

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING - May 28, 1990

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

The first scheduled appointment was with Police Chief John Ballou who had been invited in by the Board of Selectmen to discuss whether it might be his intention to remain on the Police Department in a part-time status once his full-time status was terminated on June 30, 1990 and, further, to discuss what provisions might have been made and would be made for policing the up-coming annual 4th of July celebration.

John's response to the above matters was that he did not feel remaining on the force in a part-time status would not be in his personal best interests; however he would take the responsibility for scheduling the policing duties necessary for the 4th of July celebration. John stated that he had heard that Milford was planning a full-fledged celebration of the 4th including fireworks and wondered how this might effect the numbers coming to New Boston. Selectman Mansfield once again wanted it clarified that John would take care of the policing needs for the 4th and John responded that he would set-up the day and to the best of his knowledge, with the exception of his son David, all the part-time officers would be available. Again, John stated that he did not feel he would go back to a part-time status on the force. Selectman Dodge asked if John planned on working through the 4th if he were on part-time and John responded that it was his understanding that his full-time status could be extended; however, he did not wish to remain on as a part-timer because the police job interferes with a full-time job. Once again, he stated that he would set-up the 4th and make sure that sufficient help was available.

On another matter, John suggested that it might be required that persons in charge of an event remain sober while the event is underway, that there has been more than one occurrence where this has been a problem. The Selectmen certainly agreed with John on this matter, but wondered how to facilitate. John also stated that the New Boston Police Department would not be dropping the disorderly conduct charges regarding a recent incident which came under what John was proposing above, that, if nothing else, it was the principal of the matter at stake.

Discussion turned to the new cruiser which John expected would be delivered mid-June. The radio has also been ordered with the original price being cut some \$600.00, thus allowing the entire package for the new cruiser to come in under budget. John further wanted the Selectmen to be aware that the frame on the Jeep Wagoneer, the oldest of the cruisers was rusted and probably would not pass another inspection. Since this was the cruiser to be sold when the new one arrives, the sticker would be removed and the condition of the cruiser would be stated at the time of sale. John also wants the Selectmen to know that there is a problem with the Chevrolet Blazer that as yet has not been diagnosed. There is a growling sound occasionally detected either in the rear-end or the transmission. It is John's thought that if the noise becomes more persistent then it might have to be taken to Doble's where it was purchased for diagnosis. John left stating that due to the condition of the Jeep it would used for light duty only.

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Lloyd Barss, Mont Vernon Road, had been invited in to be interviewed by the Board of Selectmen regarding a position as an alternate on the Planning Board. The interview did not progress too far, when Lloyd pointed out that after having given the situation some thought he did not feel that he had sufficient time available to devote the time necessary to the Planning Board in any capacity. The Selectmen thanked Lloyd for his honesty and asked that should he be in a position to have some available time, would he contact the Board if he was still interested in serving on the Planning Board.

Selectman Mansfield stated to the Board, having been at the Planning Board meeting the previous Tuesday evening as the Selectmen's Representative, that Kevin McLarnon had withdrawn for the time being his letter of resignation as a full-time member of the Planning Board and would make as many of the meetings as his job would allow which had been his original reason for submitting his resignation. This being the case the most immediate needs of the Planning Board remained that of two alternate member appointments.

Holly Bowen, Lull Road, was next in at the request of the Selectmen also for the purpose of interviewing for a position on the Planning Board. Holly was told by the Board that the Planning Board was in need of at least one alternate member at the present time. Since Holly and her husband David have had recent dealings with the Planning Board, she responded when asked, that she personally felt they were a dedicated group concerned with the growth of New Boston and, further, when asked if she felt the Planning Board was too restrictive, she responded that their regulations were necessary using the possible over-population of the schools and this impact on the town as an example. Holly did not feel that David's business as a contractor would present any kind of a conflict should she be appointed to the Planning Board and she also stated that she had plenty of time to take on the responsibilities of the position should it be made available to her. She further responded, when asked, that she felt she could deal with whatever pressures might result in given situations and she would support the Planning Board in their decisions. Selectman Mansfield told Holly of the needs of other Boards in town such as the Conservation Commission and the Zoning Board of Adjustment and would she be interested in serving on a Board other than Planning if asked. Holly expressed a possible interest in the ZBA and was told that their need also included that of a recording secretary. Holly agreed that she might be interested and would have the time necessary to devote to the position.

Since Holly also acts as chairperson for the annual 4th of July Celebration, discussion turned to this subject. Holly told the Board of Selectmen that the theme for the 1990 parade had been voted on by the students at the Central School and would be "Disney." She stated a tentative time-frame for the scheduled events proposed for the day and said that once again the area will be fenced in since this had proved financially success in 1989 for the Playground Association. She did agree that everyone taking money at a gate would have to be aware of the admission prices, since this was a problem last year for some of the gatekeepers. Otherwise, Holly stated that the entire project would be virtually the same in 1990 as it had been in 1989 and would submit certificates of insurance the same as in 1989. The Selectmen asked Holly to contact Chief of

Police John Ballou who would be organizing police coverage for the day. Finally, Holly pointed out to the Selectmen the improvements the Playground Association had made to the kiddie section of the playground and told of what remained to be done.

Donald Molt, Simons Farm Road, was in with John Neville to discuss with the Board of Selectmen the slope requirement on Riverdale Road for Don's gravel pit as the reclamation process begins in this particular area. Don stated that the existing pit is down and they are ready to start reclaiming and, further, they would like to move to a section not too far in and smaller than the one they have been working. The end result will be that everything will blend in once the gravel has been removed. Ultimately the entire pit floor will be the same grade. The Selectmen felt that they should do an on-site inspection of the situation and since Riverdale Road is a scenic road, any activity on the road is subject to a public hearing. The Town also is contemplating work on Riverdale Road and the thought was expressed that possibly the public hearings could be combined. It was decided that a time for the on-site walk would be scheduled with all appropriate persons within the next two weeks.

Sonnie Bethune, manager of the Transfer Station, was in to present to the Board of Selectmen a bid package for the proposed building to be erected on the site of the Transfer Station to facilitate handling of recyclables. The performance specs submitted by Bonnie will give the contractors an opportunity to submit a bid for either a wood or metal structure. The Selectmen suggested that Bonnie might want the bid to be broken down into specific items such as concrete, electrical and plumbing and separate bid amounts requested for each. Bonnie stated that she had visited sites in Warner and Chesterfield on which such buildings had been placed and discussion ensued as to the details of the buildings she had visited and what she was proposing for New Boston. All agreed to use a limited number of bidders and that potential list was discussed. The Selectmen further suggested that Bonnie schedule a mandatory walk-thru, with the date and time specified in the bid package. Bonnie left the package with the Board for their review and will return next week to discuss the issue once the Board had familiarized themselves with her proposal.

Judy Knight, Mont Vernon Road, was in to interview with the Selectmen for a position as an alternate to the Planning Board. When asked she described the Planning Board as one of the most important to a community like New Boston because actions taken by such a board set the course for the town for many years to come. She supports the Planning Board as having done a good job thus far and commented that New Boston does not appear to have many of the problems that other towns are experiencing. Judy feels she has the time necessary to become an effective member of the Planning Board despite a very busy and active schedule. She also stated when asked that she supports the current zoning recently passed and does not feel her work involving commercial real estate sales will become a conflict should she be named to the Planning Board as an alternate.

At 9:45 p. m. Selectman Dodge moved to go into an Executive Session for the purpose of an interview for the position of full-time Chief of Police, this was seconded by Selectman Johnston and a roll call

vote resulted in the affirmative by all Selectmen. At 10:40 p. m. a motion was offered by Selectman Johnston, seconded by Selectman Dodge that the Executive Session conclude, this was agreed to by all Selectmen and the meeting returned to its normal agenda.

Checks were signed, mail was reviewed and the meeting was adjourned at approximately midnight.

Respectfully submitted,


Sandra Gendron
Administrative Assistant