

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 26, 1994

A regular business meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:50 p.m. by Chairman Pimenta.

PRESENT: Michael S. Pimenta, Chairman
Darlene M. Goodin, Selectman
Harold C. Strong, Selectman
Lorraine A. Cleveland, Town Administrator

REQUESTED APPOINTMENTS

Lee Murray was in to discuss two issues with the Board.

The first issue had to do with the upcoming surplus auction on October 15. Mr. Murray said the old Chevy pickup will be auctioned off at that time. He expects to get \$850 at the most. He commented that the truck came in handy for the crew. Chairman Pimenta asked if the truck could be used by the Animal Control officer instead of putting it in the auction. Right now, the officer must use his own vehicle. Mr. Murray said the truck is very tired. However, he suggested that he find another truck at surplus which could be utilized by both departments. The highway crew would use it during the week periodically and take care of the maintenance. The Animal Control officer would have access to it whenever he needed it. Mr. Murray said he would report back if he located a good truck.

Chairman Pimenta requested a discussion on the stump removal bid for McCurdy Road. He asked for Mr. Murray's opinion. Mr. Murray said he agrees that it was an irresponsible bid but not illegal. There were three other bids that were irresponsible as well. He figured the job to be at least \$10,000. Mr. Murray said the Town has had a history of several irresponsible bids and he would like to see it come to an end. He requested that the Board make sure it doesn't happen again.

Selectman Goodin made a motion to rescind the \$1 bid to H.A. Scott and Sons. The motion was not seconded. Selectman Strong said the Board already made a decision and it should stick with it. Lee can handle the supervision of this project. This type of request for bid will not happen again. The Town will, in the future, let the job out in a specific package. Selectman Goodin stated that the way it was bid was unethical, however, she said she was wrong for not speaking on the matter sooner. Chairman Pimenta said he was not thrilled with the bid. However, he felt the Board had to go with it and therefore did not vote to rescind it. He stated for the record that he did not like the way a former Selectman treated him over the matter in which he was

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

09/26/94

Page 2.

accused of having a conflict of interest with Mr. Scott. The Board concluded that it will stick with the \$1 bid.

Mr. Murray then reviewed the scope of work for the McCurdy Road improvements to be done (aside from the stump removal). Beginning at the end of the pavement and traveling to the end of the pond, the road will be grubbed, shaped, and graveled. Three culverts are to be installed. The purchase of the culverts and gravel will come out of the \$35,000 budget. Selectman Strong asked that Mr. Murray keep the Board abreast of each stage of the project. Mr. Murray said he will contact Mr. Scott tomorrow morning regarding the contract.

Bonnie Bethune, Transfer Station Manager, was in to clarify the intended use of the unexpended \$954.60 balance from the Household Hazardous Waste Day line item. She would like to apply the balance to the purchase of the waste oil furnace because the furnace price is now \$3,650 which is \$650 more than what was appropriated. The remaining \$304.60 would pay for a waste oil education brochure. Selectman Goodin made a motion to use the unexpended Household Hazardous Waste Day funds toward the purchase of the waste oil furnace and an education brochure. Selectman Strong seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Jonathan G. Steiner, Member Relations Director, of the NHMA Property-Liability Trust was in to visit the Board. His purpose was to meet the Selectman and answer any questions the Board may have about the Trust. He noted that Town has actively participated in Trust workshops and seminars. He said the Trust will be sponsoring more conferences dealing with public officials liability. Selectman Goodin commended the Trust for their recent liability conference held in Bedford last week. She said it was very informative. Ms. Cleveland and Mr. Steiner will review the Town's flood insurance and police liability coverage.

Police Chief Jim McLaughlin was in to meet with the Board. Chairman Pimenta asked for a motion to adjourn into nonpublic session to discuss a personnel issue. Selectman Goodin made a motion to adjourn into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:311a to discuss a personnel matter with Jim McLaughlin and to sequester the minutes pursuant to RSA 91-A:3111. Selectman Strong seconded the motion. The roll call was: Michael Pimenta-yes; Darlene Goodin-yes; and Harold Strong-yes. Lorraine Cleveland was present to record the minutes.

Selectman Goodin motioned to adjourn out of nonpublic session for the purpose of resuming the regular business meeting. Selectman Strong seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

09/26/94

Page 3.

Chief McLaughlin brought the Board up to date regarding issues previously discussed.

--In reference to the purchase of ammunition locally, the Chief said he has had to rely on police suppliers due to a nationwide shortage. The price is cheaper as well.

--Stop signs are now up on the intersection of Parker Road and River Road. He is still waiting to hear on the no passing zone on Route 114.

--The police station construction is going well. The rooms should be dry walled next week. Pat Jennings has offered to cater the open house at no charge to the department. The well pump prices range from \$1,125 for a two wire pump/20 gal tank to \$1,300 for a three wire pump/44 gal tank. Selectman Strong will contact Contoocook Well about the cost of a larger tank.

--Chief McLaughlin said the department will be receiving a donation of office furniture and phone equipment from Digital.

--The two loose cows have finally been rounded up. The Luedkeys have offered to take them. The department has officially notified the previous owners. Under state statute the owners have seven days to pay the Town cost of \$180 or the cows become Town property. The Chief recommended that the cows be auctioned off or give them to the Luedkeys at the Town's cost. The Board agreed that the Chief should wait until the end of the week and let the Luedkeys have first chance on the cows. Any feed costs incurred by the Luedkeys should be subtracted from the \$180.

--The Board spoke about their earlier discussion with the Road Agent regarding a truck for the Animal Control Officer. The Chief said he was open to the idea but was unsure about an open pickup truck. There would need to be a cage to restrain the animals. He said he would get together with Lee to come up with something. Selectman Goodin inquired about the present sedan. Will that vehicle be traded in at some point. The Chief said when additional manpower becomes available he would retain the sedan for himself and mainline two cruisers for the officers use.

--The Board reviewed a letter of commendation to the Police Department from Tom Mays of the Milford Co-op Bank. The Chief reported that there will a gun safety program in the school.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The Board reviewed and approved the weekly payroll and accounts payable.

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
09/26/94
Page 4.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Selectman Goodin made a motion to accept the September 19 public meeting minutes as written and the nonpublic meeting minutes as amended. Selectman Strong seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board approved and signed a letter to Showcase Cable to cease and desist their violations of the franchise agreement. They have not paid any town cable royalties for 1994 and have not provided a certificate of insurance to the Town.

In regards to the proposal for electrical work on the new highway storage shed, the Board deferred taking any action. They asked that the Road Agent obtain some other proposals for comparison.

The Board adopted a seat belt policy for all Town employees as recommended by the Town's worker's compensation insurance carrier, Compensation Funds of New Hampshire.

Chairman Pimenta asked if the Police Chief had reviewed the letter from Christine Harass regarding the request for crossguards. Ms. Cleveland said yes. He suggests contacting the PTA for volunteers. He is willing to provide vests, signs, and training. Ms. Cleveland said she will contact the PTA to see if there are any interested volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lorraine Cleveland, Town Administrator

