

Town of New Boston

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

December 23, 1996

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

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

Selectman Carlstrom made a motion to accept the regular and non-public sealed Selectmen's Meeting minutes from October 28, 1996. Chairman Goodin seconded the motion. The vote was: Chairman Goodin - yes; Selectman Carlstrom - yes; Selectman Pimenta - abstained. The motion passed.

Chairman Goodin made a motion to accept the Selectmen's Meeting minutes from November 4, 1996. Selectman Pimenta seconded the motion. The vote was: Chairman Goodin - yes; Selectman Carlstrom - abstained; Selectman Pimenta - yes. The motion carried.

Selectman Carlstrom made a motion to accept the Selectmen's Meeting minutes from December 2, 1996. Selectman Pimenta seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board of Selectmen met with Transfer Station Manager Bonnie Bethune and part-time 8 hour per week Attendant II applicant Eugene Allen, Jr. of 96 Dane Road, New Boston. Mr. Allen stated that while the position was for Saturdays, he might have extra time during the winter months to fill in if needed at the Transfer Station. Mr. Allen has a CDL license and knows how to drive a loader. Manager Bethune was satisfied with Mr. Allen as an applicant and noted that he was the only qualified applicant the Transfer Station had received, with the application deadline having passed some time ago. Selectman Carlstrom made a motion to hire Mr. Allen as a part-time Attendant II at the New Boston Transfer Station. Selectman Pimenta seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Allen will make an hourly wage of \$6.00. Mr. Allen may begin work immediately.

The Board discussed various other issues with Manager Bethune including the fact that all concrete work has been completed for the construction of recyclable containment areas; a vacancy for both a regular and alternate member of the Solid Waste Committee currently exists; and whether to allow Francestown to participate in the 1997 New Boston Household Hazardous Waste Day. Concerning this last issue, the Board strongly emphasized to Manager Bethune that she should contact the members of the Solid Waste Committee over the next week to determine whether they would consider allowing Francestown to participate. Mrs. Bethune stated that to date, the Committee was in favor of having Francestown hold a waste collection day on their own

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in 1997 to see if Francestown would get greater participation than if the day was held jointly with New Boston. If things go poorly for Francestown in 1997, the Solid Waste Committee would encourage Francestown to run a joint day with New Boston again in 1998. Chairman Goodin said that if Francestown can not hold a joint day with New Boston in 1997, they may choose not to hold a hazardous waste day at all. The Selectmen stressed the importance of working with neighboring communities to Ms. Bethune. Selectman Carlstrom said that the time may come in the near future when New Boston needs Francestown to hold a collection day due to decreasing turnout from New Boston residents. Manager Bethune will survey the members of the Solid Waste Committee to find out how they feel about the subject.

A number of other items were discussed relating to the Transfer Station. These included: the purchase of a second downstroke baler for \$12,000.00; a copy machine for the Transfer Station Manager to use at her home; a \$1,000.00 well installation for limited usage water; and an increase in hours for the Manager and Assistant Manager to 40 hr./wk. and 38 hr./wk., respectively.

Selectman Pimenta made a motion that the Selectmen not support the proposed Highway Department tractor unless it comes equipped with a backhoe attachment. Selectman Carlstrom seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Town Administrator Selig reported that the Town of Lyndeborough had decided not to maintain Mountain Road in New Boston during the winter months. Mr. Selig indicated that, pursuant to the Selectmen's direction on December 16, 1996, Road Agent Murray was planning to post the road with a "No Winter Maintenance" designation due to the Lyndeborough Selectmen's decision.

Selectman Pimenta reported that he had an opportunity to walk the Town Forest boundary on the Lydia Dodge Lot near the Transfer Station and gravel pit with Graham Pendlebury of the Forestry Committee on Saturday, December 21, 1996. Selectman Pimenta said that the Forestry Committee is of the opinion that if the gravel pit were to be expanded, the Selectmen should swap an equal amount of acreage not currently under forest land protection for the land which currently is but which contains valuable gravel material. The Selectmen discussed this issue and felt that the suggestion was not an acceptable way to take land out of forest land protection. Instead, a warrant article should be drafted and approved at Town Meeting. Selectman Pimenta said that if the Selectmen choose to go this route, the Forestry Committee has requested that it be involved in the writing of the article. In addition, the Forestry Committee would like the current gravel pit reclaimed and put back into forest land designation once it is discontinued.

The Selectmen asked to have Road Agent Lee Murray dig some test pits to determine exactly how much gravel material and sand exists in the area where he would like to expand the current Town gravel pit.

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The Selectmen discussed the idea of hiring a full time mechanic to service Town equipment. Mr. Selig reported that at most, the Town had spent \$25,195.00 on labor for servicing equipment in 1996. A full time employee including all benefits, according to Mr. Selig, would cost the Town approximately \$30,292.00. Therefore, it appears as though the Town would save money by not having a full time mechanic on staff. On the other hand, an additional employee such as this could be put to work as a plow driver, extra hand at the Highway Department, Transfer Station worker, etc. during the times when s/he is not serving as mechanic. The Board will discuss the idea more in the future.

Mr. and Mrs. Armand Hebert of 244 River Road plan to meet with the Selectmen on January 6, 1997 to find out what is happening concerning their complaint against John Winslow of 248 River Road. The Heberts made allegations that there was an illegal junkyard at this location during the summer months. They are not currently satisfied that the Selectmen have taken appropriate action concerning the junkyard issue.

The Selectmen discussed the former Winslow residence located at 248 River Road. After considerable discussion, the Board of Selectmen determined that unless Mr. Winslow proves that taxes have been paid but not recorded by the Town on the above referenced property on which over \$20,000.00 in taxes and interest since 1990 have accumulated, the following, at a minimum, will be required in order to avoid eviction and the property being disposed of as deemed appropriate by the Selectmen: **1.)** An initial payment of \$3,400.00 must be made to the Town by January 13, 1997 which will be applied toward back taxes and interest owed on the property; **2.)** Subsequent payments in the amount of \$250.00 per month beginning on February 3, 1997 paid on the first Monday of each month thereafter must be received by the Board of Selectmen which will be applied toward back taxes and interest owed on the property; **3.)** No more than three payments may be missed or received after the monthly deadline in any one calendar year; **4.)** The overall condition of the property must be cleaned up at the direction of the New Boston Building Inspector. Junk/scrap material must be removed as deemed appropriate to ensure the property does not qualify as an illegal junk yard; **5.)** Only legally permitted uses may occur on the site. Town Administrator Selig indicated that he would prepare a letter for the Selectmen to sign relative to this issue for the Selectmen's Meeting on December 30, 1996.

Chairman Goodin brought up the fact that the Town could utilize University of New Hampshire students to assist the Road Agent with road surveys, etc. The Selectmen as a whole felt that this was an extremely good idea and asked Mr. Selig and Mr. Murray to look into this program. The Selectmen also felt that it would be productive to utilize UNH student for other projects in Town such as the study which took place on the O'Rourke Lot in 1996.

The Board of Selectmen told Mr. Selig that Road Agent Murray needed to conduct traffic surveys on Thornton and Meadow Roads in the very near future. These requests had been made on numerous occasions in the past and as yet no action has been taken.

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The Selectmen asked Mr. Selig to have Building Inspector Dennis Sarette determine whether the trailers located at the Daniel's business on River Road and at Lou Lanzillotti's wife's business on River Road are legal to store in these locations. Town Administrator Selig said that he would do so.

The Board discussed how to proceed with The Kingdom's request for tax exempt status reconsideration on one of their properties. As yet, Independent Assessor George Hildum has not received any new information as requested from The Kingdom. The Selectmen felt that they would wait to see whether any supporting documentation was submitted before acting on the matter.

Town Administrator Selig updated the Selectmen that Richard LaBranch would come before the Board on January 13, 1996 for a public hearing to determine if the Selectmen would issue to him a temporary trailer permit for a storage trailer on his property.

The Selectmen discussed the fact that the Town might have received a second grant under the COPS Fast Federal grant program for a fourth full time police officer. This information was gathered from a newspaper article in the Union Leader. The Selectmen will wait to discuss this issue further until the Town receives official notification from the U.S. Justice Department.

The Selectmen had a long discussion concerning whether to allow Stan Zapanas to serve as Animal Control Officer on a part-time basis until 1997 Town Meeting. Chairman Goodin favored hiring a non-police civilian with a true love of animals to serve as Animal Control Officer on a part-time basis as opposed to utilizing a current part-time police officer for this function. Selectman Pimenta made a motion to appoint Stan Zapanas as Animal Control Officer until Town Meeting in March of 1997. Selectman Carlstrom seconded the motion. The vote was: Chairman Goodin - abstained; Selectman Carlstrom - yes; Selectman Pimenta - yes. The motion carried.

The first day for candidates in towns with non-partisan official ballot systems to file for office is January 22, 1997. The end of the filing period is January 31, 1997.

The Board discussed the resignation of Karen Hall from the Recreation Commission, effective January 1, 1997. The Selectmen decided that the Recreation Commission should publicly advertise for the vacancy, interview interested candidates, and send recommendations for all interested candidates to the Selectmen for their review.

Selectman Carlstrom made a motion to accept a \$3,675.00 bond as part of a Conditional Use Permit conditional approval for Native American Resources, Inc., to affect three wetland crossings on their property located on Wilson Hill Road, Tax Map 006-025-001, in order to access a residential building site per the New Boston Planning Board's recommendation. Selectman Pimenta seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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Town Administrator Selig reported that Road Agent Lee Murray had purchased two 5KW Army Surplus generators for use at the Highway Department for a total of \$2,000.00. Selectman Pimenta noted that he had recently seen a beautiful generator/welder at a contractor's house which might be perfect for the Highway Department. Selectman Pimenta suggested that if the Highway Department could find such a welder/generator, the Town Office and Fire Department could utilize the remaining two generators which Mr. Murray picked up from Army Surplus. Selectman Pimenta said that he would get the necessary information for Lee Murray in the next day or so concerning the generator/welder.

The Selectmen approved the purchase of one hand-held radio/scanner for use by the Selectmen's Office during times of emergency costing \$450.00.

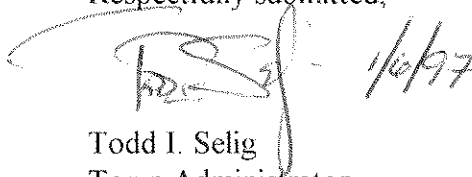
Chairman Goodin signed pistol permits.

The Board signed Intent-to-Cut forms.

The Board reviewed and/or signed other miscellaneous correspondence and materials.

Selectman Carlstrom made a motion to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Selectman Pimenta seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "T. Selig", with a date "1/6/97" written to its right. The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Todd I. Selig
Town Administrator