

SELECTMEN'S MEETING - February 5, 1990

Present for the meeting which began at 7:00 pm were Selectmen Mansfield, Dodge and Johnston with Sandra Gendron taking minutes.

The Selectmen discussed the actions taken by the Finance Committee the previous Saturday when they met to make recommendations on the 1990 Town and School Budgets. Selectman Mansfield had tried to attend the meeting but had to leave due to illness and was brought up to date by the other two Selectmen. Some committee decisions included recommending that the Library Budget be held at the 1989 figure, that the proposed addition for the Highway Garage be postponed largely due to the fact that it appeared that the note for financing the completed closure of the landfill project could only be received on a three year basis, and it would be recommended that the Police Department purchase a two-wheel drive cruiser rather than a four-wheel drive. Sandra Gendron was instructed to call area banks to see if they might be interested in loaning the note for the closure of the landfill on either a four or five year basis.

At 7:30 pm Cyr Daniel, Brandy Adams and Cheryl Gott were in to discuss~~d~~ proposed warrant articles with the Board of Selectmen. Brandy offered an apology to the Selectmen for the article that had appeared in the Union Leader concerning articles that were going to be submitted to the Board stating that the article had appeared prematurely and several of the proposals would in fact not^{be} legally acceptable should they be adopted by vote of the Town Meeting.

They presented to the Board of Selectmen an article for inclusion in the 1990 Warrant dealing with impact fees. The article would be to see if the town would authorize a letter from the Selectmen and Planning Board directed to the powers that be in Concord that enabling legislation be adopted to institute impact fees to be paid by developers. Brandy and two other New Boston citizens had gone to Concord and spoken to DRA representative Ed Rainville regarding several of their ideas and Ed explained that the subject of impact fees would not be expedient without enabling legislation. With this thought in mind and a conversation Brandy had with Bo Strong the wording for this article was submitted for placement in the Warrant. There was discussion on how effective this article might be because it appeared that the Legislature might be taking action long before Town Meeting. It is hoped that amendments will be attached to the original piece of legislation because in the opinion of Planning Board Chairman Bo Strong in its present form this bill if passed could be harmful to a community such as New Boston.

The Municipal Budget Act and whether it's adoption would be beneficial to the Town of New Boston was brought up for discussion. Brandy along with the others who had met with Mr. Rainville came away from the meeting feeling that he very much supported this as being a positive instrument in the governing process for New Boston. Selectman Mansfield stated that he had always felt that Mr. Rainville who represents New Boston at DRA has indicated just the opposite to the Board of Selectmen when the subject has come up during meetings in Concord to set the tax rate. More discussion ensued as to whether the adoption for the Municipal Budget Act should be presented on the 1990 Town Warrant. Selectman Mansfield felt that operating Town Meeting under this act would cause the loss of some independence; however, all agreed that it was a way to deal with the School Budget and exercise some control. The end agreement was that this would not be presented by this group as a Warrant Article for this Town Meeting, but would be looked into more thoroughly during the course of this year by the Board of Selectmen as to its pros and cons.

At this point in the meeting the Selectmen met with Bonnie Bethune, Manager of the Transfer Station, who had been scheduled to meet with the Selectmen at 8:00 pm. The meeting with the previous group would continue after Bonnie had completed her business with the Selectmen. Bonnie presented to the Selectmen a plan devised and legislated through N. H. Resource Recovery whereby residents would pay an additional fee when renewing there auto registrations these monies to be spent for the disposal of motor vehicle waste. Although this could potentially generate a sizeable amount of revenue, there were areas that the Selectmen felt were not quite as attractive. They felt we would be better off at this time to establish the recycling fund. Sandra Gendron spoke from the Town Clerk's prospective

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that a lot of thought would have to put into the collection and bookkeeping aspect if this fee were to be instituted. Discussion ensued as to our not being able to change our fees and as to what methods we might look to and what markets might be available to dispose of waste motor oil, a question that is asked of Bonnie frequently by people using the transfer station. The Selectmen voted unanimously not to use this approach to rid ourselves of motor vehicle waste at this time.

Bonnie related to the Selectmen that the grant monies she will be seeking to help offset some of the costs of what she will need at the transfer station to get into recycling in a profitable way have been delayed until April of 1990, but we will go forth with the Public Hearing on Feb. 19, 1990. It is the advice of N. H. officials that we go for the whole package at Town Meeting which will include the building and two pieces of equipment basing their thinking on the more we are willing to commit as a community to recycling the more likely we will be to get the grant.

The meeting returned to the group that had come in regarding the presentation of articles for the 1990 Town Warrant. Cyr Daniel requested permission of the Selectmen and was granted such permission to set up a display table at Town Meeting for the Taxpayer's Association.

The next article they presented to be included in the warrant was to see if the town will vote for a study committee appointed by the Selectmen to review all town services for any areas where user fees might be appropriate for consideration and discussion and such committee would report back to the Town at a public hearing in July, recommendations approved at such hearing would be instituted by September 1, 1990. This is relatively self explanatory and it was suggested by Ed Rainville that this proposal be requested to be placed in both Town and School Warrants. The use of the multi-purpose room at the school was discussed at length. Brandy pointed out that these articles were not being submitted to be debated at Town Meeting, but only to, in this case, set up the committee. Selectman Mansfield felt that the proposed article might suggest that the Selectmen were not doing their job, Brandy emphatically denied that that was the intention. It was intended to direct departments to try to help their budgets even in small ways.

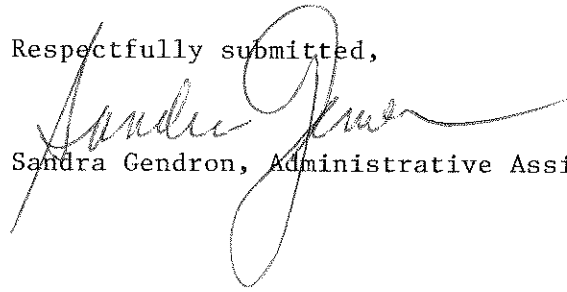
The subject of the S. A. U. was raised and whether we might fair better financially by withdrawing, since this budget, in the opinion of the group meeting with the Selectmen, was excessively high. Selectman Dodge felt such a move be foolhardy and if this were only a ploy to get more information to be brought to the public's attention, then there had to be a better way. This proposal would be on the School Warrant, but the Selectmen's views were being sought. There was agreement that maybe this should be re-worded in such a way that we would not withdraw, but more investigation go into the budget process. Discussion ensued as to election of School Board Members whose vote it was that passed this particular budget.

The next article present was to see if the Town will vote to adopt the following Educational Tax Credit. This tax credit, if adopted, will be instituted at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen. It was the feeling that the adoption of such an article would encourage more parents to use private schools. Discussion ensued as to the legality of such an article and Brandy stated that this would be on the ballots of several area communities and was certain that it would be challenged in the courts. One law firm in Washington, D. C. is guaranteeing defense in the courts. The group felt that it could be adopted, but not enacted until the legal backing was in place. The group recognized that there was a risk involved in this article if it did not encourage more people to withdraw from the public school system. The article is addressed to property owners and is not necessarily limited to parents, but students could be sponsored.

Cyr Daniel requested the printing of the teachers' salaries in the Town Report and further presented a breakdown of the library salaries be printed in keeping with the other town salaries that were already printed in the report. The Selectmen felt that it was the School District that should authorize this to be printed in their section of the Town and School Report and would contact School Board Members to state their support of this

The meeting adjourned with the Selectmen having signed checks and reviewed mail at approximately 11:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sandra Gendron". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Sandra Gendron, Administrative Assistant