

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

MINUTES of October 7, 2002

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

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

Others: Paul Putnam; Ken Daniels, Director of Public Works; Alan Strickland; Tim Taylor, Planning Board Chairman

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Oppeneer moved to accept the non-public session minutes of 19 August 2002 as prepared; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

BUSINESS

Trail Proposal:

Alan Strickland proposed a ½ mile trail on 10-acre parcel of town-owned land located on Shaker Hill Road (Tax Map 25, Lot 37). On the proposed trail, one experiences wetlands, climax forests, old growth trees, steep slopes, ravines, well defined ridges, intersecting habitat types and Suki's Marsh. The proposed sign would read,

TOWN OF ENFIELD
WETLAND CONSERVATION AREA
SUKI'S MARSH TRAIL

It will be necessary to construct 3 bridges, each less than 10 feet in length and approximately 3 feet in width.

This project will require no funds from the town or the Conservation Commission. Volunteers will do all labor. Ken Daniels of the Highway Department has agreed to deliver two telephone poles for bridge construction to the trailhead at the edge of Shaker Hill Road.

The long-range plan is to build a platform trail out in the marsh itself for better wildlife and plant observation. Grant money could be sought for this project.

Parking for three vehicles exists on the east shoulder of Shaker Hill Rd.

It was recommended that Mr. Strickland contact the NH Wetlands Bureau to determine if a permit is required for the bridge installation.

Mr. Strickland asked about the name and signage for the trail. He explained that Suki Grover lived on the neighboring property and died of breast cancer.

Mr. Oppeneer moved to approved the proposed trail on Map 25, Lot 37 for use as a wetlands/conservation/marsh trail pending determination on the bridges; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

Forest Fire Warden Appointments:

The Board reviewed and recommended reappointments of the Forest Fire Warden and Deputy Forest Fire Wardens as presented.

Ironman Development:

The Board received correspondence from Alv Elvestad regarding his concerns about the Ironman Development, particularly the size of the development, the grade and curve of the roads, and lack of sidewalk.

The Board reviewed the plans for the proposed subdivision.

Tim Taylor explained that the Planning Board regulations specify no more than an 8% grade. National guidelines say up to 16% to 18%. The Planning Board approved a 10% grade for Hillcrest Drive. Mr. Taylor further explained the grade area and slope of the road to the Board of Selectmen. It was noted that the steepest parts of Methodist Hill reach about 18% grade.

Discussion followed regarding hazardous road conditions during the winter months and safety of residents, particularly children.

Mr. Oppeneer moved to send a letter to the Planning Board expressing the Selectmen's strong concerns about the project including the following points: 1) The developer's calculation of allowable lots has made no provisions for roads as part of the non-buildable area. 2) Recognizing that the Planning Board approved waivers for Hillcrest Drive the Selectmen are concerned about the combination of steep slopes and the relatively sharp curve. This is particularly true in regard to safety during winter driving conditions and no sidewalks for pedestrians. 3) Pedestrian safety is an issue especially for school children that live within one mile of the school and will walk to school rather than riding the bus. 4) There is no accessible recreation area or play space for children in a centrally located area. Mr. Crate added that the Zoning Ordinance should be followed as closely as possible. The granting of exceptions for this project could set a precedent for future developments in town. Mr. Crate seconded Mr. Oppeneer's motion, vote unanimous.

Discussion followed regarding a pumping station. Mr. Daniels explained that this would be a booster station constructed by the developer, then turned over to the town. The booster station contains one pump that supplies household pressure. A second pump kicks in when the Fire Department opens a hydrant. The Town can hold a performance bond to be sure the system works properly. Mr. Crate feels the bond should be held for one to two years so the town can be sure the bugs are worked out. Mr. Daniels responded that the development would have to be built to full capacity before the town can be sure the system operates properly. Mr. Daniels

suggested the use of the phrase “upon final acceptance” and to hold the bond for one year after this final acceptance.

Mr. Taylor stated that some agreements refer to holding the bond for one year after the last lot is sold. This can result in a fictitious company purchasing the last lots prematurely so the clock on the bond starts ticking.

The safety of Maple Street with the increased traffic from the development was discussed. If the increased traffic is causing a safety issue there could be an avenue to put State highway block grant money to use, with the developer putting in the match.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to amend his previous motion to include point 5) A study should be conducted regarding the possible reconstruction of Maple Street if, due to increased traffic volume, Maple Street must be brought up to minor or major feeder road standards. The funding for this reconstruction is to include the use of State Highway Block Grant funds, with the developer contributing the matching funds, which constitute approximately ½ of the total costs; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

CITIZENS FORUM

None

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

Town Manager:

Mr. Oppenneer stated that the Board has to develop a job description and goals for April Whittaker to accomplish by April 2003. Standards of performance are also needed.

Stump Dump:

Mr. Crate asked if the Stump Dump was closed. Mr. Daniels replied that the Stump Dump was closed for the season when burn permits were not longer being issued and the Stump Dump reached capacity. Mr. Crate informed Mr. Daniels that the moratorium on burning has been lifted. Attempts will be made to burn, weather permitting.

Baltic Street Sidewalk Petition:

The Board reviewed a memo from Ken Daniels regarding the petition for a sidewalk on Baltic Street. Mr. Daniels spoke to the person that initiated the petition and stated they only wanted a temporary sidewalk along the street during the construction of the downtown bridges. Mr. Daniels informed the Board of another solution.

The courts have ruled in favor of the NHDOT for the improvements on the Canaan end of Baltic Street. Mr. Daniels proposed the following scenario to the NHDOT at the beginning of the project when the problems with the detoured traffic started. Upon completion of the improvements to the east end of Baltic Street the Town would make the West end of Baltic Street one-way from Janet’s Roadside Café to the Pillsbury Street intersection. This would ease

the congestion in this area that is causing the residents to be concerned for the need for the sidewalk.

The impacts associated with this would be the cost for the proper signage to make the section as on-way traffic only rather than building a permanent sidewalk and the hidden costs associated with such a project.

The Selectmen agreed to leave Baltic Street as is for now.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Invitation to meet the new Enfield Town Manager, Thursday, October 17 at 7:00pm at the Shaker Inn.

Mrs. Reed informed the Board that she had to inform the state of the time and location of the next election. It will be held at Whitney Hall from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Due to scheduling conflicts, the Selectmen's public hearing regarding the health and possible removal of trees at Huse Park has been postponed until October 24th at 7:00 p.m. at Whitney Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Oppenneer moved to adjourn at 6:56 p.m.; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.