

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

PUBLIC HEARING: BOND OR NOTE OVER \$100,000

MINUTES of February 13, 2002

Board of Selectmen: Keith Oppenneer, Chairman; Donald J. Crate, Sr.
Ilene P. Reed absent due to religious holiday

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

Others: Cecilia Aufiero, Dominic Albanese, Holly Sanders, Carolee Highbee, Don Roberts,
Keith Oppenner, Gayle Hulva, James Gerding, Michael Dudley, Lynn Baker, Greta Crilley, Judy
Kmon, Phil Cronenwett, Marjorie Carr, Tom Huntley, Wendy Euler, Michael Ibey, Nancy
Scovner, Nancy Smith, Ken Wheeler, Ron Michaud, and other members of the public

Mr. Oppenneer called the hearing to order at 6:45 pm.

Mr. Griffin explained that this hearing is relative to article 10 on the proposed town meeting
warrant. The article reads as follows:

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thirty thousand dollars
(\$230,000.00) (gross budget) to provide underground electric, telephone and cable wiring
in conjunction with the NHDOT reconstruction of the Main Street Bridge, from the
project's southern terminus to the Main Street-High Street intersection, eighty thousand
dollars (\$80,000.00) from the Town's undesignated surplus, and to authorize the issuance
of not more than one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) of bonds or notes in
accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize
the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of
interest thereon? This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article 11 and has no
impact on the tax rate in 2002. (2/3 ballot vote required.)

The Enfield Village Association (EVA) put together a proposal and encourages the passage of
the proposed article. EVA feels the town should take advantage of the opportunity to do
underground wiring while the roads are torn up [during the Main Street bridge and street
improvements].

Mr. Oppenneer stated that the Board of Selectmen asked the NH Dept. of Transportation to
incorporate underground utilities into the road improvements design. Then EVA applied for the
Main Street Program. The group believes it would be desirable to have the clutter gone and a
positive influence to redevelopment. Additionally, the town must either do the project now or
wait seven years. The State will not allow new road pavement to be disturbed for a seven-year

period. The Downtown program is just coming into its own. Granite State Electric, Verizon and Adelphia will all be involved in the project. Only Granite State Electric requires payment up front. It is believed that the surplus would cover this amount. It is believed that the project will cost \$230,000, but the town may not need to borrow for a couple of years as the Verizon cost will come due at the project's completion.

Nancy Smith mentioned that when EVA spoke to Granite State Electric and Verizon it was noted that the cost to achieve underground utilities would never be less than it is now.

The town also spoke with the utility companies about rerouting the wires behind the buildings along the Rail Trail, but access [for maintenance] is a problem since this area crosses private property and clear access cannot be guaranteed.

Mr. Albanese asked if it is EVA's plan to bring business into town. Mrs. Smith replied that that is a big part of the plan.

Mr. Roberts noted that those buildings with below code electric services would have to come up to code. This is another advantage to the project.

Mr. Oppenneer asked for further comments; none were forthcoming.

Mr. Oppenneer called the hearing to a close at 6:55pm.