

Town of New Boston

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

January 13, 1997

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 Pimenta made a motion to accept the Selectmen's Meeting minutes from January 6, 1997. Selectman Carlstrom seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

At 7:05 p.m., Chairman Goodin opened a public hearing on an application submitted by Richard LaBranch for a temporary trailer permit at 189 Parker Road (Tax Map 003-110). Present were: Richard LaBranch, Steven LaBranch, Richard Gilcrest, Alice Gilcrest, and Jim Gilcrest. Mr. LaBranch stated that he plans to use the trailer as a storage trailer until the spring when his son, Steven, would utilize the trailer on property in another community. The Selectmen fielded various questions from the Gilcrest family concerning the LaBranch property which abuts their land on Parker Road. It was also noted that Mr. Norman Sarette, another abutter, had called the Selectmen's Office on January 13, 1997 to say that he was not in favor of the Selectmen granting the permit. The Gilcrest family stated that years ago they had applied for a similar permit and had been denied by the Selectmen. They asked why the Board was considering granting this application. The Selectmen closed the public hearing at 7:20 p.m. stating that they planned to speak more about the matter with the Building Inspector before making a decision.

At 7:25 p.m., Road Agent Lee Murray came before the Board and discussed the following matters: purchasing a new tractor with a backhoe attachment; hiring a full time mechanic; and reporting that a total of 185 cars had used Meadow Road between January 8, 1997 and January 9, 1997. Road Agent Murray felt generally that although he did not want any more personnel in his department, that a mechanic would be of great benefit to the Highway Department. Mr. Murray also felt that the proposed tractor for the Highway Department was the least important C.I.P. request from his department.

The Selectmen authorized Mr. Selig to submit an application to the University of New Hampshire for another group of students to assist the Forestry Committee in assessing Town Forests.

The Selectmen reviewed a letter dated January 3, 1997 from the law firm of Donahue, Tucker & Ciandella concerning the current New Boston franchise agreement with Community T.V. Corp. It was generally felt that our contract did not give the Town much authority to force the cable company to provide a community access station similar to the old Channel 8.

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Mr. Selig updated the Selectmen on the January 8, 1997 department head meeting. Most notably, the department heads were split on the benefit of a floating holiday for all full time employees. Mr. Selig spoke against the idea.

The Board discussed the possibility of changing a fixed holiday to a floater holiday. After considerable discussion, Selectman Pimenta made a motion that there would be no floating holiday for full time employees in 1997. Selectman Carlstrom seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board asked Mr. Selig to develop a brief synopsis of the implications of Senate Bill #2, the "Official Ballot Bill," for distribution upon request at the Town Clerk's Office. The Board also decided that it would take no official position on the petitioned warrant article addressing topic in preparation for 1997 Town Meeting.

The Board discussed the fact that progress is being made with regard to temporary remediation at the sloughed area at the New Boston Landfill. Mr. Gardner LeBaron has looked over the site with Transfer Station Manager Bonnie Bethune and Road Agent Lee Murray.

The Board discussed the fact that the Planning Board had scheduled a hearing on sludge tomorrow evening, January 14, 1997, at 8:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room. Representatives from the Conservation Commission and Solid Waste Committee also planned to attend.

Mr. Harold "Bo" Strong came before the Board at 8:25 p.m. to inform the Selectmen that he plans to resign from the Planning Board and Road Committee on the Tuesday before Town Meeting. Mr. Strong stated that he intended to run for Mike Pimenta's Selectman's seat.

The Selectmen reviewed a letter from the New Boston Planning Board dated January 13, 1997 recommending that Diane Manson be appointed to replace Lucien Tessier as a regular member of the Planning Board. Selectman Pimenta was concerned that the Planning Board had recommended Diane Manson when Phil Consolini had been an alternate member longer. Bo Strong explained that Phil Consolini is traveling quite a bit due to his job and personally recommended that the Planning Board appoint Diane Manson instead of himself. The Board asked Mr. Selig to bring Mr. Consolini in so that the Selectmen could hear this explanation from Mr. Consolini himself.

The Board discussed the current condition of Meetinghouse Hill Road and other roadways with Bo Strong. Selectman Pimenta stated that he still does not understand the rationale behind upgrading Meadow Road. He would rather see the Highway Department do a more thorough job on projects which it has already begun. Chairman Goodin pointed out that she has received complaints about the culverts on Meetinghouse Hill Road.

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The Board of Selectmen reviewed a letter dated January 11, 1997 from Clifton La Bree of 102 Wilson Hill Road concerning the addition of a fourth full time police officer. In general, Mr. La Bree was very much against an additional officer.

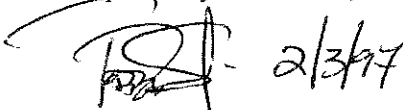
Chairman Goodin signed pistol permits.

The Board signed Intent-to-Cut forms.

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

Selectman Pimenta made a motion to adjourn at 9:37 p.m. Chairman Goodin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Todd I. Selig
Town Administrator