

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

**MINUTES of April 7, 2003**

**Board of Selectmen:** Ilene P. Reed, Chairman; Keith Oppenneer; Dominic Albanese

**Administrative Staff:** April Whittaker, Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Secretary

**Others:** Leafie & Don Cantlin; Kurt Gotthardt; Kris Eddy, Valley News; Mary Murray, Connecticut Valley Spectator; Henry Cross; Curtis Payne; Leigh Davis; Celie Aufiero; Holly Sanders; Ken Daniels, Public Works Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 5:14 pm.

**PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS**

**Recognition of Service:**

In appreciation for past service to the Enfield Ambulance Squad from 1997 to 2003, the Selectmen presented framed Shaker prints to both Barbara Dow and Charlie Harrington. Mr. Harrington and Mrs. Dow have both served for 26 years on the town's ambulance squad.

In appreciation for past service to the Town of Enfield as Enfield Trustee of Trust Funds the Selectmen presented an oval Shaker box to Leafie Cantlin.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes of March 17, 2003. Mr. Albanese recommended corrections to the minutes as follows (changes shown in italics):

Page 2: "He feels the Conservation Commission is a board the Selectmen *appoints and* should pay some attention to."

Page 7: "Mr. Albanese would like *the Board of Selectmen* to meet with department heads and the Town Manager to go over department goals."

Page 7: "Mr. Albanese would also like *the Board of Selectmen* to meet with the Budget Committee, Planning Board, Conservation Commission *and Zoning Board of Adjustment.*"

Mr. Oppenneer moved to accept the minutes of March 17, 2003 as corrected; Mr. Albanese seconded, vote unanimous.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE**

### **Society for the Protection of NH Forests Questionnaire:**

Mrs. Whittaker explained that the Town does not want to make a statement as to whether or not there are any problems concerning solid or hazardous waste on the subject property (J. Haffenreffer, Map 17, Lot 20) for liability reasons. Instead, Mrs. Whittaker included the following statement, "The Town of Enfield makes no representation as to the aforementioned parcel of land with respect to natural resource values or any known liabilities; said property file appears silent with respect to your enquiries."

Mr. Oppenneer moved to sign the Society for the Protection of NH Forests Questionnaire regarding the Haffenreffer property; Mr. Albanese seconded, vote unanimous.

### **MS-2 Report of Appropriations:**

April Whittaker and Alisa Bonnette independently verified the figures on the MS-2 based on the MS-7 presented at Town Meeting and subsequent votes. The Selectmen reviewed and approved the MS-2 as presented.

### **Voluntary Military Call-Up Policy:**

The Board of Selectmen signed the Voluntary Military Call-Up Policy as approved at the previous meeting.

### **Property Tax Refunds/Warrants/Abatements, Etc.:**

The Board reviewed and approved 2002 property tax refunds; one of which is part of a legal settlement of valuation with Granite State Electric.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to grant a Veterans Tax Credit as presented; Mr. Albanese seconded, vote unanimous.

The Board reviewed and approved Yield Tax Warrants, an Excavation Tax Warrant and Current Use Release of Tax Liens. The Board briefly discussed the Current Use program and recreational adjustment. Ms. Bonnette will compile Current Use booklets for the board to provide a clearer understanding of this taxation process.

The Board signed a Certificate of Excellence to be presented to the Department of Public Works for assistance with Town Meeting 2003.

The Board reviewed a Resolution amending the Town of Enfield Flexible Benefit Plan, Health Care Reimbursement Plan and Enfield Dependent Care Reimbursement Plan. Mr. Oppenneer moved to authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the resolution; Mr. Albanese seconded, vote unanimous.

**CITIZENS FORUM****Gene Talsky ~ Recreation Commission Applicant:**

Mr. Gene Talsky requested appointment to the vacancy on the Recreation Commission. Mr. Talsky moved back to Enfield in July. His background and expertise focused on soccer and baseball coaching and he felt this could be a useful asset for the town.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to appoint Gene Talsky to the vacancy on the Recreation Commission for one year until the next election; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

**Jason Zullo ~ Sewer Extension Inquiry:**

Mr. Zullo and his wife are considering buying property on NH Route 4A about 600' from the end of Enfield sewer service. Mr. Zullo inquired into the possibility of extended sewer service.

Mrs. Whittaker explained "betterment assessments" whereby the Town borrows the money needed to fund the water or sewer extension and the homeowners pay for this debt in their water or sewer bill. This payment is called a "betterment assessment."

Mr. Albanese wondered if there was a chance that the Sewer Sub-Committee would be addressing this issue. Mrs. Whittaker explained that sewer extensions are part of what the Sewer Sub-Committee is looking at. Whether the whole town bears the cost of a water or sewer extension may be dependent upon how many benefit from the extension.

Mr. Daniels explained that there are about 8 lots that could be serviced. The State has betterment plans for NH Route 4A from Lebanon to Sloan Road. If these improvements to NH Route 4A are made there will probably be a 7 year moratorium on pavement cuts. Therefore, if extension of the sewer line is desired, it should be completed before the State betterment project begins.

**Henry Cross ~ Grafton Pond Drawdown:**

Last fall there was a public information meeting with James Gallagher, DES Dam Bureau, regarding the State's decision not to drawdown Grafton Pond due to a request from the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests to end the historic practice of lowering the pond each fall. The topics discussed at the meeting included past management practices, and factors considered in management decisions: Shoreline protection, flood control, fish and wildlife (loons & fishery), recreation & hydropower.

Mr. Cross explained that this decision effects Crystal Lake and beyond to Mascoma Lake. In the 2002-2003 winter there was a lot of snow and freezing. Crystal Lake is always lowered in the fall. This is the highest level at Crystal Lake this time of year that Mr. Cross has seen. Currently water is going over the splashboards.

At the fall public information meeting Mr. Gallagher told those in attendance that he would run some numbers for splitting the difference between full drawdown and no drawdown. Mr. Gallagher did not return to the Town with a report. However, when contacted, Mr. Gallagher stated that mathematically there would be no problem.

Mr. Cross is concerned that had the Town received a heavy rainfall or faster thaw there could have been property damage on Crystal Lake due to flooding. Mr. Cross would like the Board of Selectmen to look into this for next year to alert the State to possible problems next year.

Discussion continued regarding the effect of lowering Grafton Pond on nesting loons and the possibility of a compromise between full pond level and full drawdown.

Mr. Albanese asked Mr. Cross to send the Board of Selectmen a letter outlining all of the issues discussed this evening so the Town would have something on file for the next drawdown season.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Non-Public Session:**

Cecilia Aufiero came to meet with the Board of Selectmen to address a complaint made against her by Dwight Marchetti, Ross Allen and Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Stanford at a previous meeting. Ms. Aufiero requested a closed session.

Mr. Albanese move to enter non-public session at 6:14 PM, RSA 91-A:3 II (c); second Oppenpeer, vote 3-0. Roll call: Reed – yes, Oppenpeer – yes and Albanese – yes.

Mr. Oppenpeer moved to come out of non-public session at 7:26 PM; Mr. Albanese seconded, vote unanimous.

Mr. Oppenpeer moved to seal and sequester the minutes of the non-public session for a period of three months; Mr. Albanese seconded, vote unanimous.

### **Other Business:**

Mrs. Reed received information that Jeanette Haarala has a safe that she would like to donate to the town. The town already has a similar safe in storage.

Mrs. Reed received information regarding available grant money from the National Historic Council. This information will be forwarded to Marjorie Carr, Town Historian.

The Board discussed holding a departmental meeting. A form will be prepared to allow department heads to report on the status of planned and on-going projects.

The Board of Selectmen will hold a meeting next week to continue with the remainder of the items on this week's agenda.

The Board briefly discussed the Town Manager's, namely April Whittaker, contract. Mr. Oppenpeer moved to comply with the contractual obligations. Mr. Albanese preferred to wait to approve Mrs. Whittaker's salary increase following completion of her performance evaluation. Mr. Oppenpeer withdrew his motion.

Mrs. Whittaker provided the Board of Selectmen with a project work plan that she would update monthly if the Board liked the concept and plan.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Oppenpeer moved to adjourn at 7:50 pm; Mr. Albanese seconded, vote unanimous.