

Official

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES Regular Meeting Wednesday, April 25, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman G. Longfellow called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRESENT: Michael DiBitetto, James Gorton, Jason Hyde, Mike Jolin, Paul Loiselle, David Ross (excused), Patricia Rueppel, Stuart Werksman, Chairman George Longfellow, David Jodoin (Town Administrator)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

April 11, 2007 – *M. Jolin moved to approve the April 11, 2007 minutes as amended. Motion seconded by P. Loiselle. Motion carried unanimously.*

March 14, 2007 – *P. Rueppel moved to amend the March 14, 2007 to include Mr. Mike Sorel's statements. Motion seconded by S. Werksman. Motion carried unanimously.*

PUBLIC INPUT:

Mary Farwell, Library Trustee Chair: We will continue discussions with 3A Development about the ultimate location of the Library sign. 3A Development removed the permanent sign last fall and placed a temporary sign at same location. They ended up not continuing with the construction. I've been in touch with the Town Counsel, Bart Mayer who drafted the sign relocation agreement. He will be contacting 3A Development to move the process along correctly.

Rick Lacourse, NH ATV Club: I understand there is an Four Wheel Drive vehicle Club that's proposing to use Chester Turnpike. I'm here to say that I oppose it. A couple years ago we applied for a \$20,000 grant to fix a trail washed out and destroyed from SUV's using it over the years. The grant is going in Friday from the our ATV club. Allowing SUV's in the area will do a lot of dredging. The ATV club has an agreement with the Town for the use of Chester Turnpike with the agreement that we will maintain and clean it. It has turned into a dumping ground for homeowners and developers who do not want to pay for disposal. Every year, the club cleans up the area. The Bureau of Trails has Chester Turnpike listed as a multi-use trail system, which include ATV's, snowmobile, mountain bikes, horseback riding, etc. SUV's are not included. Also, we are asking for an updated letter from the Town to the Bureau of Trails stating that NH ATV Club has permission from the Town and private landowners to use Chester Turnpike. The last letter was sent about 4 years ago.

M. DiBitetto moved to look up the letter and reissue the letter to Bureau of Trails. Motion seconded by S. Werksman. Motion carried unanimously.

Elaina Hebert, 19 Dundee Avenue: My husband and I have been residents of Hooksett all our lives. My concern tonight is about Sandy Piper, Joanne Drewniak and the two other employees who were fired. Sandy and Joanne have helped us with anything we've ever needed here. I don't understand why they got fired. Where are the attorney's fees being paid out of?

D. Jodoin: From the Town legal line.

E. Hebert: A few months ago, attorney's fees were paid for Town Councilors gossiping. Did they get fired? No, they didn't. Why did these employees get fired? That's all I want to know.

Sandy McKenney, Allenstown resident read a prepared statement. (Attached)

NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS:

Available Positions:

Building Board of Appeals, Fill-in Full Member, exp. 6/2009

Conservation Commission

M. DiBitetto moved to nominate Daniel Pike as fill-in alternate member, exp. 6/2008.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS:

Heritage Commission, Acceptance of Donations per RSA 674:44-b

Kathleen Northrup, Heritage Commission asked for the Council to accept donations in the amount of \$925, received from individuals and organizations in Town for the Head School Preservation project.

P. Loiselle moved to accept donations in the amount of \$975 for the Head School Preservation project per RSA 674:44-b. Motion seconded by S. Werksman. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Manchester Water Works Franchise Extension (Attached)

A public hearing was held at the last meeting.

P. Loiselle moved to approve the extension and authorize the Council Chair to sign the agreement. Motion seconded by J. Gorton. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Koffler/GID Letter of Credit

No new updates.

Cabela's

D. Jodoin provided the Council with an estimated payment schedule for the \$18 million bond. A conservative rate of 4.9% was used resulting in total payment of \$27,512,500 over the 20-year bond term.

David Barnes (bond Counsel) and Mr. Marc Hughes (TIF Consultant) would like to set up a workshop with the Council to start discussion on the TIF agreement. A workshop was scheduled for Wednesday, May 16th, 2007 at 6:30.

P. Rueppel stated she would like the brightest and the best to handle the agreement for the Town.

P. Rueppel moved to hire Attorney Gregory A. Sandomirsky to work in conjunction with David Barnes and Marc Hughes.

M. DiBitetto suggested talking to the attorney to see if he'd be interested in working with our attorney and consultant.

P. Rueppel amended her motion to reflect, "to interview Mr. Sandomirsky". Motion seconded by M. DiBitetto. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Village School

P. Rueppel moved to contact Mr. Jack Wilkins to possibly act as "clerk of the works" for the Village School. Motion seconded by J. Hyde.

P. Rueppel stated that Mr. Wilkins served as "clerk of the works" for the Cawley Middle School project and did a great job. The Town Administrator does not have the time to manage the Village School project with the new Finance Director and hiring of new personnel.

M. Jolin: Cawley Middle School had plans and specs to work off of. We don't have anything to work off with the Village School. That's usually what the "clerk of the works" does, to make sure the plans and specs are done.

J. Hyde: Do you need a "clerk of the works"? (Directed to the Town Administrator).

D. Jodoin: We only have \$470,000 left to spend. It would be nice to have someone craft the bid specs. Yervant Nahikian walked the school with Harvey Windows. They came back and said the windows are useless and need to be replaced. Nothing else could be done in the interior until the windows are done. The electrical work is in the process. Roofers and plumbers will be assessing the building. It would be helpful to have somebody in a minimum capacity to do the bid specs and help out I don't know if we will have enough money. We didn't have the authority to start spending the money until July 1st. In addition, the Fun in the Sun program was using the building in July and August. Everything right now is contingent upon the windows.

P. Loiselle amended the motion for Jack Wilkins to speak to the Town Administrator. Motion seconded by M. Jolin. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Roll call vote on the original motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Special Primary Election

M. DiBitetto brought up the issue of the Special Primary Election scheduled for June 5th to elect a State Representative. One of the candidates inquired if they could schedule a "meet and greet" session at the Transfer Station on a Saturday to give the candidates a chance to introduce themselves to the voters.

Council consensus was to allow a "meet and greet" session at the Transfer Station.

Memorial Baseball Field Sprinkler System

Chairman G. Longfellow informed the Council that a new sprinkler system was installed at the Memorial Field. The Village Water Precinct wants to charge HYAA \$1,500 for a standard hook up fee.

Council consensus was to send a letter to the Village Water Precinct requesting for the fee to be waived.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

1. The State is offering to sell to the Town a surplus property located at Route 3A by the Mobil Gas Station. The State has to offer to sell to the Town first. Should the Town agree to purchase the property, it cannot be sold for profit. The property has to be used for a specific Town purpose. The Town has 30 days to review.

Discussion on the matter ensued.

The Town Administrator will get an aerial picture of the parcel, get an extension to review and contact the Fire Department to find out whether they are interested in the property.

2. The State is also offering to sell to the Town a drainage easement by Benton Road next to the Walgreen's property.

The Council decided against the property.

3. A protest petition on Zoning Amendment #1 was filed. There is now a 2/3's majority requirement to pass the amendment.

4. Flood Damage Assessment

- The Maple Falls Bridge had to be repaired for the 2nd time in one year.
- 100 feet of the road edge was lost on the opposite side of Chester Turnpike due to a wash out.
- Hackett Hill had major wash outs for most of the entire road.
- There was a stream running across the road at the corner of Auburn Road and Joanne Drive.
- 30 feet of road edge was lost on Morrill Road due to a wash out.
- 45 feet of road edge was lost at the corner of Dartmouth and Route 3 due to a wash out.
- There were several other minor wash outs around Town. Highway Department had fixed some of them.
- There was an emergency on Benton Road. Legal Counsel drafted some documents to open up Benton Road and put another drainage pipe in. The project was reviewed and being monitored by the Town Engineer.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Jodi Pinard, Highway Department: I know the Council sends out newsletters right before election. Can the Council put an editorial on the local newspaper to get people to go out and vote?

Heather Shumway, Library Director: We need to do as much as we can to educate people and urge them to go out and vote.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

M. DiBitto moved at 7:30 pm to enter into "non-public" session under RSA 91-A:2 (c) "Consultation with legal counsel." Motion seconded by P. Loiselle. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

D. Jodoin recused himself from the "non-public" meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 9:28 pm.

The Council made a statement that they voted not to divulge the minutes of the "non-public" session.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn F. Horn
Administrative Assistant

Jason M. Hyde
Town Council Secretary