

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING - December 16, 1991

Present for the meeting which began at 7:00 p.m. were Selectmen Johnston and Dodge with Sandra Gendron taking minutes. Selectman Olson was absent due to work commitments.

Road Agent Lee Murray was in for his regularly scheduled meeting with the Board of Selectmen. The first topic of discussion was the need to determine the potential gravel in the Richard Messina lot that Mr. Messina is interested in selling to the Town of New Boston.

The Board of Selectmen, along with the Road Agent, inspected that portion of Wilson Hill Road which was being upgraded from Class VI to Class V and was ready for acceptance by the Town. They were satisfied with the findings with the exception that \$1,000.00 cash would be required to be held in escrow to take care of necessary mulching and seeding in the spring of 1992.

On the subject of Lull Road, Selectmen Johnston and Olson had inspected that section of road which was also being upgraded to a Class V, Selectman Dodge already having inspected said area and all agreed that it would not be accepted in its present condition. The problem being the paving and Lee will deal with Brox in seeing that this matter is corrected.

Carl Houghton had brought to the attention of the Selectmen's Office that he had some 500 yards of loam that he would like to sell and inquired if the Town might be interested. Lee will look at the material to determine if there is an interest on the Town's part.

Discussion turned to the need for a re-capped tire to be used as a spare on one of the transfer trailers. It appears that there are none available and the end discussion on this issue was that there was a need for a complete set of tires and the cost of this would be investigated.

Next in to see the Board of Selectmen were representatives of the Library Trustees Ellen Ruggles, Beatrice Peirce, William Mulligan and Chairman Kendall Wiggin. Accompanying the group was Librarian Sarah Chapman. Proposed 1992 Library budgets had been handed to all in the room. Discussion began with Ken stating that 5% increases across the Board were being proposed for the Library employees. Ken stated that they have been losing personnel, some to higher paying positions, and they have not had that many applicants to fill the vacant positions. He went on to state that it is the intention of the Board of Trustees to try to keep a competitive pay scale.

Ken explained to the Board that the Trust Fund rates have gone down, these monies are generally used to purchase new books and materials so that area of the budget had to be increased since many of their children's books were showing signs of wear and tear and circulation is up some 20%.

Ken also pointed out to the Selectmen that some of the Trust Fund monies from 1991 had been used to do necessary general maintenance to the building and listed what had been done.

Ken commented that there had been some pressure from the citizens of New Boston to expand the hours of the Library, but rather they have

shifted the hours open to try to accommodate the most citizenry possible and keep the salary costs down.

Ken expressed satisfaction with and thanks for the work such as payroll that was now being done by the Town Office.

Discussion turned to the relationship between the Library Trustees and the Trustees of the Trust Funds, which the Library has not been satisfied with, and Ken contended that there has been no real change, stating that the lack of co-operation, as they saw it, still existed. Librarian Sarah Chapman did inquire of the Trustees of the Trust Funds how they intended to re-invest some of the CD's since the rates were down and did not receive a response. Ken ended the discussion on this issue by commenting that Terry Knowles of the State Division of Charitable Trusts conducts an excellent seminar on the issues dealing with Trusts Funds and expressed his opinion that the Trustees of the Trust Funds would benefit from attending such a seminar.

Discussion turned to other issues pertinent to the Library such as the furnace which always causes concern, but seems to working a little better since the last time maintenance was done on it and that space was growing short in the building; however, they would be setting up a committee to investigate the possible reconfiguration of the interior to maximize the space available. Regarding the issue of possible future expansion, they stated that they had contacted the Parker's who own a small portion of land behind the Library building to see if there might be a possibility of acquiring this land and the Parker's responded that were not interested in ridding themselves of this land. Before this meeting concluded general discussion took place regarding the present building its close proximity to the river and the concern that the door continues to settle, the reason for which they have not been able to ascertain.

Next in before the Board of Selectmen were Fire Wards Dan MacDonald, Richard Moody, Dale Smith, John Bunting and Fire Chief James Dodge to present the Fire Department's proposed 1991 budget.

The first topic of discussion was an update from Dan MacDonald on the progress of the installation of 911 in New Boston. Dan began by stating that the engineers have okayed the design from N.E.T. & T. and the system will be installed and tested by Feb. 12, 1992; however, this will not be advertised since the actual service will not be ready for use until Monday February 17, 1992. Information regarding the use of 911 will be sent to all "487" customers in their February phone bill, plus pertinent information will be published by the phone company in one newspaper of the Town's choosing. The Fire Department opted for the phone company to use the Manchester Union Leader and Dan MacDonald will see that this information is also published in the Goffstown News and the Community Times. The details for the installation of this service will be finalized in the next two weeks. Dan further stated that he is getting price quotes for 2500 orange decals to be distributed to the homes that will use 911. Dan also pointed out that people can still dial the present emergency number and get a response.

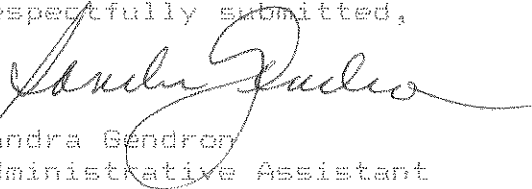
Discussion ensued on the need for a second temporary site for the 911 equipment. The logical site as stated by Chief Dodge would be the Police Station; however, there is an expense involved should this site have to be moved, there was a reluctance to make a commitment since there is a question if the Police Department will renew their upcoming lease. The Fire Department favors the Highway Garage site due to its "high ground" location and sharing the same radio frequency, the concern arises should the Police Department in the near future become located on the same site then a change would be contemplated and additional expense involved. Fire Chief Dodge stated the department was looking for direction from the Board of Selectmen. There was much discussion on the issue with the Selectmen leaning towards the Town Shed location. Jim suggested using the Town Shed site right now and wait to see if and when the Police Department might relocate, he went on to say there would still be two sites since Goffstown dispatch will be on line. Selectman Dodge contended that it might be worth installing the equipment in the Police Department for the convenience of having someone answer the calls and then risk the added expense should it have to be relocated. Discussion ensued and what this expense might add up to. The discussion ended with the thought that the equipment will be installed at the Town Shed.

The budget was next reviewed with the proposed 1992 budget being some 2% lower than that of 1991. However, the department will be including four special articles in the warrant for various needs of the department and these were discussed and reviewed.

The two Selectmen present and subsequently Selectmen Olson agreed to reimburse those town employees eligible for health benefits, but opting not to take them, 25% of the plan they would be eligible for.

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sandra Gendron  
Administrative Assistant

As an addendum to these minutes a letter was written to the Planning Board accepting the improvements to Wilson Hill Road, from its intersection with the new development road, known as Byam Road, to Bedford Road with the exception of the requirement that a cash security in the amount of \$2500.00 be provided for additional seed and mulch as required in the spring of 1992. This change in the amount of money to retained was due to a calculation of the area that might need attention and the estimated cost involved.