

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

MINUTES of January 7, 2002

Board of Selectmen: Keith Oppenneer, Chairman; Donald J. Crate, Sr.; Ilene P. Reed

Administrative Staff: Stephen B. Griffin, Assistant Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Secretary

Others: J. David Fitzgerald, Henry Cross, and Harry Auger

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Oppenneer called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Reed moved to accept the minutes of 3 December 2001; Mr. Oppenneer seconded, vote unanimous.

BUSINESS

Eastman Road Name Change:

The Board received a road name change request from Eastman. This issue was tabled pending further advice from the Planning/Zoning Administrator.

Eastman Curbside Trash Pick-Up:

This issue was tabled pending investigation of the conditions of the subdivision approval.

Recreation Commission Duties:

The Selectmen approved a memo, dated 1/7/02 to the Recreation Commission encouraging the Commission to be more involved in planning for and the operation of facilities, including, but not limited to advising the Planning Commission as to Enfield's property and facility needs for recreation, coordinate with the Enfield Village Association as to village recreation needs, undertake minor facility setup and maintenance activities as agreed in coordination with the Department of Public Works and schedule use of all recreation facilities.

Fitzgerald Drive Plowing Request:

Dave Fitzgerald requested that the town plow Fitzgerald Drive this winter. Everything on this private road has been completed except the final coat of blacktop. Mr. Fitzgerald explained that while the T-turnaround does not meet Planning Board specifications, Ken Daniels, Director of

Public Works, told him that is sufficient. If he had the finished coat done and a deed prepared Mr. Fitzgerald would ask the town to take over the road.

The Board discussed the need for a written report from Ken Daniels stating that the road construction meets town standards and a letter of credit to guarantee the completion of the road.

Mr. Oppeneer moved to approve the taking over of Fitzgerald Drive pending Director of Public Works concurrence that the road meets town standards for completion, a letter of credit to guarantee completion and any other appropriate legal documentation to assure the work will be completed; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

Town Report:

The Board concurred with the drafted Selectmen’s narrative for the Town Report with one minor word change: second sentence, change first use of “events” to “tragedy”.

The Board concurred with Mr. Griffin’s recommendation to feature the Community Building on the cover of the town report.

The Board will dedicate the 2001 Town Report to the Enfield FAST Squad.

Town Meeting:

Both sessions of Town Meeting will be held in the Whitney Hall Auditorium. The first session for voting by Official Ballot for the election of officers and all other articles requiring vote by Official Ballot will be held on Tuesday, 12 March 2002. The polls will be open from 8:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM. The second session will be held on Saturday, 16 March 2002 at 9:00 AM when all remaining warrant articles will be presented, discussed and acted upon.

NH Dept. of Transportation (NH DOT) Sidewalk Easement:

David Guay signed a deed today for an easement on his property.

The Board discussed correspondence from Carol Murray, NH DOT Commissioner, regarding the State’s need for right-of-way at Virginia Campbell’s property for the purpose of road maintenance.

The Selectmen are concerned that Mrs. Campbell will lose both her front lawn and a place to park her car. Mr. Griffin was directed to talk to Mrs. Campbell and to then contact the State about the possibility of moving the retaining wall and adding fill to increase the area for parking next to Mrs. Campbell’s house.

Other Business:

The Board reviewed and approved a 2001 property tax refund and Yield Tax Warrant.

CITIZENS FORUM

No citizens were present.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**Boston Post Cane Replica:**

Lincoln Charles will be unable to make a Boston Post Cane replica for the town. Mr. Charles needed at least 50 cane replica commitments to proceed with the project. Because he has received just 30 commitments, Mr. Charles will not be able to proceed with the project due to insufficient funding.

Insurance:

The Board discussed the town's policy for insurance coverage for retired employees and the timely payment for it. This issue is tabled until the next meeting.

FAST Squad Annual Dinner:

The FAST Squad will hold their annual dinner on 3 February and will be celebrating the Squad's 25th anniversary. Mr. Oppenneer will attend.

Budget Changes:

The Board concurred with several budget changes as detailed in memos dated 15 October, 23 October, 28 December and 4 January.

Sale of Tax Deeded Property to William Field:

It has been confirmed that any amount received from the sale of tax-deeded property that exceeds the past due taxes, interest, costs and fees must be paid to the prior owner. In the case of Map 11, Lot 24-1, these funds would be payable to Phil Mans.

The Board of Selectmen may vote to sell the property to William Field at the full price (taxes, interest, costs and fees) or to rescind the previous offer to sell the property to Mr. Field. The Board discussed the potential ramifications of selling or not selling the property to the Field, taking under advisement the attorney recommendations of the prior meeting.

Mr. Crate is opposed to selling the property to William Field. This property is not one of the properties involved in the financial dealings between Mr. Field and Mr. Mans.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to proceed with the Town Attorney's recommendation for disposition of the property located at Map 11, Lot 24-1, for all past due taxes, interest, costs and fees as of 7 January 2002; Mrs. Reed seconded. Mr. Oppenneer and Mrs. Reed voted in favor; Mr. Crate was opposed, motion carried.

Sign Issues:

The Board agreed unanimously to ask the State to remove the sign posted on or adjacent to town-owned property that names the wetland on Shaker Hill Road "Celie's Marsh". The State will also be asked to contact the Board of Selectmen prior to posting signs on town-owned property or relating to town-owned property.

Mr. Oppenneer asked that a warning sign or sharp curve sign be installed on the corner of Choate Road at the Enfield/Canaan town line. Mr. Griffin will submit this request to Chief Giese for his recommendation.

PUBLIC HEARING RE: PROPOSED VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

Mr. Oppenneer closed the Selectmen's meeting and opened the public hearing at 7:02 PM.

Henry Cross presented an updated model of the proposed veterans memorial park.

Harry Auger, a member of the veterans memorial park committee, feels it is the right thing to do.

Since no other members of the public were present, Mr. Oppenneer closed the hearing and opened the Selectmen's meeting at 7:06 PM.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to most heartily endorse the Veterans Memorial Park project and authorize the committee to proceed; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

A letter will be prepared for the committee indicating the Town's support of this project and 503-c status for the committee.

Mr. Cross did wish to point out that there would be some minimal costs to the park, including park maintenance and electricity for lighting the flagpole. Mr. Griffin noted that the town has to maintain the property now, so any additional cost will be minimal.

Mr. Cross reported that they already have a flagpole and he has bricks for the walk stored at his house. He hoped to get a large rock from each of the thirteen colonies. Ideas on how to obtain these rocks were briefly discussed.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT, CONTINUED**Undesignated Fund Balance:**

The Board discussed the use of funds from the undesignated fund balance. Of the 1.4 million in 2001, the Board used \$500,000 to write down the tax rate and over \$200,000 for the purchase of a new grader. The NH Dept. of Revenue Administration recommends an undesignated fund balance of 15% to 25% of the town's annual budget. Enfield is currently closer to the 15% mark. The Board of Selectmen would prefer a higher percentage, maybe 20%.

Budget Transfers:

Mr. Oppenneer noted that the Selectmen authorize transfers from one line item to another. Mr. Griffin explained that a formal transfer is not required. The advantage of not transferring the budget and associated costs is that a true picture of actual costs is maintained.

Mr. Oppenneer suggested keeping closer tabs on some line items that should never be overspent, such as Selectmen's salaries.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/CORRESPONDENCE

Lloyd and Lorraine Trask letter of 12/19/01 re: town property off Johnson Drive.

Peter Giese letter to Grafton County Attorney of 12/19/01 re: case resolution.

Elizabeth Bosiak letter of 1/2/02 re: property acquisitions, Main Street and Shaker Hill Bridges Project.

Enfield Main Street Workshops, January 11 & 12

Letter to NH DOT re: Main Street Parking

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 PM.