

MINUTES SELECTMEN'S MEETING - December 18, 1989

Present for the meeting were Selectmen Mansfield, Dodge and Johnston with Sandra Gendron taking minutes.

Sandra Gendron Administrative Assistant was named Welfare Officer by the Board to facilitate the efficiency of handling emergency situations.

The Board along with Lee Murray Road Agent met with the Road Committee to discuss 1990 proposed road projects. Present from the Road Committee were James Whipple, George St. John and Dick Moody. Completion of Joe English Road was one of the first topics of conversation. Once again monies would be requested at the 1990 Town Meeting to complete this project. \$140,000 was included in the CIP Program to complete this road through pavement. It was discussed that all or a portion of the anticipated approximately \$75,000 1990 Block Grant could be designated to reduce the amount to be raised by taxes for the completion of this project. Needed to complete the road is removal of the ledge, additional gravel, shoulder and slope work with pavement to cost approximately \$50,000. Lee has contacted several contractors in the area to get prices for a finished product. Discussion returned to the potential funding. Thoughts expressed were again the possibility of using the Block Grant monies entirely for this project, or should we use leftover road monies from 1989 or should we use the state monies for other projects and request the full amount for Joe English Road from the 1990 Town Meeting voters. Lee discussed other projects that might come under consideration for 1990, these included removing the present surface and re-surfacing Valley View Lane and Thornton Road (monies to possibly come from summer maintenance and re-surfacing), completing the shoulders on Bedford Road the cost estimated to be \$10,000, and the need to crush more gravel to replenish the stockpile. Lee also stated that the culvert to replace the bridge on Tucker Mill Road has been purchased and the monies necessary for installation would come from the regular 1990 road budget. Lee discussed the condition of Valley View Lane in more detail explaining that the existing surface was especially difficult to plow and would be most likely replaced with pugmill mix, the same treatment would be used on the now paved portion of Thornton Road. (The dirt portion of Thornton Road appears to be in reasonable shape.) These two roads could go back to a crushed gravel surface according to Lee, but he feels the pugmill mix is more in keeping with progress. Jim Whipple expressed his favor for hot top, stating the pugmill mix on Houghton Lane cracked, he further supported even more work on Tucker Mill Road in 1990 suggesting that reconstruction work begin at the corner of Rte. 136 straight through to where the culvert is to replace the existing bridge.

Once again, discussion returned to the Joe English Road Project. Thoughts were expressed that most likely \$75,000 Block Grant monies and \$20,000 surplus from the 1989 Road Budget could complete the road through crushed gravel; however, the thinking from last year was that the road should remain as is unless it could be completed through pavement. Discussion ensued as to whether this position should be re-thought or possibly should the road just have the base coat applied and the top coat applied the following year. Selectman Mansfield held the position that the least amount requested at Town Meeting should be the same as last year \$75,000 and further, that he would like to see some of the Block Grant money retained to use in other areas of town. Lee expressed the desire to save \$10,000 from the surplus of his 1989 budget to complete the shoulders on Bedford Road. Selectman Dodge offered a vote in favor of requesting \$100,000 from the voters at Town Meeting, the balance to come from the 1990 Block Grant money. Should the money be voted down at Town Meeting then the Road Committee would meet again and review the situation. This was agreed to and so voted by all present.

Discussion then turned to as to what projects might be completed with the balance of the Block Grant money and the 1989 surplus from the road budget which amounted to approximately \$40,000. Lee reminded everyone that we are still carrying \$10,000 for Christie Road and stated that he had just received the necessary dredge and fill permits; he further expressed the hope that he could hold the same figure for his summer maintenance budget in 1990.

Beard Road was brought up for discussion. The need for improvement especially obvious in the area of the orchard which receives a lot of traffic and would require cutting, widening and additional gravel with paving done sectionally. The estimated cost to be approximately \$20,000. The landowners in the worst sections are already

Lee agreed to try to get a figure for cutting the entire length of Beard Road (approximately 1½ miles) to see if this could be a feasible endeavor.

With \$20,000 remaining, discussion turned to that area of Clark Hill Road below the Monbouquette residence. Other areas of Clark Hill Road were discussed including that in front of the Lee residence which would consume a large portion of their front lawn if it were to be widened and there is also a roadside well to be contended with, the area in front of the Houghton residence from the standpoint of heavy traffic was also pointed out. It was decided by all present that the remaining monies would be spent in some fashion on Clark Hill Road.

The Selectmen discussed with the Road Committee the fact that they had approached the Playground Association and proposed the possibility of paving the heavily travelled area behind the grandstand owned by the Association. There appeared to be legal concerns regarding liability; however all agreed that once these concerns were addressed that it was a project to be pursued at an approximate cost of \$3004 to hot top an area of 500'.

The meeting with the committee ended with Lee stressing the need to get the necessary agreements from all concerned with the Tucker Mill Road project and stating that he would be using the skim money to begin digging and skimming at the Bowen residence and continuing on Lull Road to Rte. #77.

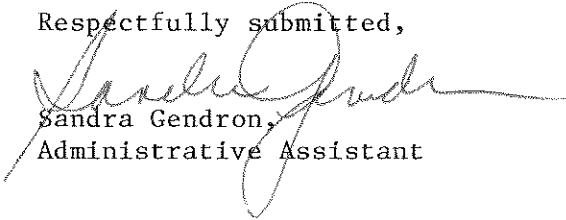
A roll call was taken by the Selectmen (Mansfield - yes, Dodge - yes, Johnston - yes) and at this time 9:00 pm the Board entered into executive session for the discussion of a personnel matter.

The executive session was concluded at 9:55 p.m. with a roll call vote (Mansfield - yes, Dodge - yes, Johnston)^{e 5} Selectman Johnston moved to hire John Ballou as the full-time Police Chief for the Town of New Boston, this motion was seconded by Selectman Mansfield and so voted. This decision for employment was based on a contractual agreement, the details still to be worked on and full-time employment will commence on January 2, 1990. John Ballou agreed to accept the position as offered.

The subject of a recent denial by the Board of Selectmen regarding a request of a home business by Andrew Belanger, Jr. was discussed. After some discussion with the Planning Board pertaining to home business in general the board will begin to look at that portion of the business which is done in the home, but a portion of the business being conducted away from the home will not necessarily become the basis for the Selectmen denying the request and forwarding it to the ZBA for a special exception. It was agreed by the Board that A. Belanger will be requested to submit a more in depth letter of intent. In more general discussion on the same subject Selectman Johnston expressed his favor for the definition of home business in Weare which includes a second category labeled "home shops" which would encompass a lot of those business whose work is chiefly done off the premises. Selectman Dodge would also like to see the option of a site-plan review kept under the category of a home business.

Mail was reviewed, checks were signed and the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sandra Gendron,
Administrative Assistant