

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

MINUTES of October 20, 2014

Board of Selectmen: Fred Cummings, Chairman; Donald J. Crate, Sr.; John W. Kluge

Administrative Staff: Steven Schneider, Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Executive Assistant; Jim Taylor, Director of Public Works; Richard A. Crate, Jr., Chief of Police

Others: Dan Kiley, Kurt Gotthardt, James Bonner, David Beaufait - Moderator

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Cummings called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kluge moved to accept the regular and non-public session minutes of October 6, 2014 as printed, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

NRRA Annual Meeting & Luncheon – November 19, 2014:

It was questioned if Andy MacDonald attended the annual meeting of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association. Mr. Taylor informed the Board that he does when he can.

IV. BOARD REPORTS

None.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Employee Health Insurance RFP:

A Request for Proposals for Employee Health Insurance has been sent out to a half dozen providers. Proposals are due November 14th.

Capital Reserve Fund Expenditure:

The Trustees of Trust Funds require a motion to expend \$15,000 from the CIP Capital Reserve Fund for the Transfer Station shed in order for them to release the funds for this project.

Mr. Crate moved to withdraw \$15,000 from the CIP Capital Reserve Fund for the Transfer Station Shed, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mr. Kluge asked about the progress of the project. He was informed by Mr. Schneider that the pad is done. Lloyd Hackeman is starting on construction next week.

Someone in town wanted to be sure we weren't adding to the impervious surface and that the shed will be movable. The shed is being located on the site of the previous glass crushing operations at the location of an existing pad. We don't have to get a wetlands permit. The shed will also be movable.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kurt Gotthardt – Shedd Street Property:

Mr. Gotthardt asked for the Selectmen's thoughts on what will happen with the Shedd Street property now that there's a salt/sand shed at the Public Works Facility.

Mr. Cummings responded that the Town will probably hold onto it. It's a potential site for a future safety building.

Mr. Gotthardt agreed the Town should hold onto this property since there's no replacement.

The Shedd St. property is approximately 2.5 acres in size.

Kurt Gotthardt – Outing Club Status:

Mr. Gotthardt asked about the status of the Outing Club.

Mr. Schneider explained that would be part of the non-public discussion. The Outing Club has appealed the ZBA decision to the courts. The Town has filed a motion to dismiss. There is nothing from the court. This is still being litigated.

VII. BUSINESS

Election:

There has been concern voiced on the Enfield Listserv about the placement of political signs in the State rights-of-way and on Town property.

Mr. Schneider's interpretation of the law is that as long as the sign doesn't impede traffic and is in the State right-of-way it's OK.

Dr. Beaufait clarified it's OK if the property owner says it's OK.

Mr. Schneider reported that we don't usually get them at Town buildings until the day of election. On Election Day the Whitney Hall property is Dr. Beaufait's purview.

If does not appear to the Selectmen that there are more signs than normal.

Mr. Cummings asked if the Police Department can legally remove signs if they are not where they belong.

Dr. Beaufait stated that if the signs are in the State right-of-way and don't obstruct traffic or view the last criteria to be met it that the abutter who owns the property applying to that specific section of roadway must permit it.

Town properties require the Town's permission, this includes property that the Town owns along a State right-of-way. There were signs in front of the Transfer Station but they are no longer there.

Chief Crate stated that the Enfield Police Department has not removed any signs.

Dr. Beaufait informed the Board that about 5 years ago on person put a sign in the right-of-way on Town property. Dr. Beaufait chose not to remove it at that point. If a sign is clearly in the right of way on Town property it could not easily be removed. Personally, Dr. Beaufait would follow a strict interpretation of the law. There's an argument for not having an implied or actual endorsement of a candidate or issue by a government or municipality. He believes it's enforceable. We can check with the NH Dept. of Transportation or Office of the Attorney General to make sure our interpretation is correct.

Chief Crate asked the Selectmen to keep in mind that this is not a good use of the Enfield Police Department's resources. He looks at free speech and another argument. Often people don't know where signs are and if they need permission.

Mr. Cummings asked what happens if candidates don't remove signs.

Mr. Schneider explained that there's a time frame in which signs need to be removed. He believes it is within 10 days after the election.

The Board considered the Town's position on political signs. The Selectmen were unanimous that they would not grant permission for the placement of political signs on Town property, as distinct from Town rights-of-way. This includes all municipal facilities, including, but not limited to, Whitney Hall, Police Station, Community Building, Transfer Station, Fire Stations, and Ambulance Building.

Mr. Schneider mentioned that during the primary the Attorney General's Office stopped in at elections. They reminded the towns they visited that a majority of the Selectmen should be at the election. Among area managers there's confusion about what the requirements are.

Dr. Beaufait said there's similar confusion among moderators. By appointing individuals to act as Selectmen's representatives for elections the individuals are effectively being appointed as Selectman Pro Tem.

Dr. Beaufait has spoken with Bill Coons of Shaker Bridge Theatre about the Town's needs for the space for elections.

Public Works Open House and Town Silent Auction:

The Public Works Department will hold an Open House on Saturday, November 8, 2014 from 9 AM – Noon. Events will include facility tours a surplus equipment auction and refreshments.

The Town has an assortment of items which may include old printers, laser printer toner cartridges from printers that failed, old monitors, office supplies that are no longer used, etc. Plans are to have

a silent auction at the same time as the Public Works Department holds their Open House. A great deal of money is not expected, but it gives the Town an opportunity to get rid of surplus items.

Water/Sewer Rates:

The new rate structure is still being worked on.

Main Street Rail Trail Crossing:

The Board was reminded that the new NH DOT engineer, Victoria H. Chase, PE, will be at the November 3rd Selectboard meeting. Discussion of the options for the Main Street Rail Trail Crossing will be discussed. The Heritage Commission will be invited to attend. Due to the expectation of a larger audience than usual, this meeting will be held at the Public Works Facility.

Dr. Beaufait asked if this meeting would discuss the charrette. He was informed that the charrette regarding the property abutting the Rail Trail will probably take place in January.

Town-wide Revaluation:

The last of the information hearings are scheduled for this week. At the next meeting we should have a final value.

The Board was also informed that the MS-1, Statement of Valuation, should be completed by next week. Board members will be contacted when it's ready for their signature.

Real Estate:

The Town has received an offer on one of the parcels listed for sale with Moose Mountain Realty. This will be discussed in non-public session.

Dog Park:

The Dog Park Supporters will be at the Planning Board meeting this Wednesday at 7:00 PM.

Enfield Community Building Acoustics:

The Town has three contractors who will get into the building this week and present proposals for the project.

Administrative Items:

Jim Taylor is up for reappointment as the Enfield representative on the Advance Transit Board of Directors.

Mr. Crate moved to appoint Jim Taylor to the Advance Transit Board of Directors as Enfield's representative for a term to expire June 30, 2017, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Board was informed that Suzanne Laliberte passed away recently. There is a Planning Board position to be filled, as well as a CIP Committee Planning Board representative position. Dan Kiley sits on the CIP Committee and can act as the Planning Board representative if so appointed by the Planning Board. Holly West is an alternate on the CIP Committee and can slip into the regular position.

Mr. Schneider mentioned the need to advertise for Planning Board members.

The Board was presented with a Nominee Form for reappointment of Kurt Gotthardt as Enfield representative to the Local River Management Advisory Committee for the Mascoma River. Mr. Kluge moved to re-nominate Kurt Gotthardt as Enfield representative, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Board was provided with a copy of the previously approved, amended Sewer Ordinance, for signature.

VIII. OTHER ITEMS

Union Street Fire Station Furnace:

Mr. Cummings spoke to the Fire Chief about the furnace at the Union Street Station. They were going to change to a propane burner on the existing furnace, but that's not as easy to do as hoped, so they're looking at a new propane furnace. The old oil burning furnace can be moved to Shedd Street.

Mr. Taylor said this is a big enough job that the Fire Department should get 2 or 3 quotes for the job. He doesn't know if there's funding available in 2014.

Mr. Cummings told the Fire Chief they would have to check at the end of the year to see if there's any surplus that could be used.

Mr. Taylor pointed out that the cost to heat Shedd Street is a fortune.

Mr. Cummings replied they would only heat to about 55 degrees. In response to Mr. Kluge's inquiry, he explained the Fire Department stores equipment and Forestries there. With this plan the Fire Station would get a more efficient furnace and Shedd St. would get an upgrade.

Hydrant Markers:

Mr. Crate asked if the Water Department was going to put markers on hydrants for the winter. He was informed by Mr. Taylor that they would and that it is usually done in November.

Whitney Hall Flag Pole Status:

Mr. Crate asked about the status of the flag pole at Whitney Hall. He was informed the work was done. Fox Tree service helped out. Mr. Taylor recommended a letter of thanks to recognize their assistance.

Enfield Public Library - Librarian:

A reception will be held at the Great Stone Dwelling at the Shaker Museum from 4:00 – 6:30 PM to celebrate the retirement of Marjorie Carr.

The Trustees made an employment offer to Melissa Hutson who has accepted the position as the new Librarian. She will begin work on Monday, October 27, 2014. She has been a resident of Enfield for a few years.

Dr. Beaufait added that she was Librarian at the State hospital and at DHMC and has computer skills.

Next Meeting:

Monday, November 3, 2014 at 6:00 PM at the Public Works Facility, 74 Lockehaven Road.

CONFERENCE

I. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Kluge moved to enter non-public session at 6:35 PM, RSA 91-A:3 II (d) and (e), Mr. Crate seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Kluge – aye, Mr. Crate – aye, Mr. Cummings – aye, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mr. Kluge moved to come out of non-public session at 6:45 PM, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kluge moved to adjourn at 6:47 PM, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion, meeting adjourned.

B. Fred Cummings, Chairman

Donald J. Crate, Sr.

John W. Kluge
Enfield Board of Selectmen