

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

MINUTES of May 21, 2007

Board of Selectmen: Curtis Payne, Chairman; Donald J. Crate, Sr.

Excused: Rebecca S. Stewart

Administrative Staff: Steven Schneider, Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Recording Secretary; Ken Daniels

Others: Bob Franzoni and Anastacia Sofronas, CATV; Kurt Gotthardt; Richard Martin

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Crate moved to approve the regular session minutes of May 7, 2007 as printed; Mr. Payne seconded, vote unanimous.

Mr. Crate moved to approve the non-public session minutes of May 7, 2007 as printed; Mr. Payne seconded, vote unanimous.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

NH Arborists Community Beautification Award:

The Town of Enfield was one of 10 communities that received this award on May 4, 2007. Ken Daniels and Steve Schneider met with the Governor to accept the award.

This is the third year that Enfield has received this award, recognizing the Town's efforts to maintain a healthy Town forest. Mr. Schneider stated that this is really Ken Daniel's award. A very thorough review is made of each community. It's an honor to be recognized.

Mr. Payne commended Mr. Daniels on a job well done.

NH Div. Of Historical Resources ~ Moose Plate Grant Application Status:

The Town's application for a grant to replace the Whitney Hall Auditorium stage curtain has been received. One of 33 applications received by the NH Division of Historical Resources, the application will be reviewed in the month of May and a decision is anticipated in June.

Upper Valley Transportation Management Assoc. white paper ~ *A Widening Gap: Funding Needed Public Transit Services in the Upper Valley of NH/VT*

Water & Sewer Report ~ 1/1/07 – 03/31/07:

This report still reflects the water and sewer rates under the old plan. The new rates will be reflected in second quarter bill and reporting.

Grafton County Commissioners' Recommended Budget, FY 2008:

Mr. Schnedier explained the value provided by the Grafton County Economic Development Council and the support it is receiving the recommended budget. The GCEDC seeks funding from State and Federal government sources to assist local businesses with financing when full financing cannot be obtained from local lending institutions.

Mr. Payne accepted the budget report for reading at a later time.

Notice of Public Lecture by Thomas Linzey, Esq.:

Attorney Thomas Linzey, of the Community Environmental Defence Fund, will speak at the Cornish Town Office Building on May 22 at 7:00 PM. Attorney Linzey will share his interpretation of the history, potential and limitations of our current land-use regulations.

IV. BOARD REPORTS

Planning Board:

Mr. Payne was unable to attend, so invited Kurt Gotthardt to report on the last Planning Board meeting.

Mr. Gotthardt reported that the Planning Board discussed Bill Warren's minor subdivision off of Shaker Hill Road. The subdivision includes approximately four 3 to 5 acre house lots. Mr. Warren has been waiting for the Planning Board to approve changes to the minor subdivision road regulations. The new regulations increase the number of houses allowed on a private road. The new regulations also don't require pavement for a lower number of houses. The standards for gravel roads have also been re-written to meet State standards.

Mr. Crate asked if the regulations require roads to be built to a standard that, if petitioned for Town acceptance, would not be a major problem to accept. Mr. Schneider replied that they would not need to be paved, but would meet Town specifications for width, etc.

Mr. Daniels explained that oftentimes statements within deeds regarding subdivision roads are left out of future deeds in subsequent transfers of property. To avoid having this information lost over time, Mr. Daniels has asked Jim Taylor, Community Development Director, to add a statement to be printed on the plat that is recorded at the Registry of Deeds. The statement would alert people to the need for private roads to be built to Town standards in order to be accepted by the Town.

Mr. Payne asked if Mr. Warren provided the meets and bounds for the road. According to Mr. Gotthardt, Jim Taylor told the Planning Board that information was submitted.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**Rudy Giuliani:**

Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani will be at the Union Street Fire Station at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, May 23rd. No additional information is available. Mr. Schneider invited the Selectmen to attend if they can make it. There should be a fairly good turnout of firefighters.

Memorial Day Parade:

The Board received a draft agenda for the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28th. Mr. Schneider relayed Henry Cross's invitation to the Board of Selectmen to make comments at the Veterans Memorial Park.

FEMA Funding for Nor'easter:

Ken Daniels & Steve Schneider met with John Cloak, a representative of FEMA to discuss the process for reimbursement for damage sustained during the Nor'easter in April. Mr. Cloak was impressed by the work done by Ken Daniels and John Pellerin. The documentation should be completed by Friday. Ken Daniels estimates the dollar amount to be sought for reimbursement at \$26,000 to \$30,000. This includes the Town's time and materials, including overtime.

LaCroix Property Development:

Mr. Schneider met with Joe Lindsay, the developer for the LaCroix property located behind Shaker Valley. Mr. Lindsay has asked about the Selectboard's interest in moving the Town Offices to his park. He's described it as a two-story Federal building. Mr. Schneider is not sure if he's provided a sketch to the Planning Board. Mr. Gotthardt stated that the Planning Board itself has not received anything.

Mr. Schneider went on to say that the development plans include a market and other uses. Mr. Lindsay thinks the Town Offices would be complementary. The question is if that is a location the Town wants to be.

Mr. Payne said that the Board would look at a proposal when he has one.

Mr. Crate asked if this would require Town Meeting approval. Mr. Schneider replied that yes, it does.

Iworq Summary Report:

The Board received a year-to-date report of work orders for the Public Works Department. The summary report provides a brief, one-line description of each work order; for each of these entries there is a detailed report to go with it.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**Kurt Gotthardt ~ Stump Dump:**

Mr. Gotthardt asked what part of the Bicknell Brook property was being proposed as an alternative location for a new Stump Dump. Mr. Schneider replied that it would be the seven acres of unrestricted land. There is frontage on Grafton Pond Road for about 600 feet and an ideal location for unloading of materials.

Mr. Gotthardt asked if the location would be monitored and gated. He was informed that it is fortunate that the property is not ideal for illegal dumping. The site is easily overlooked by a neighbor across the street.

Mr. Gotthardt wished to comment on a statement made by Dan Kiley at the last meeting. Mr. Kiley made a comment about the Bicknell Brook property that was "given away." Mr. Gotthardt wished to make it clear that the land was not given to anyone, that the Town still owns the land but that the development rights were given up through a conservation easement. Mr. Payne does not believe that was what Mr. Kiley was getting at. Mr. Gotthardt just wished to make it clear to avoid any misconceptions about conservation easements such as this.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Whitney Hall Repairs:

The Selectmen received a quote for replacement of the Whitney Hall boiler and other adjustments to the system, including relocation of the supply header. Mr. Schneider reported that only the one quote has been received, though another was sought. Mr. Crate asked that the Town try to get at least one other quote.

Mr. Schneider met with the Lions Club last Wednesday to discuss what the Town needed at the Community Building: stone facing on the handicapped ramp, exterior lighting and painting. He met with them to share the information as a matter of courtesy. According to Phil Neily the Lions club has offered to pay for the stone facing and lighting. Quotes received for painting came in at about \$500 and can be addressed as regular maintenance within the current budget.

The Lions Club has asked that the bills be sent directly to them, so a public hearing for acceptance of funds is not required.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

CATV:

Executive Director Bob Franzoni and Community Resource Administrator Anastacia Sofronas came before the Board to discuss what CATV has to offer the Town of Enfield.

Mr. Schneider provided the Board with a copy of an agreement and plan for public, educational and government access between CATV6 and FrontierVision.

Mr. Schneider recently attended a CATV Board meeting and visited their studio. They have a nice studio that can support live call-ins. The Valley News had an article on this group in the Sunday paper (May 20). They will be filming the June 4th Selectmen's meeting.

The communities that work in NH don't have a formal agreement with CATV. In Hanover, a significant amount of their cable TV franchise fees goes to CATV. The Town of Enfield has a 5% franchise fee. Enfield's cable TV franchise agreement includes a \$10,000 one-time amount that Comcast would have to provide to the Town for the purchase of equipment. Mr. Schneider has contacted Comcast, but has not yet received a response.

Mr. Franzoni stated that many local board meetings in Hanover and Hartford are taped or aired live. Town Meetings are also recorded in these towns. Meetings that are either aired live once or are recorded and shown at a later date four times within a 24-hour period. Many people watch government meetings.

Mr. Franzoni invited the Board of Selectmen to come for interviews.

CATV allows community members to do shows. They will also train people to do the taping. One individual that used to go to Hartford meetings all of the time is now paid to tape them.

Ms. Sofronas said CATV would air school functions, tape local meetings, air shows of people playing guitar, reading poetry, etc. Students can learn video production; it's like a learning center. People can come learn and then go out and use their newly acquired skills. People can go on the air and talk about what they do, though they are not permitted to use it for advertising. It's a great resource for young people in the community.

Mr. Franzoni stated that their priority is government meetings. CATV is looking to downstream so they're available through broadband or DSL. Following their first priority of government meetings is locally produced programming. CATV will work with the Town to determine what works.

In answer to Mr. Payne's question, the Board was informed that, yes, they provide 24 hour broadcasting. Channel 10 is geared more toward educational programming and Channel 8 is geared toward public programming.

Ms. Sofronas also pointed out that a Community Bulletin Board runs between programming so people can be informed about what's going on in the community.

Mr. Franzoni stated that CATV is here to serve the Town. The Board was warned that nothing is edited and after a while the Selectboard won't even realize there's a camera there.

Mr. Payne asked if this is something the Town could do while the Board explores other opportunities. Mr. Payne is interested in a channel dedicated exclusively for the use of the Town of Enfield. He was told that it is.

Mr. Schneider said the number of people who will be watching would surprise the Board. CATV would allow more people to keep up on what's going on, more than they can by reading the minutes of meetings.

Mr. Franzoni told the Board it's only 20 minutes to their studio in White River Jct., and they'd be happy to do a presentation for the Board.

Steve Giroux, a staff member of CATV, does outreach by going to the schools. He brings laptops and cameras and they would produce tapes there.

Mr. Franzoni said they only ask that members of the public stand up to be heard.

Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Payne's desire for a dedicated local station and what CATV can provide to the Town. Mr. Schneider will continue to pursue a dedicated local station with Comcast while the Board considers joining CATV.

Board & Committee Appointments ~ Capital Improvement Program Committee:

Lee Carrier has expressed willingness in serving on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee. Mr. Crate moved to appoint Lee Carrier to the CIP Committee; Mr. Payne seconded, vote unanimous.

The Board agreed to set the term expiration of newly appointed members Lee Carrier, Kurt Gotthardt and David Saladino to coincide with their term on their respective boards. Lee Carrier and David Saladino will serve until 2009, Kurt Gotthardt will serve until 2010. Ken Daniels, representative for the Public Works Department, will serve until 2010 and Rebecca Stewart will serve for a one-year term, as is the norm for Selectmen. This will provide staggered terms on the CIP Committee.

Tax Collector's Deeds:

The Board of Selectmen accepted the Tax Collector's deed for property located at Map 14, Lot 66-6V at their last meeting. The deed had not yet been recorded when the Tax Collector received payment of oldest taxes, plus the associated costs and fees. It was recommended that the Board declare the Tax Collector's deed null and void to avoid the need to record the Tax Collector's deed and then issue a new deed back to the original owner.

Mr. Payne moved to declare the Tax Collector's deed for the located at Map14, Lot 66-6V null and void; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

Mr. Payne moved to accept the Tax Collector's Deed for property located at Map 22, Lot 5-14 for non-payment of taxes; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

Property Tax Exemptions:

Norm Bernaiche, the Town's assessor has been reviewed the application from Chosen Vale. He has determined that the two buildings discussed at the previous Selectboard meeting are taxable. Mr. Crate asked that Mr. Schneider obtain an opinion from the Town's attorney.

The remaining exemption applications are unchanged from the prior year. The Board chose to table the property tax exemption applications until a full board is present.

IX. PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Payne called the public hearing to order at 7:03 PM. The purpose of this hearing was to discuss the expenditure of funds from the Technology Capital Reserve Fund.

The Board of Selectmen considered a request for computer software for the Fire Department and equipment for the Police Department in an amount not to exceed \$14,493.99.

Mr. Payne moved to expend an amount not to exceed \$14,493.99 from the Technology Capital Reserve Fund for Police Department equipment and Fire Department software; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

Mr. Payne invited comments from the public.

Mr. Gotthardt had a procedural question. The presentations to the Selectmen requesting the funds were made and the last Selectboard meeting and the public hearing is being held at this one? Mr. Payne explained that the presentations to the Board of Selectmen hear the request for these items so the Selectmen could decide if they wanted to support it.

There were no further comments.

Mr. Payne moved to close the hearing at 7:06 PM and to ratify the vote as a unanimous in favor of expending an amount not to exceed \$14,493.99; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

X. OTHER ITEMS

Recreation Summer Program Grant:

Mr. Schneider attended a meeting about a recreation summer program. The Town has offered to act as fiscal agent for the program, which is unrelated to recreational offerings from the Town. A grant of \$15,000 has been received. Additional funds are expected. A public hearing is required to accept and expend these funds for the purpose for which they're intended. Mr. Schneider believes a public hearing on June 18 will allow time for additional funds to be received and included in the public hearing.

Skateboard Ordinance:

Mr. Crate asked if thought has ever been given to adopting a skateboard ordinance in town in order to keep skateboarders off the roads. He had 3 close calls with skateboarders recently. He's spoken with Police Department and they feel an ordinance is required.

Mr. Schneider feels this is a sign of the community getting larger. He will ask neighboring communities for copies of any ordinances they might have and will provide those to the Selectmen at their next meeting.

Caution Sign:

Mr. Payne received a request for a caution sign for horses on Lockhaven Road. Mr. Daniels received an email from this individual and proposed installing signs on Oak Hill, either side of Potato Road and one by the Grafton town line to create a horse "zone." He can add a "horses next X miles" as well.

Mr. Crate was in favor of adding the miles signs on either end. The Board agreed with Mr. Daniels proposed plan for signing.

CONFERENCE

I. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Payne moved to adjourn at 7:15 PM; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.