

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

**MINUTES of September 30, 2002**

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

**Administrative Staff:** Peter H. Giese, Interim Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Secretary

**Others:** Ken Daniels, Director of Public Works; Marjorie Carr, Librarian; Philip Cronenwett, Greta Crilley and Judy Kmon, Library Trustees; Linda Jones; Sharon Beaufait; Paul Putnam; Richard A. Crate, Jr., Interim Chief of Police; Sergeant Ken May; Officer Keith Bergeron; Officer Roy Holland; Ray Howe; Nancy Scovner and other candidates for state representative positions.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**BUSINESS**

**Library Trustees:**

Marjorie Carr presented the Board of Selectmen with a memo and budget for 2003. This budget represents operating costs minus salaries, which will be added later, for the year 2003. There are increases in Books and Postage and decreases in Binding and Office supplies.

Special Projects is budgeted at \$7,000 and is money that will be used from monies held by the Library Trustees, i.e. Trust Funds for special projects. The \$7,000 is not to be construed as a budget-reducing amount, but is intended as an addition to the requested appropriation. The total minus salaries and the \$7,000 is \$51,481 – close to level funded.

The Board of Selectmen agreed that this budget looks fine.

Phil Cronenwett brought up the Selectmen's need to think about town office and library space for the long term. The Library Trustees will also talk to the new Town Manager and Enfield Village Association. The Library Trustees would like to know what will happen with the town offices.

Mr. Oppenneer noted that Stephen Griffin suggested an addition on the back of the existing building. Peter Giese suggested relocating further south on Main Street in the downtown area, leaving the ground floor and the first floor for the Library and the second floor for elections. Right now Mr. Oppenneer is open to suggestions.

Mrs. Carr would prefer to expand the library toward the back and remain on the same floor. It would be more cost effective for the Library, requiring less staffing. The vault could be enlarged both on the ground floor and the second floor. Historical records need more space. An up & down situation would require doubling the staff. Two staff members are needed per floor. Mrs. Carr also likes having the town offices downstairs for security reasons, the sharing of records and equipment. She also likes that the Police Department, Library and Town Offices create a bit of a complex.

Mr. Giese proposed that the Selectmen form a study committee with money for the study in 2003 with presentation for new office space to the voters in 2004. Mr. Giese acknowledged that Mrs. Carr presented the pros, but for the cons, the town will lose parking. Ten years ago the Library Trustees wanted the town offices out of the building, now they've had a change of heart. As a citizen, Mr. Giese would like the town offices moved away from this location with room for more parking and expansion opportunities. He also believes there may be expansion problems due to the age of the building.

Greta Crilley asked if the conditions on the ground floor aren't good for town offices why are they good for library employees? Environmental factors are a reason not to move the library here.

Mr. Giese replied that the reason he's advocating moving the town offices is space requirements.

Mr. Oppenneer stated that these are things for a committee to consider.

Mrs. Carr agrees that the town wouldn't want to move ahead without a feasibility study.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes of 9 September 2002. On page 2 Mr. Oppenneer would like his statement regarding physical exams for some positions to state that jobs that are physically demanding probably are appropriate positions for physical exams.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to accept the minutes of 9 September 2002 as revised; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

### **BUSINESS, CONTINUED.**

#### **Candidates for State Representative:**

Nancy Scovner and five other candidates for State Representative came before the board to introduce themselves and offer the Board any assistance they might need. Redistricting has resulted in changes in the representation of many smaller communities.

Bernie Benn is serving on the Public Works and Highway Committee. Hilda Socul is serving on the Health & Human Services and Community Affairs Committee.

Mr. Oppeneer stated that his biggest concerns are housing and education costs. Another important issue is attracting business downtown – identifying kinds of businesses that will thrive on Main St. and how to detour tourist traffic downtown.

**Ironman Development:**

Sharon Beaufait and Linda Jones came before the Board to share their concerns with the Ironman Development and the Planning Board process relating to that subdivision. A packet of information was provided to the Selectmen illustrating and documenting their concerns.

Mrs. Beaufait stated that there have already been 2 exceptions made to Hillcrest Drive, a 100-foot curve radius and a 10% grade. There are 11 lots that have access onto the tight, steep curve. There was discussion regarding banking of the road to help limit accidents with other cars on the road. There was also discussion of quasi-sidewalks. There might be between 10 and 40 children in this development with no place to play. The kids will play in the street or in the woods where there are steep slopes and wetlands.

Additionally, according to Mrs. Beaufait, the impact study is incomplete and incorrect. The study was done in August, outside of peak school times. There are 46 houses on Maple Street and 68 proposed in the new development. That is a 250% increase, not a 50% increase as the developer asserts. There are pedestrians and horses on Maple Street. She is concerned that improvements to Maple Street will be put off and then the townspeople will be asked to pay for those improvements. She thinks this should be considered now.

Linda Jones has concerns regarding land use and cluster development. The current regulations haven't been used since there were developed in the 80's. Residents have been attending meetings and we've come up with different results with the computations than the developer for common space and open space. "Every time we're breaking the cookie, we're getting the small half." Linda Jones is an abutter, so she wants this development to be the nicest possible place. A number of people have read through the regulations and have come up with different numbers.

Ms. Jones is also concerned that the Planning Board hasn't gone up to view the property.

Mrs. Beaufait stated that they say there is nothing to preserve, but there's a great view – a great place for open space where everyone can enjoy it, rather than just the few that have their houses located there.

Ms. Jones presented the latest calculations. She doesn't know if the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Council can guide the town, but she thinks the Board of Selectmen should authorize the Planning Board to obtain outside help. In the regulations, some things can't be counted and in some instances she thinks they are being counted.

Mr. Oppeneer stated that irrespective of his personal feelings, the Board of Selectmen doesn't get involved in this type of thing. The Planning Board and Zoning Board are independent boards. Ms. Jones understands this, but what the Board of Selectmen can do is authorize the expenditure of funds.

Mrs. Beaufait stated that they don't want to sway the Selectmen's opinions, but want their concerns considered now rather than later.

Discussion followed regarding the road standards being followed by the Planning Board. The Planning Board approved road specifications according to federal standards rather than their own standards.

Mrs. Beaufait noted that there is nothing in the impact statement about environment or safety. The talked about per pupil costs and police requirements but they haven't talked about whether school buses and emergency vehicles can get up these grades.

Mrs. Beaufait also voiced concerns over lot sizes, wetlands and setbacks, as well as the potential for increased run-off down the hill. Mrs. Beaufait got involved not to go against this development but she's concerned about Enfield being looked at for future developments. If we don't follow our regulations now, how can we require it of others in the future?

Mr. Crate stated that there should be sidewalks and if the Planning Board has regulations they should be following them. Roads should be built to town specifications or not built at all.

There is some confusion as to whether decisions made now by the Planning Board are cast in stone or if these decisions can be changed before the Phase III hearing.

Ken Daniels explained that companies could be hired as consultants. The town would require the developer to open an escrow account with the town and submit the plans. The consultants would then go over the plans and the town's regulations and come up with a bulleted letter. The plans would be reviewed with a fine-tooth comb and the only way around it would be by a special exception. Jim Taylor, Planning Zoning Administrator, had Dufresne-Henry do a review of Bill Warren's proposal and Anne's Place.

Jim Taylor will be invited to the next Selectmen's meeting.

#### **New Full-Time Police Officer:**

Interim Chief of Police, Richard Crate, Jr., introduced Roy Holland to the Board of Selectmen. Roy Holland is a new full-time officer replacing James Pushee. Officer Holland has a background in the Marine Corps. and experience working in a prison psychiatric unit. Officer Holland has been working in Enfield on a part-time basis since July.

#### **Drug Bust:**

Interim Chief Crate reported on a major drug bust. The Enfield officers did a fantastic job under adverse conditions. The department worked on this bust with the Sheriff's Department.

#### **Petition for Sidewalk on Baltic Street:**

The Selectmen received a petition for a sidewalk on Baltic Street. The Public Works Director provided a ballpark estimate of \$26,716 for construction, not including engineering, easements, etc.

Mr. Oppeneer stated that this could be a warrant article at the next town meeting. Mr. Crate would support it.

Mr. Daniels was asked to approach the landowners to determine if they would be willing to grant the town the necessary easements.

**Requests for Water/Sewer Service:**

Requests for water and/or sewer service were received for the following properties: Map 14, Lot 53; Map 10A, Lots 21, 44 and 53. Mr. Oppeneer moved to approve the service requests are presented; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

**Request to Trap on Town Land:**

The Board received and reviewed a request for a permit to trap on town-owned land, specifically land located behind the Whitney Hall parking lot. This permit was approved by a majority of the Board, though Mrs. Reed was opposed if the trapped animals are going to be killed.

**Correspondence from Upton & Hatfield LLP:**

The Board received correspondence from Bart Mayer regarding Granite State Electric v. Town of Enfield. The Board of Selectmen unanimously authorized Bart Mayer to acquire the assistance of Mr. Upton and an independent expert.

**Other Business:**

Mrs. Reed moved to approve an elderly exemption for Nelson Fox; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

Mr. Crate read page 3 of the latest Conservation Commission minutes where Mrs. Smith asked about septic systems. Mr. Crate asked what the Conservation Commission has to do with septic systems? That's under the jurisdiction of the Health Officer and NH Dept. of Environmental Services (DES), not the Conservation Commission. They're overstepping their boundaries. Septic systems are designed by licensed designers, installed by licensed installers and DES approved. And the Building Inspector needs the approval number before a Certificate of Occupancy can be issued.

**CITIZENS FORUM**

No citizens wished to speak.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Veterans Memorial Park:**

Peter Giese requested a driveway permit for this site from the State but was denied due to safety issues.

**Huse Park Trees:**

The Town may be able to get up to \$2500 in funding from Granite State Electric for replacement trees in Huse Park. A hearing date for discussion of the health and possible removal of trees in Huse Park has been set for October 17. Northam Parr, Grafton County Extension Forester, will be invited to attend. Mr. Parr will also be asked to mark the trees that he recommends be removed.

Paul Putnam has spoken with Peter Edson. The locust trees are extremely dangerous; they're hollow. The town would be looking at \$200-\$300 trees to replace the existing ones.

**Enfield Tour for the New Town Manager:**

Mr. Giese is arranging a tour of the town for April Whittaker during her first week with the town, as well as a meeting at the Shaker Inn.

**Selectmen's Concerns:**

Mr. Giese submitted a memo in response to the concerns voiced by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting of 9 September 2002.

**Other:**

Mr. Giese reported on various issues: Main Street will be paved by 1 October, the black cruiser was dented during the drug bust operations and Lt. Scott Thompson is in Fairfield VA at a training class.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Oppeneer moved to adjourn at 7:48 pm.; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.