

Official

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES Regular Meeting Wednesday, October 14, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gahara called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRESENT: David Boutin, James Gorton, Paul Loiselle, George Longfellow, Michael Pischetola, David Ross, Nancy VanScoy, Chairman William Gahara and Carol Granfield (Town Administrator)

EXCUSED: David Dickson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 23, 2009 – N. VanScoy moved to approve the September 23, 2009 minutes as amended. Motion seconded by G. Longfellow. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Gahara explained the public input procedure.

J. McHugh, 14 Jefferson Drive: Mr. Ray Langer passed away in September. Saturday, I went to the funeral and I began to think of all he's done for the community. I decided to approach the Council to see if there was a policy on naming buildings or rooms for individuals. I'm asking for this because of the many years Mr. Langer gave in service to the Town including the PB, Trustee of the Trust Fund, a State Rep, the Budget Committee, the School Board and as Selectman. He was instrumental in the renovations and constructions of school buildings. He was a member of the Hooksett-ites. He spent hours helping at the clothing barn and volunteered at the VA hospital two days a week. Mr. Langer was a Citizen of the Year with Mr. Murray. Given that he served so many years in the town's interest, I was wondering if the town would entertain honoring him this way.

P. Loiselle: Is there anything specific in mind?

J. McHugh: I thought of the Chambers because he was a Councilor and Selectman as well as a member of the Budget Committee.

M. Pischetola suggested having the Administrator look into the possibilities.

J. Hyde, 36 Edgewater Drive: I am a member of the Budget Committee but I am not here in that capacity. I hear there is an alternate opening on the Zoning Board and I am interested in serving. Secondly, as a taxpayer and citizen, across the country, times are difficult, and the value of the dollar is going down and our taxes are going up. I'm throwing myself at your mercy and ask since we know the federal and state budgets are getting crazy and going up, I ask the Council to do something they haven't done if ever, to find a way to not raise taxes by making those hard decisions that you haven't had to make in the past. My fear is my property tax, food tax and federal tax keep going up and my fear is if we keep raising property taxes we will force people to leave. So please find it in your mind and heart to make the difficult decisions and cut staff where it is not needed. Subcontract out and consolidate staff where necessary. Do whatever you can do to reduce the budget, not to a 2% increase but in the difficult areas. My 401K is going down and my benefits are decreasing. To keep it fair and better for the taxpayers and business to

come, it would be wise to do what governments across the country are not doing is to cut across the board. As a taxpayer, that is what I'm asking.

B. Gahara requested an update from the Sewer Commission because since the bills went out, the Council has been getting a number of phone calls asking for an explanation of the increase. People are shell shocked by the increase and we need to understand so we can field the questions.

B. Kudrick, Superintendent of Sewer (distributed handouts): In September, the Sewer Commission posted in the banner the rate increase. We never received any phone calls. The page that was distributed is off our website. The reason for the change in rates is because we must now start paying back the loans. The first loan is from 2002, which is the 3.5 million and that will be paid a year from now so we must start collecting that now. That is 1.05 increase. The stimulus money, which will go out for bid, is being collected now so that there is one increase of 94 cents. That is a 1.99 cent increase. It is the payback with a little left to pay for the operating cost.

J. Gorton: I received an email today from a constituent on Berry Hill and he stated that he had called the Sewer Commission phone number and all he got was a busy signal. He also stated he couldn't get any information from the website. He would like to know the cause and is the rate permanent. I've also heard from others that every time they call the Sewer Department, the lines are busy.

B. Kudrick: That is true since the bills went out. There are two girls at the office and they've been answering the many calls that have been coming in. I went on the website tonight and I didn't have any trouble getting on.

C. Granfield: I couldn't get on the website myself today. Linda was going to check with the computer support to see if there is a problem.

B. Gahara: I believe in communication and possibly if people don't have computer or understand the bills, could you put out a newsletter that goes through the rates and is mailed out to those people who just got their bills.

B. Kudrick: Does the Town put out a newsletter?

B. Gahara: Only once a year.

B. Kudrick: In July, we sent out a notice to check the website. Sometimes people don't look at mailers but I will bring that suggestion to the Commission.

P. Loiselle: The \$3.5 million and the other loan were both Warrant Articles. Was the rate explained at that time?

B. Kudrick: The \$3.5 in 2002 was because we thought we could build the entire plant for that but now we cannot. The second was quoted as \$80.00 per year increase. It was not on the warrant but was brought up at the public hearing.

P. Loiselle: This is a 50% increase in rate, which is significant.

D. Ross: I think there is a legitimate rage with such a significant increase. That is troubling. It is an unbelievable increase to add onto someone's needed commodity. The Federal money has been received?

B. Kudrick: We don't have it; the State has received it.

D. Ross: This will only be affecting ratepayers. This is not going to anyone with reserved capacity? Owning capacity is like owning a piece of the sewer system. Those who own capacity and are not using so are not paying?

B. Kudrick: MS&G is the only one that has unused capacity. The commissioners cannot sell capacity until the plant is up to capacity.

D. Ross: Did the State receive this money?

B. Kudrick: I understand the State has received the money and it will be official after the 20th. The Rate increases take affect in October. We must pay back the \$3.5 million and start paying a year from now. We have one year to raise the money and the second will follow right after so the Commissioners lumped it together.

D. Ross: We haven't actually borrowed or incurred the cost but you are already raising the rates?

B. Kudrick: You need time to raise the money.

D. Ross: I don't understand how money that you don't have to put out is now being charged.

B. Kudrick: It takes a year to raise the money to have in the budget.

D. Ross: This feels like a blind side and the dog and pony show didn't add up to what is being sent out.

G. Longfellow: In defense of the Sewer Department, everything was above board; they were caught in a catch 22. They were caught in a 9 million dollar project that they couldn't fund. Once you get the figures, it is a matter of finding the money to pay off the bills. I believe the people who use the sewer should be voting on the money.

M. Farwell, 24 Grant: I'm confused about what and when money was borrowed. There is \$3.5 million that was needed to get the \$3 million from the State. Has that been borrowed?

B. Kudrick: The \$3.5 million, which was already borrowed, was on the books and kept by the State. They have \$27 million in reserve for when the town votes on and we can produce a bill. They set the money aside.

M. Farwell: The \$3.5 million that we voted on in May wouldn't be borrowed until we get the Stimulus money. Do we not have the money from the State? You have not borrowed it?

B. Kudrick: They have approved us and the money is sitting at the State. They don't give us the money.

M. Farwell: If we don't have the money and don't know the interest rate, how can you ask the ratepayers to pay?

B. Gahara suggested a newsletter go out to explain this.

D. Ross suggested that Article #3 be posted on the Town Website.

Recognition of Al Dion

B. Gahara honored Al Dion with recognition for his dedication to the Town while serving as the Emergency Management Director.

NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Available Board Positions

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Full member, exp. 6/2010

Economic Development Committee, 1 member

P. Loiselle nominated Jack Dowd who was approved today by the EDC. Mr. Dowd was formerly a member of the Derry EDC.

J. Gorton stated that the ZBA received a resignation from D. Johnston due to health reasons.

J. Gorton nominated G. Hyde to move from alternate to full time member of the ZBA.

J. Gorton stated that Mr. Van Horn who was appointed 4 months ago was terminated by the ZBA because he has yet to attend a meeting.

N. VanScoy stated that there is currently an opening on the Town Hall Preservation Committee and requested all open positions be posted on the website.

Deputy Health Officer Appointment

With the resignation of Al Dion as Deputy Health Officer, it is recommended that Dan Pike be appointed Acting Deputy Health Officer.

D. Boutin motioned to appoint Dan Pike as Deputy Health Officer. Seconded by D. Ross. Roll call unanimously in favor.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

Public Hearing re: Proposed Dog Park
Open Public Hearing at 7:05 pm

Amoskeag Rowing Club President stated that they had been using the area now designated as a dog park to conduct dry land training for the crew team. Having a dog park impacts the ability for the teams to practice. We would have developed that area for the residents and the club. We currently contribute \$5000 in scholarships for students in Hooksett to row. There have been rowers who have received national recognition for rowing.

Jackie McCarthy: I've been a rower for 5-6 years and am the membership director. This brings a valuable use of the waterfront to the town. If there were funds found and we would have had better use for the funds and the river than a dog park. We would like to propose a better use for the property. If there is a potential for reconsideration, we would appreciate it.

Jim Sullivan: 2 Trent Road: Having attended the brainstorming session hosted by the Administrator a few months ago, one suggestion was a dog park and it was a good idea and am in support of the endeavor. My comments are for not since the park is almost completed and errors were made in holding a hearing. On May 13th, P. Loiselle motioned to approve the park pending a public hearing. The hearing was not achieved before the park was completed. This is a wrong place for the dog park. The Village Charest made reference to the vital history of the area. The River is an invaluable underused space and should be used by all citizens, not just dog owners. We are fortunate to own riverside land on the Merrimack. I am also concerned with the environmental impact on the shore and the impact on the Amoskeag Rowing Club, which is an asset. The Historical viewpoint is that it negatively impacts the historical nature of the area. It is just north of the Old Mills and the Old Middlesex Canal System and the proximity to the old Brickyards. It also served as a branch of the Middlesex canal. There are abutments that are still seen. Thoreau wrote of the days on the river. I commend the efforts to get the project completed and I think the dog park is a good idea but this is the wrong location. A location more centrally located and not on the beautiful Merrimack River would better serve the community. The miss steps on holding the hearing should be a learning point for the town.

J. Hyde, 34 Edgewater Drive: Where did the funds come from?

C. Granfield: The fund came from Impact fees for Park and Recreation.

J. Hyde: Were there any other parks that could have served the children better. Of all the things that this town could have spent money on, this seems silly. You all need to be more responsible with my money. With all the children in town, you decided to do a dog park? That is just above and beyond for me.

D. Hemeon: Public Works Director: I presented this and I was approved to proceed. We looked at Lambert Park and then moved it to the skating rink, which wasn't feasible because of the water. I don't remember the public hearing part. The first Hooksett Landfill was at this site. That whole area was filled with trash. As far as the rowing club, Carol talked to June. We are talking about the paved area. The rowing club was using the paved area and never asked to use that area. All we did was level the land, put a fence around it and improved it. The rowing club surprised me because they weren't using that area and never asked to use it.

John Turbyne, 4 Brown Road: The issue of a public hearing aside and an alternate location and the fact that it is built aside; anything that brings people to a park is a good thing. It is beautiful place. This never gets used and the more people that can use and share the area, the better.

Marjorie Leonard, Park and Rec. Advisory Board: I was new to Hooksett and when we viewed this location it was a graveled over rink that was not used. It had no aesthetic value at all. I think this choice of location had a minimal impact on the town. I question whether there will be masses of people at one time. This is not a high impact facility. I still think it is a good location.

Lisa Dearth, coach for Derryfield Crew: We have a number of Hooksett and Pembroke student on those teams. Seven (7) months out of the year from 3-6 every afternoon, we have approximately 120 kids engaging in healthy alternatives after school and learning to be a team, stronger than any other team. We have used, for all the time I have coached, the tarmac area. We have used it for rigging boats when we are getting ready to travel. We will have difficulty this week preparing to travel to Saratoga Springs without this area. The fencing will make it difficult to move our boats around. I have been disappointed that the fencing has gone up and the dog park is going up.

M. Miville, 42 Main Street: It is unfortunate this public input didn't take place three (3) months ago and the process wasn't followed. Also, there were only two (2) choices considered. The decision was made as the lesser of two evils; it couldn't be at Lambert Park so they moved it up the river. I'm hearing a lot of concern about it, but I don't hear a lot of enthusiasm in favor. I know this has already been built, but as I thought of other areas in town, there is a lot of land by the Safety Center where you can't build under the power lines and can't be used for anything else. I did receive an email from Kathy Northrop and she forwarded an email sent to the Council. M. Miville read from the email, which questions the Council's decision to continue with the construction of the park without the public hearing.

H. Murray, 311 Hackett Hill Road: This is a case of not in my backyard. If you came to these meetings you'd know they considered Frazier Park and the Safety Center, which is all swamp. I support the boat club and have attended many of their events. I know that we had a Councilor that tried to launch a boat and were told they couldn't launch because they were using it. I heard no one say anything about the dogs that go down to the ball field. You need a place for these dogs and this has been aired in the newspaper and the Banner and at least 5-6 meetings. You can't say the people didn't know that this was being built down there.

B. Gahara stated he received a few emails in support of the park. As HYAA chairman, I've been concerned about the dog fouling at the ball fields. I've seen people leave dog fouling at the football field.

Close Public Hearing at 7:55 pm

N. VanScoy: Aside from the motion, is a public hearing required to expend impact fees?

C. Granfield: No

N. VanScoy: Why was construction not stopped once we were aware that the public hearing wasn't done?

D. Hemeon: The contractor was lined up and we would have been moved back a month.

C. Granfield: It was more time sensitive to move forward and the money was already committed.

C. Granfield: The Council in August or September voted to allocate the money for the park. We had the public hearing tonight because it was part of the motion. The Council can now vote to reconsider if they wish.

D. Hemeon: When we originally talked about the park at Lambert Park, I said I would have a public hearing with the abutters. Once it was moved to the skate rink, there were no abutters except the Courthouse, which we spoke with and Carol spoke with June from the Rowing Club. I don't recall hearing anything about a public hearing.

D. Ross: As far as the public hearing, I was surprised and thought we were going to come back and hear prices and plans. That area was never for the club to use. They don't own the property so they are not abutters and the Administrator said that we don't need to have a public hearing. The Advisory Committee looked at other sites and recommended this site. We have a lot of residents in town that live in condos and we have nothing for dog owners. Parks are not just for children. The public hearing issue is a mountain made out of a molehill. I think there's no negative impact. It is just a fence, which you can see through. This area doesn't get used now and if it gets more use, it will be a good thing.

G. Longfellow: I think it is the wrong place for a dog park, whether it is built already or not. What do you think the public will say when they see this? They will not know that this is from impact fee.

Recognition of Yervant Nahikian & Robert Duhaime

B. Gahara presented a plaque in recognition of the contributions made as part of the Aesthetics Committee to Yervant Nahikian and Robert Duhaime.

Proposed Fire/Police Ceremonial Park

C. Granfield: This is a project proposed by both Police and Fire Personnel.

Chief Williams and Earl Lincoln presented their proposal for a Ceremonial Park at the Safety Center. It will be a joint project with the Police and Fire Departments. The construction will have no fiscal impact. The Highway Department will assist with the labor and fundraising will cover the costs. All maintenance will be done by the Firefighters and the Police Officers. The park will be used for induction ceremonies as well as memorial services. The park will feature a ceremonial bell, two figurines, one police and one fire as well as a possible piece of steel from the site of the 911 attacks.

D. Ross motioned to approve moving forward with this project and request this be brought back to the Council prior to approving work to be done by the Highway Department. Seconded by J. Gorton.

Vote unanimously in favor

Kathie Northrup, Heritage Commission Chair re: Head School Project Update- Continued

Head School Open House is Saturday, October 17th at noon.

OLD BUSINESS

Goals for Town Administrator/Town

The goals are listed in the staff report. Based on input from the Council, we confirmed the first 10 goals and there should be an emphasis on improving community perceptions and the computer system. The second piece is the ideas. There were 45 ideas.

The following goals were discussed:

- Electronic tax payments through a bank
- Issue of the Old Town Hall and investigate the use as an incubation space for businesses.
- Address vacant and dilapidated buildings in town.
- Consistency with the Town's Master Plan

- Streamline the process for developer and provide a handbook on how to work through the process.

The goals will be an agenda item on a future meeting.

State MS-5

C. Soucie explained the Enterprise Fund and the Special Revenue Funds.
There is 4.65% in fund balance.

Perambulation

Per RSA 51:2, the Town is required to perambulate the town lines every 7 years.

C. Granfield stated that utilizing GPS was cost effective. Bruce Elliot indicated he would do it for \$500.00. Denise Pichette-Volk will coordinate this effort.

The Council agreed to have Mr. Elliot do this work for the Town.

P. Loiselle congratulated N. VanScoy for a successful Old Home Day.

NEW BUSINESS

Bond Releases

Butler Hockey Cash Surety for \$3,400.

D. Ross motioned to release the surety for \$3400 for Butler Hockey. Seconded by G. Longfellow. Roll call vote unanimously in favor.

Lowe's Lighting Bond for \$2,000.

D. Ross motioned to release the Lighting Bond for \$2000 for Lowes. Seconded by D. Boutin. Vote unanimously in favor.

Pichette Brothers Construction Co. Barking Dog Landscaping Bond for \$4,000.

D. Ross motioned to release the Landscaping Bond for \$4000 for The Barking Dog. Seconded by D. Boutin. Vote unanimously in favor.

SNHU Pole and Wire License

C. Granfield recommended that Council approve and sign the SNHU Pole and Wire License. This is to be reviewed annually.

G. Longfellow motioned to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the SNHU Pole and Wire License. Seconded by M. Pischetola. Vote unanimously in favor.

2010-2011 Budget / 2009 Tax Rate

Tax Rate

C. Granfield: In previous years, the Council wasn't involved in this process. In past years, the town put 1 to 1.5 million dollars of fund balance to reduce the tax rate. The town has 2.1 million dollars, which is 4.6% and the town policy, which was just established, is to have 5%. The estimated tax rate without any fund balance added is \$21.77. Looking at the options, we don't recommend using more than \$500,000 in fund balance to offset the tax rate. If you did nothing, it is an increase of 95 cents on the tax rate, which for an average home valued at \$269,000 would see an increase of \$250 in taxes.

P. Loiselle: If we put 1 million dollars toward the tax rate, we would be left with \$1.1 million in fund balance. I would like to go with \$750,000. That would leave us with \$1.3 million.

P. Loiselle motioned to add \$750,000 in fund balance. Seconded by G. Longfellow.

D. Ross: By depleting the fund balance and seeing decrease revenues, are we putting the town at risk. I don't want to see the tax rate go up but I don't want to see the town in a position where we are at risk. I think we should stay with the established policy that says we shall maintain a 5% fund balance. Next year we anticipate a decrease in revenues and interest as well as a shortfall of \$170,000 from the State.

M. Pischetola: What do you recommend?

C. Soucie: I think it is between \$250,000 and \$500,000. I feel we will be in this position for the next three (3) years so I would not add more than \$500,000.

G. Longfellow: With a down economy, hitting people with a 95 cent increase in tax and the increase in sewer, it will be very difficult for people.

D. Boutin: Sitting on the Ways and Means Committee for the State, we get a lot of information from economist. The sad fact is government revenues are not to return to 2007 levels for three (3) years. The high-end property owners, which are now facing foreclosure, need relief now. I support putting 1 million dollars toward the tax rate.

P. Loiselte withdrew his motion.

G. Longfellow did not withdraw his second.

Roll Call:

<i>P. Loiselte</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>G. Longfellow</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>J. Gorton</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>D. Ross</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>D. Dickson</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>D. Boutin</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>W. Gahara</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N. VanScoy</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>M. Pischetola</i>	<i>Yes</i>		

Motion failed 5:3

D. Ross motioned to extend the meeting 30 minutes. Seconded D. Boutin. Vote unanimously in favor

D. Boutin motioned to add \$1,000,000 in fund balance. Seconded by J. Gorton.

Roll Call:

<i>P. Loiselte</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>G. Longfellow</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>J. Gorton</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>D. Ross</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>D. Dickson</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>D. Boutin</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>W. Gahara</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N. VanScoy</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>M. Pischetola</i>	<i>Yes</i>		

Motion failed 5:3

P. Loiselte motioned to add \$500,000 in fund balance. Seconded by D. Ross (2.5% increase)

Roll Call:

<i>P. Loiselte</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>G. Longfellow</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>J. Gorton</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>D. Ross</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>D. Dickson</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>D. Boutin</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>W. Gahara</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N. VanScoy</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>M. Pischetola</i>	<i>No</i>		

Motion failed 5:3

M. Pischetola motioned to split the difference between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000 and add \$875,000. Seconded by G. Longfellow.

This would increase the tax rate 43 cents, which translates into an increase of \$109 for a home valued at \$269,000 plus any adjustment, required to the first tax bill.

Roll Call:

P. Loiselle	Yes	G. Longfellow	Yes
J. Gorton	Yes	D. Ross	Yes
D. Dickson	-	D. Boutin	Yes
W. Gahara	Yes	N. VanScoy	No
M. Pischetola	Yes		

Motion carries 7:1

Budget

C. Granfield stated that all departments are aware of possible goals. We recommend level funding the overall budget. Last year the Budget committee recommended a budget lower than the default.

M. Pischetola asked if we could go 2% below.

C. Granfield stated that a level fund is realistic. If you go below, you will be reducing services.

G. Longfellow: The last time we set a level fund; we ended up with a 7% increase. Last year, we reduced the budget but have a 5% increase in the tax. We need to set a tight goal and I suggest a 2% decrease knowing we won't reach it to keep the leash tight.

P. Loiselle: We have increases in retirement?

C. Granfield: The State downshifted the Police and Fire funding to the town.

M. Pischetola asked if we could have a hiring freeze as of tomorrow.

C. Granfield: We can have a capital expense freeze or hiring but the only open position is a Public Works position which isn't a very high paying job and the work needs to get done.

D. Boutin: Level funded is \$14.6 million dollars? Does level funding mean increases in contracts and benefits are included in the level fund?

C. Soucie: This is just the Operating Budget and doesn't include any Warrant Articles.

***D. Ross motioned to extend the meeting for 30 minutes. J. Gorton seconded.
Vote unanimously in favor.***

G. Longfellow motioned to level fund the budget including all Warrant Articles. Seconded by D. Boutin.

Roll Call:

P. Loiselle	No	G. Longfellow	Yes
J. Gorton	No	D. Ross	Yes
D. Dickson		D. Boutin	Yes
W. Gahara	Yes	N. VanScoy	No
M. Pischetola	Yes		

Passed 5:3

Financial Quarterly Report

C. Soucie presented the quarterly report as of September 30th, which reflects the operating cost coming in at 25%, which is where they should be. The second report showed the revenue at 13%, which does not include the taxes. The past two years we were at 23% and 15%.

The largest decrease is in interest income, which is at 5% this year, 10% last year and 25% the previous year.

P. Loiselle: This indicates that we should be looking at our revenues when we set the budget.

C. Soucie: You should look at all your revenues to see if they are where they should be.

P. Loiselle: You should have a presentation on projections before we do the budget.

J. Gorton asked about State funding.

C. Soucie: The major State funding is rooms and meals tax which we will receive and the highway block grant. That can be added to the report.

Other New Business

D. Boutin: In light of the dog park and the interference with the rowing club, I suggest we invite the rowing club to come and discuss their plans with the Council.

Secondly, I travel over W. River Road frequently; I am concerned about the SNHU area. As you go up the hill, there is a speed bump. Before the building was built, the students crossed at the corner. Now they cross further up where there is no light or crosswalk. I spoke previously to the Planning Board regarding this safety issue. The students are not using the crosswalk. I'm concerned with the Town's liability and the safety of students being hit there.

N. VanScoy: The dog park, I think we received a lot of new information we didn't have before and we need to acknowledge the negative comments and the negative impact on the rowing club and how this will impact their day to day life. We have affected their club and their plans. I agree with Councilor Boutin's suggestion. I think we should see how we could overcome the negative impacts due to the construction of the park. This will affect how they will practice and load their boats. We can recognize this impact and say we value you in the community. Is there land that can be made available and this is new information we didn't have when we voted on this project.

C. Granfield; There was discussion with them on expanding the area.

J. Gorton: I look around and many people weren't here when that contract with the rowing club was negotiated. This went back and forth between lawyers and the town and it was specific on what they were leasing. The agreement was reached after many years of negotiation and I understood that when we signed that agreement, all details had been hammered out and no future expansion was seen as necessary.

D. Ross: I think we should go on the record for mucking it up. The motion was made to have a public hearing and having it after the project is done is inappropriate and I want to be on record that I apologize and I would consider reconsideration.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – C. Granfield

The Management Team attended a team building training at UNH. Part of it is to come up with a Vision Statement, which will be brought back to Council.

Old Home Day was a success. Congratulation to the Committee as well as the Fire and Police Departments for a job well done.

State Service Centers – the selection committee is moving forward. The legal counsel met with the AG and agreed that they would be agreeing with RSA674:54 where the State would come to the Planning Board for a Public Hearing but would not be subject to a full review. The South bound to open in 2010 and the North bound in 2011.

Legal firms were interviewed and recommendations will be made to the Council at the next meeting.

Safety Center Committee minutes will be sent to Council.

Family Service is utilizing workfare.

Facility Advisor Committee will be moving forth with a draft next week. The Right to Know Workshop held on September 30th was a success with approximately 40 individuals in attendance. The workshop was taped by David Pearl and will be put on the Hooksett Issues Website. Starting November, Cawley School will have displays at the Town Hall.

J. Gorton motioned to continue the meeting 15 minutes. Seconded by D. Boutin. Vote unanimously in favor.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

ZBA report – J. Gorton reported there are currently two vacant positions on the Zoning Board
Conservation Commission – D. Ross reported that some funding has come through.
Budget Committee – B. Gahara reported the committee is looking to hold down expenses and be fiscally responsible.
EDC - P. Loiselle reported that a presentation was made at their meeting on incubator businesses.
Facility Advisor Committee – D. Boutin reported the committee is progressing.
Service Center on 93, if the Council agrees, we should have a discussion with the State regarding the Hackett Hill Toll which is a dangerous intersection. People come off that intersection too fast and this is a good time to ask them to do something. This is an opportunity to get the State's ear.

D. Ross stated that the intersection at 3A and Hackett Hill is also a problem.

The Council will follow up.

PUBLIC INPUT

J. Hyde: I appreciate you spent a lot of time over the budget and level funding is a good start. I would add never forget, 13 percent revenue shortfall which won't change so you have to come up with \$600,000 somewhere in the budget. Look at changing the health benefits, which is happening everywhere. Look at retirement benefits for future employees. Do whatever you can to not spend money at all which is what businesses do daily. Look at the revenues first then decide what you will spend. The goals, I heard a start, goals need to be measurable, attainable and timed. I didn't hear smart goals. I heard guidance. The Council makes the orders and the Administrator follows. The bottom line is I don't want to hear guidance; I want to hear hard and fast. The Administrator should know what is expected. I didn't see a lot of that tonight. I didn't hear what is expected. I talked about making this town a tax haven. The way to do that is to reduce spending. If you do that your revenue will go up. That fund will be funded at an appropriate level. Stop putting funds in Conversation for a year or two. That will save money. To get business to come in, reduce the taxes and make it easier for people to go through the process. Give the Administrator a goal.

D. Pearl: At the Right To Know seminar, they said if you have two boards meet in a non-public meeting, they must both post and take separate minutes. The Police didn't post this non-public for tonight so for the future, be sure that it is post and the minutes are taken correctly so it is a legal meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

M. Pischetola motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 PM. Seconded by P. Loiselle.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Moynihan