

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING - September 9, 1991

Present for the meeting which began at 7:00 p.m. were Selectmen Johnston and Olson, Selectman Dodge had been unavoidable detained. Sandra Gendron took minutes.

Since Selectman Dodge was late in arriving the scheduled appointment with the Building Inspector Robert Milliard was canceled and would be rescheduled for a future Monday meeting.

The meeting officially began at 8:00 p.m. with an interview with John Palmer for the open position as an alternate to the Planning Board. Selectman Johnston began the process by asking John to explain why he might like to become a member of the Planning Board. John discussed the number of years he has lived in New Boston and the number of years he has been selling real estate. He went on to state that his experience in the real estate business, in his opinion, has kept him in tune with Planning Board requirements and further he feels that he has a great knowledge of the town in general. John expressed a desire to serve the Town in some way and looks upon this opportunity as his civic duty.

Selectman Johnston asked John if he felt being in the business of real estate sales would be a conflict if he were appointed to serve on the Planning Board. John responded that he is in the business of selling lots and does not become involved in the subdivision process. He did not see himself as being in conflict with the regulations; however, if such were ever the case he would be asked to be dismissed on a given vote. He stated that they did not feel this situation would be frequent and went on to state that he looks at himself as an individual who possesses a great deal of integrity and lives by the law.

Selectman Olson who had been present when John was interviewed with the Planning Board members had no questions. Discussion ensued on what the requirements were for an alternate to the Planning Board. Selectman Johnston made John aware that there would be mandatory seminars to attend, which John felt would be no problem. It was also pointed out to John that alternates were expected to make as many regular Planning Board meetings as possible so that they might be kept informed as to the goings on of the Board. Once again, John did not see this as a problem and again expressed his familiarity with the current zoning.

Next in to interview for the same Planning Board position was Thomas Mohan, Jr. Again, Selectman Johnston asked Tom to describe why he wanted to become a member of the Planning Board and to explain how he felt he could help the Town of New Boston.

Tom stated that he finds the prospect of becoming a part of the Planning Board interesting since by virtue of its regulations, the Planning Board touches many areas, he used the legal field as an example. Tom explained that he had grown up in New Boston, was educated here and was now raising a family here, he would like to see the Town remain as it is as much as possible. He commented that development leads to growth and needs to be managed. He went on to state when the economy is good, then money talks and departments such as the Fire Department, the Schools and the tax rate itself need to be able to handle the potential changes that development

creates. Tom stated that his present career has no relation to land development, which he feels creates no conflicts for his ability to serve the board and on the flip side he fully realizes that he lacks experience. He went on to state that he is aware that the Planning Board can only work to try to manage development and in no way can stop it. On the subject of impact fees, Tom offered the thought that, in his opinion, they would have to be applied consistently statewide and does feel that it is basically a fair concept.

Selectman Dodge asked Tom if he felt he had the time necessary to devote to the Planning Board and Tom responded that even though he travels somewhat between Massachusetts and New Hampshire, he is generally home by six o'clock each evening. Selectman Dodge asked if Tom had ever served on a board of any type and Tom responded he had not outside his work atmosphere. Selectman Dodge asked Tom if he felt he would be an active member of the board to which Tom responded that he knew there would be a period of learning; however, this did not, in his opinion, mean that he could not speak to an issue or ask questions and he went on to state that he would provide the time necessary for him to be an active participant on the board.

Selectman Johnston asked if Tom were still interested in running for the School Board since he had applied when there was a recent opening due to a resignation. Tom stated that he would not run this year since the School Board appeared to be in good shape.

Selectman Olson asked Tom how his wife felt regarding the prospect of his serving on the Planning Board and Tom responded that she was supportive; however, commented in a humorous fashion maybe she did not realize what she was in for.

Discussion ensued on the responsibilities bestowed on N. H. Planning Boards by state statute. The Selectmen pointed out that they were looking for a candidate who would listen, become involved and take an active part in the activities of the Board. Again, Selectman Johnston relayed to Tom that the Board of Selectmen encourage alternate members to the Planning Board to attend as many meetings as possible so that they might remain informed as to the goings on of the Planning Board.

The last candidate to be interviewed for the open position as an alternate to the Planning Board was James Dodge III. As were the other two candidates, Jim was asked by Selectman Johnston to describe why he wished to serve on the Planning Board and what could he do for the Town. Jim responded that there was no one reason why he wished to serve on the Planning Board, his interest in serving has grown; and, he went on to state that he is a lifelong resident of the Town with several members of his family involved in Town Government. Jim told the Board of Selectmen that he had taken several related courses prior to graduation from UNH, which also enhanced his interest in town affairs. He went on to state that he plans to remain living on the family farm which will make him available and he would like to make New Boston a better place in which to live.

Selectman Johnston asked Jim if he felt he had the necessary time to

- give to which Jim responded that would not be a problem. Selectman Dodge recognized Jim's technical background, but asked Jim to respond to his lack of practical background largely due to his age. Jim admitted he was young; however, feels he has had much more experience growing up in a farm atmosphere than most individuals his age. He commented that he did not feel his age was a factor and would find it prejudicial should it become one.

Selectman Johnston asked Jim if his interest in serving the Town was limited to the Planning Board to which Jim responded that his primary reason for being interest in the Planning Board was due to his technical background, but he would be interested in the possibility of serving on other boards. Selectman Olson specifically asked if he would be interested in the ZBA and Jim stated that he would consider anything.

Lastly, Selectman Dodge asked Jim how he would deal with any stigma that might be attached to the "Dodge" name. Jim responded that anyone who knows the family knows there is frequently disagreement on issues, that a public official makes a decision which is right for the majority and concluded by stating that an individual works for the town as a whole and he feels the issue of his last name like the issue of his youth should not be a factor.

- Next in to see the Board of Selectmen was Dusty Baras, once again the subject being his ongoing dilemma with regard to his building permit. Dusty requested the meeting with the Board to provide the figure which had been requested of him as to how much he estimates it has and might eventually still cost him to comply with the necessary regulations which will qualify his project for an occupancy permit.

Selectman Olson stated that he had been updating himself on the particulars on the matter and reviewed the history of the permit as he knew it. Dusty also reviewed the history of the permit chronologically for Selectman Olson's benefit which included his feeling that he had come to the various Town Department's for advice and had been led astray. Selectman Olson asked Dusty if a spray booth had been provided for in the drawing of the project to which Dusty responded no. Selectman Olson asked Dusty if the Town should have assumed that painting was to be done to which Dusty responded yes. Selectman Dodge reviewed the matter from the perspective that Dusty had, in fact, signed the document that stated he would be meeting all necessary codes; however, the Town allowed the process to continue and Selectman Dodge is of the opinion that the Town holds some responsibility since it was known that Dusty would be storing paint and should have been realized that he would be spray painting. At this time it was, once again, pointed out that the Building Inspector did have the information but had not thoroughly read his folder until after the fact.

- Selectman Johnston stated that a copy of the floor plan on the permit was not forwarded from the Planning Board to the Building Inspector and alluded to large gaps in communication all the way around. He went on to review his part in trying to find an amiable solution to the matter as it relates to the installation of explosion proof wiring. He stated his main concern relates to what

- Dusty has installed that no cannot be used.

At this point Dusty commented that he feels things would have been okay if he had known what was expected of him from the beginning and went back to the issue of why he feels the Town should share in some of the financial burden this whole situation has placed on him. Selectman Johnston commented that the project has been dragged out over a two year period and the longer a project like this is dragged out the more costly it becomes and the more chance there is that things can be overlooked.

Dusty presented the Board with a restitution figure of \$3,065.90 and again stated that he had tried to meet what everyone wanted before requesting an occupancy permit. Selectman Olson still expressed the desire to be convinced that someone knew from the onset that there was to be a spray booth and Dusty again explained that the words were not used; however, he contended that it was known that there would be painting done inside the building. Discussion ensued on what Dusty will have to do to achieve compliance and Selectman Olson continued to question what the Fire Department interpreted would be taking place inside the structure. The bottom line being that Dusty does not feel he should have to foot the entire bill to correct inadequacies in the system and is looking for restitution from the Town.

- Selectman Johnston again alluded to the system having failed and told Dusty that the Board will discuss what their financial responsibility might be, if any.

Returning to other business of the evening, Selectman Olson moved that Thomas Mohan Jr. be appointed to serve as an Alternate to the Planning Board, this was seconded by Selectman Dodge and voted on unanimously by the Board of Selectman. The three candidates would be notified of the decision.

Mail was reviewed, checks were signed and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 p.m. 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Gendron  
Administrative Assistant