconstruction of the Shaker Bridge was awarded by Governor and Council on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Schneider spoke with E.D. Swett. They would like to store things in the upper beach parking lot for the winter. From now until Thanksgiving they will do signage and prep. Following Thanksgiving they will have to set up materials.

Mr. Crate said that as long as they understand that the Town will need the parking lot next summer.

Mr. Schneider said the beach will be minimally impacted.

Mr. Crate asked when the bridge will be out.

Mr. Schneider said it would be next spring. There's a pre-construction meeting Tuesday at 1 PM.

Mr. Crate asked how long it will be before they'll take the other bridge out.

Mr. Schneider explained that the schedule says spring. Then it will be another whole year. The construction firm wants a DOT trailer at the old motel site, but an office trailer at the boat launch parking, which is not a good spot, or the upper beach parking lot. No more than 3 vehicles will be on the site. The beach parking lot would not be the staging area and would house at most a 64' x 12' trailer.

The Board discussed the location and size of an office trailer. Mr. Crate offered the suggestion of using the Shaker Recreation Park for the office trailer. The construction company would plow the upper beach parking lot if that is used. The Town could require that repair any damage they may cause during their use of the site.

Mr. Crate asked that they not put the office trailer on the bank blocking the view.

Mr. Schneider will contact the construction company and inform them the Town would allow them to use the upper beach parking lot for the winter months but that they would like the trailer as small as possible, that it should be placed in a corner of the lot and that they clean up and fix the lot when they're done.

Mr. Crate pointed out that the edge of the road was never fixed or seeded after the sewer line was done at the bridge. He also pointed out the sand at the church as to go and near George's Market where the excavator was parked needs to be fixed.

Mr. Schneider said that the company has not received final payment yet.

Mr. Taylor will check and see if they've made arrangements with the homeowners to correct the problem along the road's edge and talk to them about the other issues as well.

### **2011 Budget:**

The budget process is moving along. The Police Department budget will be reviewed Thursday and the Public Works budget will be reviewed after Thanksgiving.

Mr. Schneider reported to the Board that the Public Works Facility is paid off in 2011, not 2010 as previously reported. The last payment amount is \$120,000.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **Solid Waste Issues:**

The contract with Northeast Waste is up soon. As part of the negotiations they have suggested a curbside collection schedule change that would eliminate an increase in the contract amount. Northeast Waste proposed a three day pick up schedule of Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. This change results in a considerable savings of \$200,000.

Mr. Cummings asked for reassurance that they would provide the same level of service.

Mr. Taylor replied that Northeast Waste was going to Lakeview Condos twice because of limited container space. We've addressed that and Lakeview has new containers.

Mr. Crate asked how much we're saving. He was informed we're saving 1-1/2% to 2-1/2% more, or about \$20,000.

Mr. Taylor said they are confident they can provide the service without starting before 7 AM and they would be done by the dinner hour.

Mr. Crate wants to be sure we can return to a four day schedule if a three day schedule doesn't work out.

All publicity and notification of a schedule change would be the responsibility of Northeast Waste.

Northeast Waste also offered a subscription based single stream recycling program whereby residents could pay Northeast Waste for curbside collection of single stream recycling. The cost would be about \$10 to \$14 per month per stop.

Mr. Cummings believes this offering would increase recycling since people would not need to go to the transfer station to do their recycling.

Mr. Crate asked if it could go to Town Meeting for a decision.

Mr. Schneider explained that it wouldn't be part of their contract with the Town but would be an independent offering by Northeast Waste.

Mr. Taylor further explained that Northeast Waste has had inquiries from commercial accounts for recycling and they need additional recyclables to make it feasible.

Mr. Schneider pointed out that recyclables are a revenue source for the Town. While the Town would save on tipping fees if people recycling curbside instead of throwing away those same items if residents elect to have curbside recycling instead of taking recyclables to the Transfer Station the Town will lose those revenues.

Electronics disposal has become a problem. The Town of Enfield has become the Upper Valley's disposal center for electronics because we don't charge for them. A minor change was recommended to the Board, to match what Lebanon is doing for electronics. Lebanon currently charges \$10 or \$12 for a small TV, \$15 or \$16 for a medium TV and something more for larger TVs. The Town would continue to use the container provided by a recycler and they would haul the electronics away when we call them for pick up. The only change would be a charge for disposal.

Mr. Crate requested consideration of a container at the Public Works Facility for large items, such as couches, rather than making people take bulky items to Lebanon. This might prevent them from being dumped on the roadsides as they are now.

Mr. Taylor responded that was his concern about electronics. We don't want them on roadsides.

Mr. Cummings pointed out there's a cost associated with electronics disposal and the Town is supporting it.

Mr. Kluge is OK with the concept of charging for the disposal of electronics if the charge isn't too high. \$12 for a small TV seems steep.

Mr. Cummings suggested the alternative that we can choose not to accept electronics and send them to Lebanon.

The Board discussed the costs of TV disposal. Mr. Crate suggested the Town try it by imposing the same fees the Lebanon does and accept them at the Transfer Station. He'd also like a roll-off for couches and other bulky items.

Mr. Schneider said that in New York they did something similar with collection of large items once or twice a year. We can look into a container.

Mr. Kluge expressed support for the idea.

**Bicknell Trail Signage:**

Las year there was discussion by the Conservation Commission regarding usage of the Bicknell Trail. There has been some usage by horses and riders. They discussed what use is appropriate for the trail and came up with a sign they'd like to have at the trailhead. The sign would prohibit campfires or camping, horses, mountain bikes and motorized vehicles; foot traffic only would be allowed.

There was discussion of the damage that can be caused by horses, particularly on a wet trail.

Mr. Cummings doesn't have a problem with allowing mountain bikes.

Mr. Kluge believes mountain bikes probably have more impact than a horse. The trail is not designed for that kind of use.

Liability is the Town's. None of these activities is allowed on the trail to Cardigan.

Mr. Schneider said some trails can handle these things, but his trail would be negatively impacted by these activities.

Mr. Crate things the sign is a wise idea before someone is hurt, since the Town is liable. People put a lot of work into that trail.

Mr. Cummings didn't realize biking was so hazardous to trails.

Mr. Kluge said he would go along with the recommended signage.

**Board & Committee Memberships:**

The Board received letters of interest from Paula Rowe as an alternate on the Planning Board and Jeanine King as an alternate on the Recreation Commission.

Mr. Crate moved to appoint Paula Rowe as a Planning Board Alternate, Mr. Cummings seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mr. Cummings moved to appoint Jeanine King as a Conservation Commission Alternate, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

**Administrative Items:**

The Board reviewed and approved the following documents: annual Motor Vehicle Junkyard Licenses for Joseph Lassen and Chases's Auto Salvage, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Issue Property Tax Warrant.

**IX. OTHER ITEMS**

**Shaker Hill Road Sidewalk:**



Mr. Taylor reported that he had a chance to look at the sidewalk by the church. It is breaking away.

Mr. Cummings asked if there were funds in capital reserves to pay for the repairs.

Mr. Schneider looked into the budget for sidewalks and guardrails and \$15,000 was budgeted.

It was suggested that TIF funding be looked into, but this location is not within the TIF District so TIF funds cannot be used.

Mr. Crate suggested a flat sidewalk that would be easier to fix.

**Winter Parking Ban:**

Mr. Crate asked if the annual Winter Parking Ban had been noticed as he had not seen it.

It is believed it was advertised in October, but this will be confirmed.

**CONFERENCE**

**I. NON-PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr. Cummings moved to enter non-public session at 7:05 PM, RSA 91-A:3 II (e), Mr. Kluge seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Cummings – aye, Mr. Kluge – aye, Mr. Crate – aye, motion carried.

Mr. Cummings moved to come out of non-public session at 7:15 PM, Mr. Cummings seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion

**II. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Cummings moved to adjourn at 7:15 PM, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion, meeting adjourned.