

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

JANUARY 7, 2002

7:30 P.M. – MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING – HANOVER, NH

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Chairman, Brian Walsh.

Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Katherine S. Connolly, Vice Chairman; Marilyn Black; William Baschnagel; Jay Pierson; Julia Griffin, Town Manager; and members of the public.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT.** None
2. **DISCUSSION REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF VALUATION UPDATE.**

Mr. Walsh said we are nearing the end of the three-year period of data collection required to update property valuations in Town. Mike Ryan, the Town Assessor indicated that Town staff had been preparing for implementation of the reevaluation for the tax year of 2002. He indicated, however, that with the State's recent assessing practice modifications, the Town is on the reevaluation certification list for 2003. He said the problem is if we do the reevaluation in 2002 and the state comes in and certifies us for 2003, we could find ourselves with a level of assessment which is not in compliance with the new certification regulations. He said there is a chance that the reevaluation would have to be redone in 2003. He reviewed with the Board how the Town currently stands with its assessments, and discussion ensued regarding current home prices as compared with values.

Ms. Black asked how much more staff time would be required if the update was implemented in 2002 and then required redoing in 2003. Mr. Ryan said that relatively little time would be required to update values again in 2003, and if they update was simply delayed until 2003, staff would simply be sitting on the files for another year.

MS. BLACK MADE THE MOTION THAT THE TOWN DELAY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW ASSESSMENTS UNTIL 2003. MR. BASCHNAGEL SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO DELAY NOTIFYING TAXPAYERS OF THE NEW ASSESSMENTS UNTIL 2003.

3. **DISCUSSION WITH CONSERVATION COMMISSION REGARDING PURCHASE OF FULLER PROPERTY ON MOOSE MOUNTAIN.**

Vicki Smith distributed maps regarding the Fuller property to the Board. She indicated that the Conservation Commission has been prospecting for projects. The Fuller property consists of 34 acres on Moose Mountain Road. She said it is strategically located between the Dana property and the UNH property the Town is currently negotiating to purchase.

She said it is predominantly hardwood. She said they have a signed Purchase and Sale Agreement with the landowners on this property. She said they plan to hold a Public Hearing on the proposed purchase and plan to use \$25,000 from the Town's Conservation Fund on this project.

4. DISCUSSION REGARDING TOWN EMERGENCY PLANNING.

Ms. Griffin said the format for the Town Emergency Plan is prescribed by the State outline. She said it is now time to review and possibly update our plan. She said we are fortunate to have professional Police and Fire Departments. She said that, in an emergency, the Town Manager or Administrator becomes the Emergency Management Director and requires little action from the Board. She said it has been interesting to follow what is happening around the state regarding this issue after the September 11 event.

Roger Bradley, Fire Chief said in 1995 the Town added an Annex to the Hanover Emergency Plan, which included input from the City of Lebanon and the LEPC. He said the LEPC is now, as a result of September 11th, meeting monthly to be sure the Annex is kept up-to-date. Chief Bradley attends all LEPC meetings. The Annex focuses on hazardous materials response. Chief Bradley also briefly reviewed another recently released report, "Assessment of New Hampshire's Preparedness and Security", prepared by the recently established New Hampshire Commission on Preparedness and Security. He said this report reflects the need in New Hampshire for regionalized Hazardous Materials Response Teams.

Mr. Pierson asked how the staff is trained on this issue. Mr. Bradley said they take courses and curriculum on hazardous materials on a regular basis to be sure they are kept up-to-speed.

Mr. Baschnagel asked what vehicle would be used in the event of an accident. Ms. Griffin said a mutual aid vehicle would be utilized. Chief Giaccone said they have had a few situations which have required preparedness similar to that of a natural disaster. He said the Zantop murders required special set up for investigators. They ran multiple phone lines for these investigators as an aid. Also when there have been severe windstorms they have mobilized the highway department in conjunction with private industries to aid in clean up.

Mr. Baschnagel asked what role the Board should play in any such situation. Mr. Bradley said the key thing for the Board to do is be supportive of all the departments involved.

Mr. Walsh asked what the cost would be to fund a regional hazmat team. Ms. Griffin said close to \$500,000. Mr. Bradley said realistically between \$300-400,000 per year.

5. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PETITION AND POLE LICENSE – ROPE FERRY ROAD:

MS. BLACK MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE PETITION AND POLE LICENSE FOR ROPE FERRY ROAD. MR. PIERSON SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PETITION AND POLE LICENSE FOR ROPE FERRY ROAD.

6. APPOINTMENTS:

- Affordable Housing Commission – MS. BLACK MADE THE MOTION TO APPOINT KIM PEREZ TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION. MS. CONNOLLY SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT KIM PEREZ TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION.

Discussion ensued about a Selectboard member acting as liaison to the Affordable Housing Commission. Mr. Baschnagel said he feels it is important for the Board to be involved in this committee. Mr. Walsh said he believes the Board should wait several months to give the Commission time to begin implementing plans before they appoint a board member as liaison. The decision was made to invite the Commission to appear quarterly before the Board to provide updates.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin said the budget review is essentially complete. Next week will be spent finalizing the proposed budget. She said the challenge this year will be the health insurance rate increase of 27.1%. She also said this is the time of year where Barry Cox gets the union negotiations wrapped up as far as financials are concerned.

8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Ms. Black

Ms. Black said the Senior/Community Center Committee met today and they are looking at reducing the length of the building and adding a full second floor and full basement. They are waiting for numbers on that. Christmas tree recycling is this weekend.

Ms. Connolly

Ms. Connolly said she hasn't been to a Planning Board meeting for a while due to the holidays falling on Tuesdays. Now that the holidays are over they will be getting back into the swing of things.

Mr. Baschnagel

Mr. Baschnagel said he will not be at the meeting on the 28th as he will be on vacation. He reminded the audience that the shuttle is now free.

Mr. Pierson

Mr. Pierson had no report

Mr. Walsh

Mr. Walsh said the Recreation Department and the College did an excellent job on the Olympic Torch celebration.

9. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
- December 3, 2001 - postponed
 - December 17, 2001 - postponed

10. **OLD BUSINESS.** None

11. **ADJOURNMENT.**

MR. PIERSON MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MS. BLACK SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

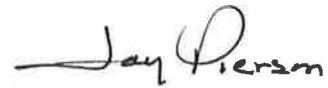
SUMMARY

1. **MS. BLACK MADE THE MOTION THAT THE TOWN DELAY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW ASSESSMENTS UNTIL 2003. MR. BASCHNAGEL SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO DELAY NOTIFYING TAXPAYERS OF THE NEW ASSESSMENT UNTIL 2003.**
2. **MS. BLACK MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE PETITION AND POLE LICENSE FOR ROPE FERRY ROAD. MR. PIERSON SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PETITION AND POLE LICENSE FOR ROPE FERRY ROAD.**
3. **MS. BLACK MADE THE MOTION TO APPOINT KIM PEREZ TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION. MS. CONNOLLY SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT KIM PEREZ TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION.**

4. **MR. PIERSON MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MS. BLACK SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jay Pierson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Jay Pierson, Secretary

These minutes were transcribed by Tina Moses.