

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING - January 2, 1991

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

Road Agent Lee Murray was in for his regularly scheduled weekly meeting with the Board of Selectmen. The first topic for discussion was a meeting Lee had with Mr. Edward Lee on Clark Hill Road. The discussion revolved around how the road can be made a safer traveled way bearing in mind its narrowness. Mr. Lee was told that the Town will be approaching all the landowners in the area in an attempt to resolve the dilemma.

The next item to be discussed was the oil spill by a Daniels Oil delivery truck that had recently occurred on Old Coach Road. The sand that had been used to absorb the spilled oil needed to be cleaned up. Selectman Dodge suggested that Leon Daniels, owner of the oil company, be called in to determine how the clean-up would take place and also to make certain Leon Daniels would be assuming financial responsibility for the clean-up. Lee gave the Board of Selectmen the history of the spill and stated that the State had suggested that the oil be covered with sand and then picked up. The State officials did not remain on site to see if the spill were cleaned satisfactorily using the sand and on Saturday there was evidence that the spill had spread. The State visited the site once again and used speedy dry which appeared to work well. Still much of the sand is remaining and will need to be cleaned up. It was decided that any Town supplies and equipment used in relation to the clean up of this spill would be billed to Daniels Oil Co.

The next topic of conversation was the budget being formulated for the coming year. Lee would like to see the proposed appropriation for the resurfacing portion of his operating budget increased by a minimum of 5% and expressed the same desire for the summer maintenance portion of his budget. There was discussion as to where the resurfacing monies would be used with Lee stating that the majority of this budget item would be used for resealing paved roads. The Selectmen supported the figure of \$75,000. for resurfacing and agreed that this budget item and that of summer maintenance would be reviewed prior to Town Meeting to determine if any adjustments should be made.

Lee brought up the subject of the computer components that he would still need to purchase in the amount of \$2500-2800. in order to do work that he would like to see accomplished with regard to road specifics. Lee looks upon this purchase as advantageous. The Selectmen expressed concern that with the economy in the state that it is currently, this purchase could be tabled and would like more time to think about it.

The Board of Selectmen agreed to have Lee stockpile the blasting material accumulated on the Clark Hill Road Project in the area for future use in the expansion of the road.

PA
TJM
LW

The letter received from Brox was next discussed. Selectman Dodge supported the idea of overlaying the entire project, but rejected the proposal made by Brox. Selectman Johnston agrees with Selectman Dodge; however, contending that Brox Industries has been good to the Town of New Boston in the past and is willing to support the retention of \$2500. to resolve the situation. Selectman Mansfield reviewed for all the costs of the entire project. Lee stated that it had been his original intent not to have to seal that Joe English Road for three or four years. Selectman Mansfield stated that, in his opinion, overlaying the project was the best route to go. The entire Board agreed that they did not want to see the unsatisfactory areas patched. Selectman Mansfield moved to return \$6500. to Brox and to contract with them in the spring to overlay the entire stretch of the project on Joe English Road for \$9900. less the \$2500. they are willing to contribute and further, the Town will retain the \$2500. as insurance should anything unforeseen happen to Brox Industries. This proposal by Selectman Mansfield was so voted by the Board of Selectmen.

Recreation Director Sandy Gallup and Recreation Commission President Karen Hall were next in to see the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Mansfield began the discussion by stating that the Board is in agreement to leave the structure of the Recreation budget as it has been in the past, this would mean last years appropriation of \$20,000. plus the overage which relates to the salaries of the summer program and is paid back by the Commission with funds raised by Friends of Recreation. The Recreation Appropriation in the operating Town Budget is strictly in payment of salaries. Sandy discussed with the Board why the budget always goes over and how difficult it is to predict a specific amount. She has tried various means of trying to get an accurate figure as to how many children she will ultimately have in attendance for the summer program. She indicated that she needs one counselor for every ten children and last year she tried offering discounts for early sign-ups attempting to get a grasp on numbers of participants. She also went on to relate that the declining economy hit her program since some of her participants never paid in full. She stated that it is the intent of the Recreation Commission that no child be denied and has always used scholarship donations to meet her needs. This year she had been promised \$1,000. which she awarded to deserving children and then never received.

Discussion continued on the hiring process and Sandy commented on the good group of counselors that she has had return for the last couple of years. She further stated that the Friends of Recreation has been a very valuable contributor to the Commission with their fund raising efforts. They have reimbursed the Town whenever possible so that the overage on the Recreation budget is not subsidized by tax dollars.

Karen indicated the Commission would like to see the proposed budget increased sufficiently to cover the estimated overage and that of an

increase in the salary of the director. Discussion ensued on the summer program serving a limited number of residents rather than the Town as a whole. The rates charged for the program were also discussed. Karen proposed that 1991 Recreation budget be \$25,000. this would include a raise for the director and the balance would go towards the salaries. Discussion ensued on the proposed raise for the director which would be \$3000. bringing the annual salary to \$10,000. The number of hours put in on the job were discussed and the fact that if the Town were to have to replace Sandy they would be hard pressed to do so for the salary offered. The Recreation Commission had proposed that the annual salary be \$12,000.; however, Sandy felt comfortable with \$10,000. It was decided to bring the subject before the Board of Selectmen for their input.

Discussion then turned to the fact that should the JAL (Junior Athletic League) become affiliated with the Recreation Commission there would be an increase in the workload for the director that would follow. The charge per/sport schedule of the JAL was discussed and the fact that this year the JAL had to provide insurance coverage which represented a major financial obligation to that organization. Even though a merger might look attractive to the JAL, it was discussed that any joining of the two groups should not increase the Town appropriation for the Recreation Commission. Discussion turned back to the question of the Director's salary and what the Town appropriation of \$20,000. currently represented; namely, \$13,000. for the summer salaries and \$7,000. for the Director's salary. The Selectmen expressed concern in raising this budget appropriation too much in one year. Sandy expressed the thought that the \$25,000. should remain a firm figure even if the \$3,000. raise for the Director was not approved because it would lessen the burden on the Friends to reimburse the Town should the budget be overspent on salaries, she further stated that these were the sentiments of the Commission.

Discussion turned to the building of the pavilion on the school grounds. The Commission was looking for support from the Board of Selectmen to try to find someone other than John Ryan to do the roof. John had originally agreed to do the job and the materials had been purchased; however, Sandy was finding it a difficult task to make connections with John and get him to make a commitment to her. It was decided that Sandy would compose a letter to John to try to get the project moving.

The next topic for discussion was the skating rink which to date had not been too successful due to a lack of response from the Fire Department in getting the constructed area filled with water. Contact would again be made with the Fire Department.

Once again, discussion returned to the Director's salary and the proposed increase. Selectman Mansfield expressed concern that the proposed increase would call for much more accountability of the hours of the director and questioned the hours being put in by a New

Boston senior citizen under a federally funded program. Sandy responded by emphasizing that, in her opinion, the number of hours she spends in the Recreation Office are not covered adequately by her present salary and fully realizes there is the potential of many questions being raised at Town Meeting.

Selectmen Dodge and Johnston contended that the Town was most likely not aware of the full scope of the Recreation Department's involvement in programs generating income and expenses in excess of \$30,000. and Selectman Johnston offered his support for a \$10,000. annual salary for the Director. Selectman Mansfield also supported this proposed salary and encouraged Sandy to decide what annual salary she would feel her workload and hours spent warranted and then ask for it. Discussion ensued that Sandy was satisfied with the proposed \$10,000. and that the Recreation Commission would support that amount even though they considered \$12,000. to be at the low end of the salary scale. Selectman Mansfield stated he felt more comfortable supporting the \$10,000. figure keeping in mind the present economy. Selectman Johnston suggested that \$26,000. be proposed as a 1991 budget figure for the Recreation Department which would allow \$10,000. for the salary of the director and the balance for the salaries for the summer program. This proposal was supported by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Mansfield requested that Sandy submit a proposed budget within the next few days, which she agreed to do.

The next discussion took place in the Conference Room regarding Community Development and roads within a proposed Community Development, this topic of discussion involved members from the Planning Board and the Fire Department. Given as examples of such roads within a community development were Cote Drive in Cofftown and Sawyer Park in Weare. In previous planning sessions, the Planning Board has always been under the assumption that the Town of New Boston would be maintaining such roads and now is looking for input from the Fire Department and the Board of Selectmen on the subject. Everyone was in agreement that any proposed road construction would be to existing Town specifications. The question then arises should the Town maintain these roads from the beginning or should the developer maintain the roads with the Town taking over maintenance at some given point. The concern being that the lots involved would eventually be sold to individual parties with no common area of ownership involved. Chairman of the Planning Board Harold "Bo" Strong expressed the thought that the initial road around any such development should be maintained by the Town; however, if a developer purchased a two acre site for such use as a shopping mall then the area to be used for the parking lots, etc. would be the responsibility of the developer. Bo did point out that any revisions made to current ordinances in this regard would in no way affect residential use.

Discussion ensued and the acreage owned by Bud Scott on River Road was cited as an example of a potential industrial development in New

Boston. The Planning Board is contemplating proposing "Planned Unit Development", which if presented and passed at a future Town Meeting would give owners of such property more options as to the development of their land. Again the Planning Board's concerns revolving around roads that would be constructed being privately owned and maintained was brought up. Much discussion ensued generally around safety issues and how emergencies might be handled if the town agencies such as police and fire departments were at the mercy of private contractors. It was suggested that since so many scenarios could be constructed using many different issues that possibly each development would have to be reviewed as to its individual merits.

Road Agent Lee Murray, also in attendance, suggested that the present Town Road Specifications might have to be reviewed to accommodate different traffic needs.

When the general issue seemed to boil down to whether the Town might want ownership of roads in conventional subdivisions and private ways in Planned Unit Development, all appeared to be in agreement that if a road in question is a subdivision road then it should be a town road and once again discussion ensued. The meeting ended with the thought the entire concept of Planned Unit Development was relatively new and more study was needed and investigation as to how other Town's might be handling concepts such as this one. The Planning Board thanked all in attendance for their thoughts and input.

The Board of Selectmen returned to their office where checks were signed, mail was reviewed and the meeting adjourned at approximately midnight.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Gendron
Administrative Assistant