Enfield Board of Selectmen Whitney Hall Enfield, New Hampshire

MINUTES of November 3, 2008

Board of Selectmen: Rebecca S. Stewart, Chairman; Donald J. Crate, Sr.; John W. Kluge

Administrative Staff: Steven Schneider, Town Manager

Others: Richard A. Crate, Jr., Police Chief, Dr. David Beaufait, Moderator, Ken Daniels, Director of Public Works, Dan Kiley, Paul Mirski, David Stewart, Kate McMullen,

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Crate moved to accept the minutes of October 20, 2008 as printed; Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

IV. BOARD REPORTS

Budget Committee: They had their first meeting. Lee Carrier is the Chair and David Stewart is the Vice-Chair. The next meeting will focus on Regional Associations.

Heritage Commission: The Heritage Commission was informational only, pertaining to the historic district application.

TIF: They met on October 29th. Mark Scarano, Grafton County Economic Development Council Executive Director, spoke about Enfield's prospective development opportunities. Nate Miller, Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission, spoke about the TIF build out study. The group also discussed bringing a project to Town Meeting.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Halloween: The Town Halloween party this year was at the Union Street Fire Station, and was a success. The new location brought many new faces to the Fire Department.

Whitney Hall: The painting project is complete. We have ordered the storm windows for the stained glass. It will be ½" tempered glass.

Employees: Two employees have left Town employment. Diane Heed, Human Services Director, and Roger Labonte, Building and Grounds Supervisor both submitted their resignations.

Smith Pond: There was a meeting at the Smith Pond with DES officials and the property owners' engineers.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments. Mrs. Stewart closed the meeting to public comments at 6:18 PM.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Street Light Request – Bud Mil Road:

Town staff conducted a site visit. Currently there is one streetlight near the requested location. The recommendation is to maintain the current level of lights.

Election Issue Follow-Up:

There was much discussion about the Moderator's authority with regard to political signs. Mr. Schneider reviewed the correspondence from the Town Attorney, Attorney General's Office, County Attorney and Mr. Mirski. Mrs. Stewart does not believe that RSA 664:17 gives the Moderator the right to remove political signs. Mr. Mirski believes that the Attorney General's opinion allows the moderator to create a policy that allows signs. Currently the moderator has no written policy regarding political signs. Mr. Mirski offered a compromise of allowing the signs tomorrow and then develop a comprehensive policy to be in place for Town Meeting in March. Mrs. Stewart asked if the Moderator had received anything in writing from the Attorney General's office concerning a cease and desist order regarding the placement of political signs. Mrs. Stewart stated that the Moderator has authority only within the electioneering zone. Dr. Beaufait referred to the Town Attorney's opinion that the Town cannot support the placement of political signs on public property. Mr. Kluge asked if the Moderator was going to allow political signs. Dr. Beaufait stated that he was leaning towards not allowing placement of signs on public property. Mrs. Stewart asked if the moderator contacted any political parties with regards to the placement of political signs, and Dr. Beaufait replied that he had not, but that he believes that the local party representatives are aware. Mrs. Stewart believes that the Moderator has the authority to allow political signs, but that he will not allow the signs, and asked why won't he allow the signs. Dr. Beaufait stated that he is basing his decision the advice from the Attorney General's office and Town Attorney. Mr. Kluge stated that the Moderator is independently elected and he believes that he has the authority to regulate political signs, and that the polling place is regulated by the Moderator on the election day. Mrs. Stewart stated that with all due respect, she completely disagrees with the Moderator's position. Mr. Mirski asked that he be provided with a written policy regarding political signs on public property by the opening of the polls.

2009 Budget:

Mr. Schneider distributed the first draft of the 2009 Budget. Mr. Schneider described a few of the assumptions imbedded in the document, including, that employees are scheduled for a 4.5% salary raise, that the Human Services position will be 25 hours a week, and that there are extra hours for the Recreation Department to account for an all-day summer camp.

WCNH.net:

Mr. Schneider stated that the meeting in New London would be at 7pm at the New London Fire Department.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Property Sale:

Mr. Crate made the motion to accept the high bids for both of the advertised tax sale properties, with Mr. Kluge seconding. The motion passed unanimously. Tom Huntley submitted the high bid for the Ibey Road property at \$11,050, and for the Boys Camp Road property by Doreen Clark at \$60, 129.95.

Cable Franchise:

Mr. Schneider distributed a the Town Attorney's recommendation with regards to renegotiating our Cable Franchise with Comcast Cable. The Board scheduled a public hearing for the second meeting in December.

Sailing Club:

Ms. Kate McMullen, representing the Shaker Village Sailing Club, expressed thanks for allowing the use of the land. Ms. McMullen shared that many of their members used the site extensively. Dr. Beaufait stated that the sailing club met with the Conservation Commission in October to review the year. (see attached memo) Dr. Beaufait requested that they be allowed to keep the stockade fence up through the winter. It was decided that it would be best to honor the original one-year agreement and revisit the fence issue as part of a new agreement.

Administrative Items:

The Board reviewed and approved the following documents:

- new road name, Stone View Drive
- second issue tax warrant

IX. OTHER ITEMS

Next Meeting:

November 17, 2008, Whitney Hall Conference Room, 23 Main Street

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CONFERENCE

I. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs. Stewart moved to enter non-public session at 7:47 PM, RSA 91-A:3 II (a) & (e); Mr. Kluge seconded. Roll call vote: Mrs. Stewart – aye, Mr. Kluge – aye, Mr. Crate – aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Kluge moved to come out of non-public session at 8:15 PM, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

Mrs. Stewart made the motion to approve a new employment agreement with Mr. Schneider for the next three years, Mr. Crate seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kluge moved to adjourn at 8:15 PM, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.