Enfield Board of Selectmen Enfield, New Hampshire

MINUTES of September 5, 2006

Board of Selectmen: Nancy Scovner, Chairman; Curtis Payne; Dominic Albanese

Absent: Curtis Payne, excused

Administrative Staff: Steven Schneider, Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Secretary; Ken Daniels, Director of Public Works; Richard Crate, Jr., Police Chief

Others: Dan Kiley; Joe Cote, Connecticut Valley Spectator

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Scovner called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Mrs. Scovner reported that Selectman Curtis Payne is back in the hospital, but hopes to return soon.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Albanese moved to accept the minutes of August 21, 2006 as written; Mrs. Scovner seconded, vote unanimous.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

New Hampshire Main Street: Downtown Revitalization Professional's Day:

The Board of Selectmen will honor the hard work of Sharon Carr, Enfield Village Association Director, and other members of EVA for their wonderful work at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Mrs. Scovner also wants to thank the Shaker Museum, they've been working hard and have some great events planned.

Town Manager letter to Lee Perry, Exec Director, NH Fish & Game:

Mr. Schneider wrote a letter to NH Fish & Game serving as the Town's commitment to comply with the conditions outlined in an e-mail from Mr. Perry concerning the operation of the Stump Dump. The Stump Dump will not be opened until the special use permit is issued by NH Fish & Game.

Discussion ensued regarding future options, since the State permit is only for a one-year period. Donald A. Crate has expressed interest in working with the Town.

ISO Public Fire Protection Rating:

ISO (International Standards Organization) has an impact on the insurance of homeowners and businesses. Following the latest ISO review, the Town's Class will go down from a 5 to a 6 out of 9. Class 5 is about as good as a community of Enfield's size can expect to achieve. ISO does provide communities with an opportunity to improve. Enfield has 3 months to make the necessary improvements to maintain its Class 5 status. The improvements should not be a hardship for those departments affected.

NH Liquor Commission:

The NH Liquor Commission provided notice to the Town of an application from Sticks & Twigs Inc. for a Restaurant with beer & liquor license under the provisions of RSA 178:21. This notification gives the Town the opportunity to submit data, views or comments relative to Commission for consideration. The Selectmen have no comments to submit.

IV. BOARD REPORTS

Conservation Commission:

Mrs. Scovner announced that the Conservation Commission has canceled its September 7th meeting.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Community Development Director's Report:

Laramie Farms Subdivision:

The bond money for the Laramie Farms subdivision has arrived in two parts, \$75,000 to match Town funds received from a Transportation Enhancement Grant for the Maple Street sidewalk and a letter of credit for \$139,615.75 to cover the first phase of the development. This satisfies the Town's requirement for substantial completion to continue the subdivision process.

Discussion ensued regarding the sufficiency of the funds to complete the projects if the developer does not. Mr. Daniels believes the bond amounts are sufficient to cover the sewer line extension to the entrance of the development and the sidewalk. He believes this includes drainage and curbing. The Town will not do the work, but will monitor the installation of the sewer line.

Mr. Albanese requested a development plan from Mr. Schneider to outline the structure the Town is going to use to manage this project; something to ensure the Town is keeping track of the details.

Surplus Property:

Jim Taylor, Community Development Director, provided recommendations for the potential sale of surplus Town property.

The properties the Town will subdivide from the Bicknell Brook property must be surveyed before sale.

There are several issues relating to the property located at Map 7, Lot 21, land located behind Lakeview Condominiums. A portion of this property includes the septic system for the condos.

The Board would like to transfer ownership of the portion containing the septic system to the Condo Association in exchange for a right-of-way to the rear portion of the property. The remaining property can then be offered for sale.

Whitney Hall:

A meeting is scheduled on September 8th to interview construction managers from Trumbull-Nelson and Baeur Corp. Mr. Schneider has done some reference checks with managers from neighboring communities. Mr. Schneider will draft a press release once a decision has been reached.

Henry Cross Property:

Following a physical inspection, a new value has been placed on the Cross property that they appear to be satisfied with. They still have the option of requesting abatement after the second issue tax bill.

Regional Telecommunications Network:

Financial engineering is based on where the Town wants the network to be installed. Ken Daniels, Richard Crate, Jr., and Steven Schneider will identify the governmental needs. They will then bring it the Board of Selectmen to determine where else it should go. The Selectmen's revisions will help determine the cost of the project.

Mr. Albanese and Mrs. Scovner supported the initial funding for Phase I, which included the preliminary study. The Board feels that before approving Phase II funding for a financial engineering study a public hearing should be held. Phase II funding (Funding analysis) is required in order to create a firm proposal that can go to Town Meeting in the Spring of 2007.

The Town has committed to Phase II, which should be done before January. This will allow the Town time to prepare wording for a commitment to be voted at Town Meeting. If approved at Town Meeting, construction could potentially begin in spring 2007.

Extensions beyond the original scope of the project may require new financial engineering studies. The overall governing structure may be a co-op model. Tax dollars would be committed only to connect Town facilities.

Mrs. Scovner asked if cable is covering an area, why would I want to spend more money for the co-op to have it? Mr. Schneider replied that cable is limited in what it can provide to you versus a fiber optic network. A fiber optic network can provide more than Internet access, but also access to school districts, movies on demand, remote meter reading, hospitals, etc.

Mr. Albanese noted three major up-coming projects: a historic district, the Town Offices/Library building project and a fiber optic network. He expressed the need to manage the Town's message.

Mr. Schneider stated that this is more than just Internet, a fiber optic network is a communication method that allows residents to be part of the global community.

Emergency Plan:

A meeting to review the Town's emergency plan is scheduled for September 6th.

Strategic Plan:

Mr. Schneider expressed the need for another meeting. While Mr. Albanese suggested waiting until after completion of the budget season, Chief Crate suggested it's important for budget planning. A little time spent following a regular Selectmen's meeting may be sufficient.

Mr. Albanese asked that discussion concentrate on the Capital Improvements Program.

Discussion ensued regarding how best to complete the necessary work and have something to present in the next Town Report.

The TIF District was also discussed. Some questions remain to be answered, including if the appropriate zoning is in place for that area. Jim Taylor or Nancy Scovner can get discussions started at the Planning Board. Mr. Schneider noted that the zoning in the area made sense before establishment of the TIF District, but the Town might need to look and see if adjustments need to be made.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Scovner mentioned an article in the Valley News that had a great picture on the front page of the Greens. The article provided a lot of awareness of milfoil.

Mrs. Scovner invited public comments. No comments were forthcoming.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

2006/2007 Budgets:

The Board reviewed copies of the MS-1 Inventory of Taxable Property and MS-4 Revised Estimated Revenues reports. The Town saw a \$10,000,000 increase in property values over the previous year. Revenues are currently expected to be somewhat lower than estimated in the spring. Wendy Huntley has been asked to provide a cash report.

Mr. Albanese asked if investigation into enterprise funds is moving forward. This is an issue that came up at a Budget Committee meeting. If Mr. Schneider doesn't feel it's a good idea, then it does not need to be done.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Historic Marker Unveiling:

The first Enfield historic marker is scheduled for unveiling on September 30th at the Shaker Museum. Refreshments will follow. The Shaker Singers will be there to perform.

IX. OTHER ITEMS

Shaker Cemetery:

Mr. Albanese asked if the bank had been contacted regarding the Shaker Cemetery or if Mr. Schneider has any updates for the next Cemetery Trustee meeting. Mr. Schneider has spoken with the Shaker Museum and they have no interest in maintaining this cemetery.

CONFERENCE

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Scovner moved to adjourn at 6:45 PM; Mr. Albanese seconded, vote unanimous.