MINUTES of February 12, 2001

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

Administrative Staff: Don Jutton, Town Manager/President, Municipal Resources, Inc.; Alisa D. Bonnette, Secretary

Others: Holly Sanders, Budget Committee Chair; Dominic Albanese, Budget Committee Vice Chair; Nancy Scovner; Ken Daniels, Director of Public Works; Peter Giese, Chief of Police

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Oppenneer moved to approve the minutes of 22 January 2001 as presented; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

BUSINESS

Municipal Resources, Inc. Review:

Don Jutton, President of MRI attended this meeting for MRI's annual review. When Mr. Jutton was last in Enfield, Patrick MacQueen had just left Enfield. Mitch Manseau was placed with the town and his progress was to be reviewed and monitored. Communities each have their own personalities and sometimes the chemistry is wrong. One of the benefits of using MRI for town manager services is the ability to shift people in and out as needed.

Mitch Manseau appears to be a less than ideal fit for the Town of Enfield. Mr. Albanese and Ms. Sanders reported difficulties encountered by the Budget Committee. Ms. Sanders finds MRI valuable in the way things are structured and doesn't want to see the relationship with MRI change, she just wants some adjustments. Chief Giese feels it's time for a change.

Mr. Jutton suggested that is it a good time to do a number of things. The person the town changes to should have more exposure to the community beforehand. After 90 days the department heads, Board of Selectmen and managers should get together to discuss what we're doing.

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Some discussion of the budget procedure followed. Mr. Albanese suggested a ¹/₂-day budget meeting so the Budget Committee, Board of Selectmen, managers and department heads can look at the budget together.

There was a brief discussion about the Community Center and the fact that some Lions Club members are discouraged by delays. Ken Daniels feels he has this situation under control and will do what needs to be done to get a site plan prepared for the Lions Club.

Sanitary Sewer Overflow Regulations:

Mr. Daniels reported news that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will require permits for combined sewer overflows. Fortunately, Enfield has no sewer overflow system. However, now the EPA wants forty-eight hundred satellite systems to be permitted. Enfield will be affected as one of Lebanon's. The permit could cost about \$6,000. We can expect that capital improvements will be needed. Mr. Jutton recommended calling Senator Smith's office; Jeff Rose is his staff person in NH. Mr. Daniels will keep the Selectmen posted as things progress.

Revised Default Budget:

The Board considered a revised default budget that has been reviewed and approved by town attorney as in compliance with and meeting the spirit of state law. Mr. Oppenneer would like to know how the town managers would apply the shortfall if the operating budget does not pass and the default budget is used. Mrs. Reed is concerned about the tax rate. Mr. Oppenneer is also concerned about the tax rate. Discussion followed regarding the cost of putting projects off, such as road repairs that cost more when there is a greater degree of deterioration.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to adopt the revised calculation for the default budget per the memo dated 5 February 2001, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

Community Center Groundbreaking:

The Board of Selectmen agreed to a groundbreaking ceremony on Saturday, March 31.

Warrant Articles Explanation:

The Board of Selectmen concurred with the warrant article explanations as proposed by Stephen Griffin. One minor correction will be made where the date of the election should be the second Tuesday of March.

Dow Service Request:

Richard Dow has expressed interest in placing a double wide in the field behind the duck pond on his property that lies between U.S. Route 4 and Baltic Street. Mr. Dow submitted a service request to the Water & Sewer Departments for the parcel that lies below Ken Wheeler's field. Per the town's ordinance, Mr. Daniels must provide the connection because there is adequate flow capacity. Construction would have to wait for suitable conditions. Of concern to Mr. Daniels is a sewer line that bi-sects that lot. The Board received a memo from Mr. Daniels recommending that the Board allow the connection upon meeting a set of conditions.

The Selectmen were informed of a notice from the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) that requires Mr. Dow to obtain a soil scientist to determine the extent of wetlands that may have been affected by fill that Mr. Dow placed on the property along the Mascoma River; opposite the lot for which Mr. Dow wants a water and sewer connection.

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Concerning the lot for which the request is made, Mr. Crate mentioned that there is a spring in the area that was filled in because the water was contaminated by sewage from a failed septic system located uphill from the spring. The bank is very wet. Mr. Crate would be concerned about drainage and the street.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to approve the Department of Public Works memo re: Mr. Dow's service request; there was no second.

Mr. Crate moved to table Mr. Dow's service request until conditions make a careful inspection of the property possible, sometime after the snow is gone; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

Other Business:

The Board signed a letter of commendation to the Fire and Highway Departments for a job well done fighting a structure fire.

The Board signed letters of commendation to each Highway Department employee for the extra work they put in during the last large snowstorm.

The Board reviewed and approved property tax refunds.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to approve a blind exemption as recommended, Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

CITIZENS FORUM

No citizens were present at this time.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Trench Box:

According to Tim Jennings the Highway Department's trench box was probably purchased in 1989 or 1990 at a cost of \$5,000 to \$6,000. The Board discussed the pros and cons of owning versus renting a trench box. Mr. Daniels would prefer a trench box that was not a build-a-box type. Mr. Crate asked Mr. Daniels to get a price for the trench box he would prefer, instructing him to get the weight on the box to be sure the town's equipment can lift it. This issue was tabled pending further information.

Canine Ordinance:

The Board scheduled a public hearing for March 5th at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Adelphia:

The Board approved correspondence to Adelphia and the return of a check for a portion of franchise fees. The letter to Adelphia informs them that the Town of Enfield specifically opposed franchise fees because the Selectmen were told the cost would be passed on to the cable customers. Adelphia was asked to reduce the rates to Enfield cable customers accordingly.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/CORRESPONDENCE

Water Department Sanitary Survey – no action required.

Adelphia letter of 1/29/01 re: new channels and rates

NH Municipal Association 2001 Regional Dinners: The Selectmen will attend the dinner on April 12, 2001 at the Hanover Inn.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Oppenneer moved to adjourn at 7:05 pm.; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.