

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING - October 29, 1990

Present for the meeting which began at 7:00 p.m. were Selectmen Johnston and Dodge, Selectman Mansfield was absent due to illness. Sandra Gendron took minutes.

Lee Murray Road Agent was in for his regular meeting with the Board, the first order of business was Selectman Dodge's review of his meeting with Harry Murray with regard to the Don Prouty lot line change on Tucker Mill Road. Selectman Johnston was also in attendance and agreement was reached with Don Prouty regarding the line adjustment. The Town will gain the width needed for the future widening of the intersection. Discussion ensued as to whether the short section of road would be reclassified as a Class VI or whether it would be a wiser idea to deed this section of road to Don Prouty and eliminate the Town's responsibility entirely. If the latter course were taken, the Town would maintain an easement on that road section until such time as the bridge were removed. It is the feeling of the Selectmen that by deeding that section of road to Don Prouty, it cleans the situation and relieves any liability to the Town that a Class VI portion of road presents.

Selectman Dodge would like to see the Road Committee scheduled as soon as possible to review the CIP and Master Plan. The Board would like to review the road study from the original Master Plan to determine if any of the projected needs have changed or any areas need updating. Lee maintained the need for the road survey and possibly the use of traffic counters that might be available for the Town to rent.

Discussion turned to the extras submitted by David Bowen on the Tucker Mill Road Project, the gravel appeared to be in line; however, Lee will discuss the excavator time and labor charges.

The next topic of discussion was the paving that Brox had done on Joe English Road for which we are withholding \$9,000 from the total amount until the Board of Selectmen feel confident that the job will be completed to their satisfaction. Lee contends that Brox had treated the Town of New Boston fairly and questions our withholding funds from the final bill. Selectman Dodge contends that the Board of Selectmen is held justifiable by the citizens of the Town. Lee countered that this is the first experience we have had with Brox which we have not be completely satisfied with. Selectman Dodge stated that the Town did not get what it paid for and Selectman Johnston interjected that the Town of New Boston should not have to suffer because a poor job was done by a subcontractor. The discussion ended with Lee agreeing to contact Brox to inquire as to what the next step might be in resolving the matter and with Lee commenting that he hates to jeopardize a good relationship to which all were in agreement. The Board encouraged Lee to continue negotiations with Brox.

Lee next brought up the topic of plow rates for the upcoming season bearing in mind the increases to date in the cost of fuel. Lee wondered if the State had entertained any increases and asked if anyone had any information. Selectman Dodge felt that the State was not quite the same as the Town with regard to how contractors were paid for plowing since trucks contracted by the State were paid to sit and work upon demand; whereas, the contractors working for the

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Town do the required work and are released. Selectman Dodge asked Lee what he had in mind and Lee reviewed how the freight companies handled an unexpected increase in the cost of fuel. Selectman Dodge suggested that Lee present the Board with price increase suggestions for their review. Lee stated that it appeared that the contractors for this year would be the same as last and were preparing for the upcoming winter.

Selectman Johnston asked Lee if he had heard from the Towsley's on Christie Road to which Lee responded that he had not. Selectman Johnston stated that he would contact them since Lee is working in that area of Town presently.

On another matter, Lee stated that it was too late in the year to place the pugmill on Thornton Road or Valley View Lane which had been planned; however, that project would become a 1991 priority. Lee also commented that the project on Beard Road being done by Tim Trimbur was going well and that Tim had been warned not to destroy any stone walls to which Tim responded that in the event any were destroyed he would rebuild.

Bonnie Bethune, Manager of the Transfer Station, was in to discuss the purchase of a baler for the station. She was told that the possibility of a deal being struck with Mark Wilson for the purchase of a secondhand baler was out because the cost would be too much. Selectman Johnston related his conversation with Rausseit on the subject of a used baler. His discussion also included the fact that by installing a 5 hp motor and a two-stage pump more platen pressure could be gained; however, the machine would be slower. He was also told that this installation would be done on more and more balers. The people he spoke with suggested that if we moved the existing trailer containing cardboard, he could put the baler in place for a two week trial and discussion ensued on the cost and logistics involved. The Selectmen supported Bonnie giving this machine a trial run. Bonnie explained that this particular machine did not have some of the necessary features and expressed concern that if the trial did not work out then we have lost even more valuable time in making the decision to purchase a baler. Discussion ensued as to giving this machine a trial run and the end results was that all agreed to give this machine a try since the dealer claimed that this machine would perform up to our expectations. The Selectmen voted upon motion of Selectman Johnston and duly seconded to notify all the bidders that the bids submitted had been rejected. Bonnie will arrange for the used machine to be delivered.

It was decided, after some discussion, that the Transfer Station would be open on the Wednesday following the two upcoming holidays for their regular hours.

The last item Bonnie wished to discuss with the Board of Selectmen was doors that needed to be installed in the new building for a cost estimate of approximately \$575.00. The Selectmen authorized this expenditure and Bonnie stated that once ordered the doors would take approximately three weeks for delivery.

Mail was reviewed, checks were signed and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sandra Gendron".

Sandra Gendron
Administrative Assistant