

Approved 6/5/95

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

May 22, 1995

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Pimenta.

PRESENT: Michael S. Pimenta, Chairman
Darlene M. Goodin, Selectman
Gordon A. Carlstrom, Selectman
Todd I. Selig, Town Administrator

The Selectmen did not have an opportunity to review the minutes from the May 8, 1995 or the May 15, 1995 Board of Selectmen meetings.

Recreation Director Sandy Gallup came before the Board for her monthly meeting. Director Gallup asked the Board if she would be permitted to collect mileage money for the time she spends in her personal vehicle doing errands for the Town. The Board decided that Town employees would not be reimbursed for mileage incurred while doing Town errands. Employees would, however, be reimbursed for mileage going to and coming from conferences which have been approved ahead of time by the Board of Selectmen. Reimbursement, however, will be contingent upon whether the applicable department has budgeted for this type of expense.

Sandy informed the Board that the Babson Memorial Fund money could be used to fix up the common. Sandy would like to use some of this money in the following ways: a) \$205.00 to pay for planting grass on the common; b) \$76.00 to plant flowers in the tubs on the common; c) to purchase three benches for the common; d) to paint the flagpoles on the common. The Board also thought it would be a good idea if some of the Babson Memorial money could be used to add names to the New Boston War Memorial from the Korean, Vietnam, and Gulf Storm wars.

The Board asked Mrs. Gallup to get at least three bids for planting the grass on the common if the Town is going to pay for the project.

Director Gallup showed the Board five bids for purchasing and Planting trees for the New Boston Tree Grant project. Selectman Carlstrom made a motion to accept the bid offered by DDP Landscaping for \$1,963.00 for tree purchases provided this company meets all of the requirements and specifications established by the Tree Planting Committee. DDP offered the low bid. Selectman Goodin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TIS

Selectmen's Meeting
May 22, 1995

Director Gallup asked the Board if the Gazebo on the common could be illuminated in the evening hours utilizing special exterior lights. The Board, after some reflection, decided that the Gazebo would not be illuminated by special exterior lights, but would continue to be illuminated as at present, utilizing a light placed inside the Gazebo structure.

Director Gallup asked the Board when it would make a final decision on the two applicants who have applied for the vacant Recreation Department secretarial position. The Board informed Ms. Gallup that it was planning to bring the two applicants in for interviews on June 5, 1995.

Ms. Gallup informed the Board that the SAU has scheduled an integrated preschool to use the lower buildings where the Town after school program currently runs its operations. This news means that the Town may have to relocate its after school program in the near future. Director Gallup will keep the Board up to date as events transpire.

Transfer Station Manager Bonnie Bethune came before the Board for her monthly meeting. Ms. Bethune reported that Transfer Station revenues to date were \$10,862.00.

It has come to Manager Bethune's attention that Sizemore Rubbish Removal is in the process of being sold. Ms. Bethune will keep the Board up to date on whether this will effect the current contract the Town has with Sizemore.

Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled for June 3, 1995. Bonnie asked the Board if there was any possibility of moving HHWD to the Highway Department next year. The Board stated it would have to discuss the matter with Road Agent Lee Murray before making any decisions.

The large brush pile at the Transfer Station caught on fire again last week. Manager Bethune wanted to know if the Selectmen had any suggestions on how to prevent such fires from occurring in the future. The Board advised Ms. Bethune to consult with the Fire Wards.

Mrs. Patricia Monbouquette of 271 Clark Hill Road in New Boston came before the Board at 8:11 p.m. to discuss what she perceives to be dust problems on Clark Hill Road. Ms. Monbouquette complained that the dust on the road was quite bad and asked what the Town could do to remedy the situation. Chairman Pimenta explained that the Road Agent tries to put down two applications of liquid calcium on Clark Hill Road each year. The road is particularly bad at the present time because weather has not

Selectmen's Meeting
May 22, 1995

permitted the first application of liquid calcium. Chairman Pimenta assured Mrs. Monbouquette that either Road Agent Murray or Town Administrator Selig would call her within the next few days to update her on when the first application would be put down on Clark Hill Road. Chairman Pimenta also told Mrs. Monbouquette that Town Administrator Selig would check to see if the Town could put crushed gravel down on the portion of Clark Hill Road near her home. Crushed gravel might reduce the dust further.

Members of the New Boston Baptist Church and New Boston Fire Wards came before the Board of Selectmen to discuss large building fire code issues surrounding the recently installed classroom structure at the New Boston Baptist Church. Representatives from the Church included: Doug Manter, Jennifer Manter, Kevin St. John, Mark Bailey, Jackie Malandrino, Pastor John Williamson, Jim Dane, June Richmond, Mark Richmond, Reed Wilson. Fire Ward representatives included Fire Chief Jim Dodge and Fire Ward Cliff Plourde. Fire Inspector David Poole also was in attendance.

HISTORY: On May 15, 1995, a Baptist Church delegation asked the Board of Selectmen to serve as a liaison between them and the Fire Wards to iron out the fire safety code deficiencies present at the Baptist Church due to the newly installed classroom unit. Members of the Church were extremely frustrated on May 15, 1995, because the Fire Wards had not, according to the Baptist Church members, outlined exactly what they would like to see done to the existing structures on the Church's property to make the classroom fulfill the requirements of the New Boston large building fire code.

Fire Inspector David Poole outlined what would have to be completed to bring the church-classroom structure into compliance with the code. This included: a) certification that the Baptist Church's most recent proposal to fire proof the exterior walls of both the classroom and church structure would meet nationally accepted standards -- and if not, confirmation by the Church of this fact in which case the proposal could be withdrawn by the Church altogether; b) a fire detection system would have to be installed which would provide early detection in case of fire. According to Mr. Poole, a fire detection system such as this could be purchased and installed for around \$3,000.00 - \$4,000.00 utilizing volunteer help.

Members of the Baptist Church delegation indicated they would have to talk the matter over and get back to the Board of Selectmen and Fire Wards regarding whether this solution would be acceptable to them. The Board of Selectmen thanked members of

Selectmen's Meeting
May 22, 1995

both groups for attending the meeting.

Mrs. Maureen Mansfield and Mr. Warren Houghton came before the Board of Selectmen to discuss the assessment of Mrs. Mansfield's property on 4 Joe English Road in light of Mr. Joseph Foistner's recent accusations of improper property assessment surrounding this parcel. The Board advised Mrs. Mansfield to cooperate with the independent assessor when he visits her home in the next few months. The Board pointed out that when someone brings significant discrepancies between property assessment cards and what is actually present on site to the Selectmen's attention, they are obligated to send the independent assessor out to look at the parcel. Mrs. Mansfield and Mr. Houghton thanked the Board for their cooperation and left.

The Board discussed whether it should send a response to Mr. Foistner in regard to the packet he left with the Selectmen on May 15, 1995. The Board chose to wait until next week to decide whether it wanted to send Mr. Foistner a response. The Selectmen were very concerned because Mr. Foistner's packet contained unfounded accusations of fraud, conspiracy, negligence, and conflict of interest against various Town employees. These unfounded accusations could have the unfortunate effect of harming the reputations of Town employees, volunteers, and elected officials. Selectman Carlstrom turned his copy of Mr. Foistner's packet in to Town Administrator Selig stating that he did not want to be in possession of such a document.

Mr. Bruce Fillmore came before the Board to discuss an improperly installed driveway which he has constructed on Hemlock Drive (Map 3, Lot 52-31). The driveway Mr. Fillmore has installed crosses onto an abutting lot (Map 3, Lot 52-30). Mr. Fillmore wanted to know if the Selectmen had a suggestion as to how this problem should be handled. The Board suggested that Mr. Fillmore apply to change the lot line of the abutting boundary so that the driveway will be contained only on Map 3, Lot 52-31.

The Board decided that it would allow Mr. Edward Lee of 260 Clark Hill Road to keep his garden in the Town's right of way to the left of his driveway. If it gets larger, however, the Road Agent will have to speak with Mr. Lee about removing it altogether. The Board also asked Town Administrator Selig to have the Road Agent inspect the old well which Mr. Lee filled in across from his driveway.

Town Administrator Selig brought a number of infractions located on Summit Drive to the Selectmen's attention. These included blocked culverts, weakening the roadway surface by digging away dirt from the road's edge and replacing it with small crushed

Selectmen's Meeting
May 22, 1995

rocks, and the placement of a basketball hoop on the Town's right of way near the cul-de-sac at the end of Summit Drive. Town Administrator Selig asked the Board if the Road Agent could have the authority to approach the individuals responsible for the infractions himself. Issues such as these, according to Town Administrator Selig, were straightforward enough for the Road Agent to handle without the formal go-ahead of the Selectmen. With the Road Agent handling these issues himself, consistency would be achieved, according to Mr. Selig, in dealing with road matters. If property owners did not respond to the Road Agent, then the Selectmen could become involved. The Board of Selectmen agreed with Mr. Selig and gave Road Agent Murray permission to handle these types of infractions himself. Both Chairman Pimenta and Mr. Selig felt it was important for the Town Administrator to take a look at the infractions with the Road Agent so if complaints were received by affected landowners, the Selectmen's Office would be up to date on the infraction, and how it was being handled.

Town Administrator Selig informed the Board that the Fourth of July Association had asked for permission to use the Town's bulk rate postage number for a July 4 celebration mailing. The Fourth of July Association would reimburse the Town for the total cost of the mailing. Members of the Board of Selectmen decided not to grant the request. It was felt that if the Board granted the request of this group, it would not be able to deny requests by other groups in the Town with similar requests. Selectman Carlstrom suggested that the Association contact Mr. Tim White who often allows groups to use his bulk rate number.

In a May 10, 1995, letter to the Board of Selectmen, Mr. Dana Moody requested that the Selectmen waive the building permit fee of \$703.00 on his 122 Clark Hill Road development due to what Mr. Moody suggested were Planning Board errors which cost him a total of \$839.82. This \$839.82 figure was incurred during his Conditional Use Permit application with the New Boston Planning Board to effect a wetland crossing at 122 Clark Hill Road. The Board of Selectmen denied Mr. Moody's request as per past practice. The Selectmen noted that the Planning Board review process is a complicated one which must be adhered to carefully. It is ultimately up to the applicant to satisfy the legal requirements of the Planning Board.

The New Boston Forestry Committee has asked if it can utilize a professional forester to coordinate and oversee the sale of timber from the Lydia Dodge lot which will be used to repair the outside of the Town Hall. Board members asked Town Administrator Selig to speak with Forestry Committee member Bob Todd to determine if a professional forester would really be needed, or

Selectmen's Meeting
May 22, 1995

if the committee members could handle the project working a few days per week until the sale had been completed.

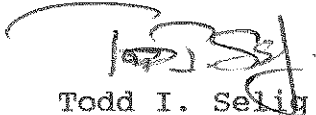
The Board decided it would continue the tradition of donating \$150.00 to Mr. Mudrick's 4th Grade Class for helping to hand out Household Hazardous Waste Day stickers. This money is donated annually to the Central School Library to purchase environmental books for the school children.

The Board reviewed and signed payroll and accounts payable checks.

Chairman Pimenta signed pistol permits.

The Board signed intent to cut forms.

Respectfully submitted,



Todd I. Selig
Town Administrator