

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING - February 17, 1991

Present for the meeting which began at 6:30 p.m. due to the agenda for the evening were Selectmen Johnston, Dodge and Olson with Sandra Gendron taking minutes.

The first item for the evening was to discuss bids which had been received for proposed cutting on town-owned property. The individual bidders had been invited in at fifteen minute intervals for discussion of their submitted bids. Also present for these interviews were Clifton LaBree and George O. St. John members of the Forestry Committee.

The first bidder in was Richard Foote. The Board of Selectmen explained that the bidders had been invited in for discussion of their individual proposals. Selectman Dodge inquired of Dick what he intended to do with the tree tops and discussion ensued with Dick stating that he intended to take the tops to 5". Dick explained that currently there was no market for red pine and advised those present to leave these trees standing. When asked if his price of \$90.00 MBF would hold into the fall of 1992 should the project not be completed due to spring weather conditions, Dick responded that his price would hold. Dick's bid also stipulated that he would pay \$.50 for pulp. He stated that he would be working on the project alone and has \$500,000 liability insurance, a copy of which he would provide. He went on to state that he could start the project immediately and estimated that it would take approximately four weeks to complete. This estimate was based on favorable weather conditions realizing the Selectmen only wanted the operation to continue while the ground is frozen. Dick further estimated that he would be cutting between 20 and 25,000 weekly and when asked, stated that he would be paying the Town on a weekly basis running one week behind. Dick stated that he used the Timco Mill and has always been happy with the scales.

Next in to meet with the Board was Jonathan Stout who had also submitted a bid for the project. Selectman Dodge explained to Jon as he had to Dick the purpose of the interview. Jon's bid was \$90.00 MBF for 12 - 16' lengths and \$30.00 MBF for 8 - 10' lengths. Jon estimated that the shorter lengths would amount to approximately 10% of the total cut. Discussion ensued as to how he cut and what he tries to get out of each tree as far as footage is concerned. Selectman Johnston asked Jon about the red pine especially those that were of pole length. Jon stated that he has to deal with a buyer specifically for the red pine who does turn poles. The prospective buyer marks the trees he would be interested in. Jon stated that the an average of \$220.00 per thousand is realized from red pine cut for poles and his buyer pays by the length. He further commented that there is presently no market for red pine to be used as logs. Jon stated that he could begin the job on March 2nd and estimated that it would take 2 - 3 weeks to complete. He stated that he would be working primarily by himself with the possibility of one other if he sub-contracted a portion of the job. He stated, when asked, that he had \$500,000.00 in liability insurance and would pay weekly most likely on Monday's. Lastly, when asked Jon stated that he felt confident he could hold his price until fall should it become necessary to do so. During the course of the interview with Jon it was pointed out by Cliff LaBree that Jon had taken the initiative to familiarize himself with the Town owned forests and

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wood
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Jon was encouraged to continue this practice by the Board of Selectmen.

The last bidder to come before the Board was Tim Trimbur and it was explained to Tim as had been to the others the reason for the interview. Selectman Dodge noted that Tim had included in his bid \$75.00 per thousand for the red pine. Tim explained that he had contacted one buyer who would mark the lot and the trees that could be used for poles would bring between \$150.00 and \$250.00 per thousand so he felt confident that he could offer the \$75.00. He further commented that it a local buyer. When asked about the amount of 8's and 10's he considered would be involved in the cut, Tim estimated that they would be insignificant to the total project. Selectman Johnston asked what diameter Tim used for 8' and Tim responded that he runs the diameter right down to 6". Selectman Dodge asked Tim questions regarding his equipment and manpower. Tim stated that he would be doing the job alone and went on to propose that he do one-half the job now and the balance over next year; however, he assured the Board that the would work according to their wishes. Tim estimated the job would take four weeks. Selectman Dodge expressed the concern of the Board with regard to the possibility of an early mud season and Tim stated that he would not be inconvenienced if he were asked to stop the project due to weather conditions. Clif LaBree asked Tim what he did with the treetops and Tim responded that he only left 3" utilizing the entire tree. He went on to state that he would pay \$1.00 per ton for pulp and he would remove the pulp. He commented that he would accommodate whatever was requested of him. He stated that he had \$500,000.00 in liability insurance. Tim did state with regard to clean-up that he would need a place to dump the block wood and assured the Board and Members of the Forestry Committee that the area would be left spotless. On the matter of payment, Tim said he would pay as promptly as the mill paid him, there would likely be a one week delay and he could start the job almost immediately. Tim also impressed upon those present that he did his own trucking which he regarded as a positive aspect of him doing the job.

General discussion on the interviews took place, with favorable support being given to Tim Trimbur's presentation. Clif LaBree commented that what the Forestry Committee was looking for was a good, neat and orderly job stressing the importance of accountability for the materials sold. He offered support for Jon Stout who had just completed a job for him to his complete satisfaction. The Selectmen commented that Tim Trimbur had done work for the Town in the past and they were also satisfied with his performance.

The red pine was discussed and all agreed that there was most likely only one load thereby not a large enough portion of the job to base any firm decisions on. All were in agreement that the job should be done at once if the weather holds. Clif commented that there was no reason to think that the Town could not get a good clean job done as well as realizing a good going market price for the timber cut.

There was much discussion since the bidders were all within a range of each other and were all considered capable of doing a fine job. Clif commented that he considered Foote and Stout using an

independent trucker an added safety measure in getting accurate readings on the scales. George St. John spoke in favor of awarding the bid to Dick Foote.

There was much discussion, but the final decision was based on the best price offered which was by Dick Foote and the fact that he would start the job immediately. The Board of Selectmen voted unanimously with the support of the Forestry Committee Members to award the bid to Richard Foote.

Clif LaBree speaking for the Forestry Committee stated that they would prefer that the Board of Selectmen handle the contract, that it be kept brief and use the hi-points of the information sheet that was presented to each bidder.

Stephen Campbell, a resident of Joe English Road was next in to see the Board of Selectmen to discuss the condition of the road in front of his property. Stephen questioned why money that had been appropriated for paving Joe English Road has not been used for that purpose. Stephen contends that he pays high taxes both on his property and on the valuable automobiles that he owns and is frustrated at having to drive these vehicles over dusty roads with many potholes. He would like to know what needs to be done in order to get the road paved.

The Board pointed out to Mr. Campbell that the monies he was referring to had been put up by a developer, some of which had been expended on Joe English Road and further that these monies were not sufficient enough nor were they dedicated exclusively to the paving of Joe English Road. Selectman Dodge explained the concept of the Master Plan and the traffic studies that are done to prioritize the roads in Town that will be updated and further stated that the section of Joe English Road on which Mr. Campbell owned property was low on the priority list.

Stephen asked what the cost would be to pave the section of the road on which he lived and Selectmen Dodge explained that the road needed major upgrading before it would ever be ready to receive paving, but did agree that a price could be worked up with the assistance of the Road Agent.

The conversation remained amiable and Stephen questioned whether a better grade of gravel could be spread in the area and at what cost. It was agreed that suitable materials would be looked into and the cost would be quoted to Mr. Campbell.

Michael and Deanna Powell, residents of Old Coach Road were next in to see the Board of Selectmen. They were extremely concerned with the salt content of their well, having already presented to the Board test results along with a letter of concern, and contended that they could neither sell nor refinance their property with the present condition of the well. They stated that this was the first year that they have had the problem and felt that it was easily explained based on the amount of salt the Road Agent was pouring on the road in front of their property to control a buildup of ice. They went on to explain that the area of ice buildup was particularly bad this year and they did warn the Road Agent of the

effect the amount of salt being used was having on their well; however, they contended that the Road Agent did not heed their warnings. Discussion ensued on the tests that had been submitted to the Board one having been taken very recently and one having been taken in 1988. There was also discussion of the issues involved with the drainage of the road in the vicinity of the Powell property.

Selectman Dodge asked if the Town might pump their well down and let it recover to see if this might make a difference. The Powell's were of the opinion that this would not solve the problem and Deanna Powell suggested that the Town should put them in a new well. Selectman Dodge supported as reasonable the attempt to pump the well. Deanna Powell expressed concern that the problem will be ongoing. Selectman Dodge stated that the Road Agent has given consideration to alternative ways to handle the ice buildup in the future, to which Deanna Powell responded that she was out of patience and asked where the matter went from here.

Selectman Dodge stated that he had no answers and asked if they had an alternative to handling the ice condition, he did go on to state that the Town will not immediately drill the Powell's a new well. Selectman Johnston stated that the Board will look at the situation, expressing his thought that surface water had to be effecting the well since the frost was presently so low in the ground. There was discussion with regard to the liability issue that the Town faces should the roads not be kept clear for safe travel. The Selectmen also suggested that they would seek advice through the State of N. H. who faces similar scenarios.

The Powell's left expressing understanding of the Selectmen's position in the matter and will wait to hear from them after they have inspected the well.

It was voted unanimously by all three Selectmen to enter into an Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. for discussion of a personnel issue. Upon a similar unanimous vote the Executive Session was exited at 10:00 p.m. with no decisions being made.

Checks were signed, mail was reviewed and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sandra Gendron
Administrative Assistant

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING - January 27, 1992

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

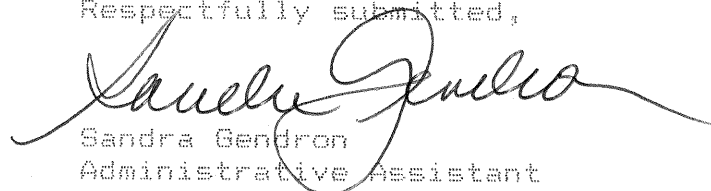
The meeting was devoted in its entirety to presenting budgets prepared by the Highway Department and the Office of Selectmen to the Finance Committee. Road Agent Lee Murray was in to discuss his proposed 1992 budgets and Finance Committee members included Chairman Dan Rothman, Elliott Hersey, James Dane, Richard Hechtl, and Gordon Carlstrom representing the School Board.

Once the business with the Finance Committee was completed, Selectmen Olson discussed with the Board the fact that the Planning Board would like to investigate the possibility of contracting with a Municipal Attorney. The Planning Board is concerned that the dialogue between themselves and the Office of Town Counsel is not what it should be; namely, regarding situations presented to the attorneys not being handled in what the Planning Board considers a thorough and timely manner. It is the intention of the Planning Board that the Selectmen be made aware so that they might give consideration to the dilemma.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously agreed to invite Town Counsel in to discuss the matter fully prior to making a decision that would change the way legal matters are currently handled.

Checks were signed, mail was reviewed and the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sandra Gendron
Administrative Assistant

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