

Official

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES Regular Meeting Wednesday, October 24, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman P. Loiselle called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRESENT: David Dickson, William "Bill" Gahara, James Gorton, Jason Hyde (excused), George Longfellow, David Ross, Patricia Rueppel (excused), Stuart Werksman, Chairman Paul Loiselle, David Jodoin (Town Administrator)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

October 10, 2007 – *W. Gahara moved to approve the October 10, 2007 minutes as presented. Motion seconded by S. Werksman. Motion carried unanimously.*

Town Treasurer

After four years of service, Linda Courtemanche, Town Treasurer resigned from her position.

Chairman P. Loiselle presented a plaque of appreciation to Ms. Courtemanche and thanked her for years of excellent service.

D. Jodoin: She will definitely be missed by both the Town and the School. She made investments for the Town and the School, which yielded maximum interests.

The Council expressed their gratitude and wished Ms. Courtemanche the best in future endeavors.

Emergency Management Director of the Year Award

Christopher M. Pope, Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for the State of New Hampshire presented the Emergency Management Director of the Year award to Al Dionne.

Mr. Pope: Once a year the department recognizes one Emergency Management Director. There are 234 Emergency Management Directors in the State. There are no County Directors. The role the local EM Director plays is critical in handling emergencies. This year, Town of Hooksett's Emergency Management Director, Al Dionne was selected as the Emergency Management Director of the Year.

He read a prepared statement (attached).

The Council congratulated Mr. Dionne for the well-deserved award.

NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board is the only board without an alternate member. G. Longfellow suggested adding an alternate position for the board.

D. Ross moved to open an alternate position for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Motion seconded by S. Werksman. **Roll call vote carried unanimously.**

G. Longfellow nominated Robert Garand for the position.

Council Agenda

Items (New Business & Town Administrator's Report) on the agenda were moved up.

D. Dickson suggested moving the "Scheduled Appointments" portion of the agenda earlier at 6:45 pm instead of 7:00 pm.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS:

Public Hearing re: Ravinia Cold Storage Escrow Agreement

Chairman P. Loiselle opened the public hearing at 7:30 pm.

Steve Couture, Conservation Commission Vice- Chair: We've been working with Ravinia Cold Storage for about 6-8 months on this. The Conservation Commission is strongly supportive of the agreement. I am asking the Council to approve the escrow agreement.

D. Jodoin: The Legal Counsel has reviewed the agreement.

Chairman P. Loiselle closed the public hearing at 7:39 pm.

G. Longfellow moved to approve the escrow agreement and accept the funds in the amount of \$214,176.24 for an escrow account. Motion seconded by S. Werksman. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

D. Ross moved to authorize the Chair to sign the agreement. Motion seconded by J. Gorton. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Comstar Agreement

Michael Williams, Fire Chief presented the agreement with Comstar, Inc., an ambulance billing company.

The Town Ambulance, which should be ready by the beginning of January 2008 will not replace Tri-Town Ambulance but would be there as a back up service for Tri-Town. There will be two personnel manning the ambulance at all times. The Town's Firefighters are crossed trained for both firefighter and EMT.

The rates on the agreement are the same as the National Medicaid/Medicare rates, which are lower than Tri-Town's. The billing company would receive a fee every year based on an estimated number of transports per year. A committee will be formed to review billing and arbitrations. The Council decides on how aggressive the billing would be. M. Williams asked for the Council to approve the rates quoted on the agreement.

J. Gorton suggested changing the rates in whole numbers.

G. Longfellow moved to accept the rates as suggested by J. Gorton. Motion seconded by S. Werksman.

W. Gahara stated a committee shouldn't be needed to review the arbitration. The Council should be able to handle the review.

Discussion on the matter ensued.

Sandra Oliver, Budget Committee Chair: Where will the revenue go into?

D. Jodoin: The General Fund.

S. Oliver: I would suggest using the Medicare/Medicaid rates and add 10% for billing costs. There is nothing wrong with reviewing the rates after 6 months and making adjustments if needed.

Further discussion ensued.

D. Ross moved to table the matter. Motion seconded by S. Werksman. Motion carried unanimously.

M. Williams was asked to make some changes on the agreement to be presented to the Council for approval. Changes to include the following, (1) add 10% to the proposed rates, rounded up, (2) take off the collection policy, after three bills, the matter goes to Council.

OLD BUSINESS

Special Town Meeting/Cabela's

The Special Town Election was held on Tuesday, October 23rd. The warrant article for the revised financing on Cabela's passed. Total votes cast were 1,450. 1,291 voted "Yes" and 159 voted "No".

NEW BUSINESS:

Road signage for Harmony Lane and Smyth Road

D. Hemeon received a request for "Caution: Children at Play" road signage on Harmony Lane. He also received a request for a "Draft Horse" sign on Smyth Road to be installed by the Highway Department and to be paid at cost by the resident requesting for the sign. He recommended the installation of both signs.

D. Ross moved to approve the installation of "Caution: Children at Play" sign on Harmony Lane. Motion seconded by J. Gorton. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

S. Werksman moved to approve the installation of "Draft Horse" sign on Smyth Road at the expense of the resident who requested for it. Motion seconded by G. Longfellow. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Dog Fouling

G. Longfellow received complaints from residents regarding dog fouling on Castle Drive & Golden Gate Drive.

D. Ross suggested amending the littering ordinance to include dog fouling.

Council consensus was to review the ordinance.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

D. Jodoin advised the Council of the following:

1. Per Town policy, the Auditors need to do a Treasurer's re-committal upon the Treasurer's resignation. He asked for a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the engagement letter authorizing the Town Auditors to do the Treasurer's re-committal.

D. Ross moved to authorize the Chair to sign the Treasurer's re-committal authorization. Motion seconded by J. Gorton. Motion carried unanimously.

2. He asked for a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the form to transfer funds from Sanitary Landfill Capital Reserve funds in the amount of \$3,274.90 to reimburse expenses paid.

G. Longfellow moved to authorize the Chair to sign the form to transfer funds in the amount of \$3,274.90 from Sanitary Landfill Capital Reserve funds to the General Fund. Motion seconded by W. Gahara. Motion carried unanimously.

3. He received a request from a resident to remove a streetlight located at her property at 19 Springer Road. The Highway Manager recommended keeping the streetlight for safety. There were also many concerns from the neighbors in that area that also wanted the light to stay. The resident will be notified.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Sewer Commission

They received a proposal to run the sewer line south from the Cabela's site under the river to the sewer plant. The engineering study would cost about \$19,000. They are still looking into it.

The commission also discussed the project between Walgreen's and Dunkin Donuts. They keep on revising the layout of the building and that they should be going back to the Planning Board or the Building Inspector. The developer would put one sewer hookup for all buildings when they were required to put separate hook ups for each building. The Town Administrator would check into it.

Police Commission

S. Werksman resigned from the commission due to difference of opinion. Chairman P. Loiselle will take his place.

Economic Development

They had their first meeting today. All members were present. The first issue they are looking into is how to encourage commercial and industrial growth in Town until services such as water and sewer are expanded. They are also looking into developing a web page for the Town.

PUBLIC INPUT

Andrew Janosz, 39 Main Street: I just received a letter today from the Town (Code Enforcement Officer). I'd like to know why I'm being singled out and harassed for a car in my front yard. I've already contacted my lawyer and he'd like to know why, also. I have a car for sale. It's registered and insured (under girlfriend's name). My girlfriend lives with me. She's a registered voter. That's her legal address.

D. Jodoin: You're allowed under DMV, I believe to sell up to 4 or 5 vehicles before you have to be bonded.

A. Janosz: That's the first car I tried to sell in 3 years. This is the car I drive. I just decided to sell it.

The Town Administrator would look into the matter, and stated that there are individuals putting cars all over Hooksett for sale and they do not belong to the homeowner.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

G. Longfellow moved at 7:58 pm to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b), "The hiring of any person as a public employee." Motion seconded by S. Werksman. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

S. Werksman moved at 8:15 pm to exit the non-public session. Motion seconded by G. Longfellow. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

The council made a statement that they voted not to divulge the minutes of the non-public meeting except for the releasing of June 13th, 2007 non-public minutes.

G. Longfellow moved to release the non-public minutes of June 13th, 2007 (attached). Motion seconded by S. Werksman.

Roll Call:

D. Dickson	Abstained	D. Ross	Yes		
W. Gahara	Abstained	S. Werksman	Yes		
J. Gorton	Yes	Chairman P. Loiselle	Yes	5-0-2	<u>Motion carried.</u>
G. Longfellow	Yes				

The Council decided that due to scheduling conflicts, the next meeting will be November 7th and November 28th.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn F. Horn
Administrative Assistant

David F. Dickson
Town Council Secretary