

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

MINUTES of January 22, 2001

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

Administrative Staff: Mitch Manseau, Assistant Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Secretary; Ken Daniels, Director of Public Works

Others: Dave McIntire

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Oppenneer moved to accept the public hearing minutes of 9 January 2001 as presented, Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to accept the regular session minutes of 9 January 2001 as presented, Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING

Acceptance of donation to Conservation Commission:

Mrs. Reed called the hearing to order at 5:35pm.

Mr. Oppenneer mentioned how pleased he is that Pauline and Winslow Duke are so happy with the trails and work done by the Conservation Commission that they've donated \$100 to the Conservation Commission.

Mrs. Reed invited comments from the public. No comments were forthcoming.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to close the hearing at 5:36 pm., Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

Mrs. Reed moved to accept the \$100 donation from Pauline and Winslow Duke, Mr. Oppenneer seconded, vote unanimous.

The donation will be deposited by the Treasurer into the Conservation Fund.

BUSINESS**Enfield Village Association Proposal to Extend Main Street Bridge Project:**

Dave McIntire requested written approval to extend the Main Street Improvement Project from the Copeland Block down to the entrance of George's market. As part of Mr. McIntire's review of the project, and speaking to Ken Daniels, it was worked out that the town could easily maintain stamped concrete in a basket weave design. Mr. McIntire also spoke to Mr. Daniels about the curbing and parking lot that are proposed and whether the curbing would be a hindrance to snowplowing. Mr. Daniels did not think it would be a problem. The State is willing to include the extended project as part of the 80/20 funding split. Mr. Daniels has mentioned that all of the water lines are under the street and not under the sidewalk and no sewer goes beyond the Laundromat.

Street lighting on each corner of two bridges and six locations down the street is recommended. Mr. McIntire looked at preliminary pricing of light posts; \$1400 each for short cast iron posts on two bridge, and \$1000 each for 8' aluminum posts along the street. Mr. Daniels recommends cast iron for all the posts, so the cost along the street will be somewhat higher, maybe \$2000 each. The cost of installation is estimated at \$3000 to \$4000. Mr. McIntire will come back with firm prices when he has them.

Mr. Crate moved to approve the extension of the project from the Copeland Block to the entrance to George's market, Mr. Oppenneer seconded, vote unanimous.

Mr. McIntire informed the Board that the Enfield Village Association (EVA) is looking at underground utilities. Underground utilities don't seem to be a problem for the electric company, but that is not the case with the telephone company money-wise. EVA has not approached Adelphia, the cable television provider.

EVA is looking for support of an application to the NH Main Street Project; one element that is important is a resolution from the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to adopt the resolution as presented in support of the Enfield Village Association's application to the NH Main Street Project; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

Authorization to Bill for Services:

The Town repaired a water leak that was located within the area that is the water customer's responsibility to maintain and repair. The total cost to repair the leak was \$296.90 authorization to bill the water customer for these charges was requested. Mr. Oppenneer moved to authorize the billing of \$296.90 for the water leak repair, Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

2001 Warrant:

The following changes to the warrant were recommended, based on Budget Committee decisions: Delete Article 9 for the front-end loader and include the amount in the operating budget; delete the last line of Article 12 that refers to inclusion of money in the operating budget for this purpose; amend Article 13 to match the payments to capital reserve as approved by the Budget Committee; and delete Article 14 as the funds to be raised in this article will now be included in Article 12.

The Budget Committee does not support Article 15. The Selectmen agreed to delete Article 15, to establish a capital reserve fund for improvements to the Shaker Scenic Byway, until there is a more concrete plan in place for these improvements.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to accept the Budget Committee's recommended changes to the Warrant as discussed.

Mr. Crate understood the Budget Committee approved an increase in funding for police salaries and wanted assurance that this funding was included in the budget. Mr. Manseau explained that the proposed increase appears in the Police Department Personnel line and adjustments were made to the corresponding personnel administration lines. Mr. Oppenneer noted two advertisements for full-time police officers. Grafton is advertising a salary range of \$23,900 to \$29,500 and Lebanon is advertising a salary range of \$29,536 to \$38,708. While Enfield can't compete with Lebanon, we should be somewhat competitive.

Mr. Crate seconded Mr. Oppenneer's motion to accept the Budget Committee's recommended changes to the Warrant as discussed, vote unanimous.

The default budget was recalculated by the Assistant Town Manager to \$2,986,966 based on the previous year's operating budget with adjustments for debt service. The Board discussed the default budget. Mr. Oppenneer is concerned that if the default budget is voted in that the Town will not have a workable budget and serious cuts will need to be made. Mr. Manseau stated that the voters need to be aware that the default budget is not a realistic alternative.

Mr. Crate has doubts that the Public Works facility will be passed this year. Holly Sanders, at the public hearing, stated that the old highway and water buildings would be razed and the lots re-zoned and sold as residential. Mr. Crate feels the Town would realize more money for these properties if they were retained as commercial properties. Mr. Daniels noted that right now the properties are commercial, but they are a non-conforming use and for a different business it would be a change of use.

A resident asked Mrs. Reed if the Selectmen could do anything about getting rid of SB 2 this year. The Board was informed that it is not too late for the Selectmen to add an article to the warrant. Mr. Oppenneer stated that with the old town meeting you had 300 people that knew the pros and cons of the issues, now more people are voting, but they aren't as educated about the issues. Mrs. Reed moved to put an article on the warrant to rescind SB 2; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

2000 Encumbrances:

The Board discussed encumbrances that the Selectmen voted for previously: Whitney Hall window replacement, Whitney Hall insulation, and signage. The Town does not have a contract with a vendor to do the work at Whitney Hall so the money should not have been encumbered. There is a verbal agreement with a vendor for the signage. Mrs. Reed moved to un-encumber the funds for the Whitney Hall window replacement and insulation; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

Dog Ordinance:

The Selectmen were presented with a copy of the dog ordinance from the City of Lebanon. An ordinance will be drafted for Enfield based on section 18-12 of Lebanon's ordinance, "Removal of dog defecation from public and private properties."

Other Business:

The Board reviewed and approved property tax abatements for the 2000 tax year.

Mr. Crate understands the town switched vendors for heating fuel and wondered what the difference in diesel fuel costs were between Evans and Johnson & Dix. Mr. Daniels replied that the town is paying about \$1.06 for diesel. Mr. Crate feels that Doug Evans, a taxpayer in Enfield, should have received the town's business even if his price was higher. Mr. Daniels explained that the town entered into contacts with Lebanon, Hanover and Hartford for paving and drain pipe and saved money by cooperating with these other towns.

A problem arose when doing the joint fuel bid because the schools pulled out in the middle of the process. Evans also didn't have the facilities to serve all of the towns. The process was a learning experience and in the future they will probably make vendors bid on the profit margin.

Mr. Crate moved to accept veterans' exemptions as recommended, Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

CITIZENS FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**Trench Box:**

The Town received an offer of \$1,500 for the town's trench box from Ken Hill. Should the town need to use the trench box it would be available to rent for \$50/day. Mr. Daniels explained that if the trench can be opened up wide enough the trench box is not needed. The cost of a similar trench box in today's market would be about \$4,500.

Mr. Crate wants to know how old the trench box is and how much the town paid for it. Mr. Crate is concerned about the safety of the town's employees.

Change in Manager's Hours:

Mr. Manseau alerted the Board to a change in hours. He will now come into the office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8-4 instead of 9-5. This will allow him to have dinner with his family.

Legislative Bulletin:

The NH Municipal Association on a weekly basis publishes a legislative bulletin while the State legislature is in session. The bulletins provide a status report on bills that are pending. Mr. Oppenheimer asked if the ATM could keep the Selectmen informed of important bills. Mr.

Manseau replied that NHMA would alert the town to bills that require some action by the town. The Selectmen will continue to get a copy of each bulletin that the town receives.

Budget Summary:

Mr. Oppeneer stated that the school used to be very particular about transfers of funds. Mr. Oppeneer would like to receive a quarterly briefing of budget expenditures.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Oppeneer moved to adjourn at 7:00 pm., Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.