

Town of New Boston

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

April 7, 1997

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

PRESENT: Gordon A. Carlstrom, Selectman
Harold C. Strong, Selectman
Susan J. Clay, Selectman
Todd I. Selig, Town Administrator

Selectman Clay made a motion to accept the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes from March 24, 1997, with corrections. Selectman Strong seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

At 7:30 p.m., Planning Board member Brent Armstrong, Forestry Committee member Ellen Reilly, and Planning Board member Tom Mohan, all of the Forest Land Evaluation & Site Assessment (FLESA) Subcommittee of the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and Forestry Committee, came before the Board of Selectmen to discuss the purpose of the FLESA organization which is to promote responsible growth and to protect the Town's natural resources. FLESA will serve as a tool to assess New Boston's forest resources, with the ultimate goal of establishing forestry/conservation districts to benefit the community both economically and ecologically. The proposed town committee will use the FLESA example to assess the forest resources in New Boston. Elements of the study will include: ownership patterns and landowner goals, forest characteristics, soil suitability for forest growth, wildlife habitats, and recreational opportunities. The assessment data will be analyzed by the committee to identify forested properties which have the greatest inherent potential for economic production of forest products and for other forest resource values of benefit to the community. Following the analysis the committee will make recommendations for: 1.) Updating the Natural Resources chapter of the Master Plan and; 2.) Reconciling future land development with the need to sustain the yield of forest products, important wildlife habitats, water resources, and recreational opportunities.

The Selectmen were asked to formally appoint a FLESA Committee to undertake the above noted projects. The Committee would be able to complete its work in approximately three years. Selectman Clay made a motion to establish a five-member FLESA Committee comprised of 1 member appointed by and from each of the following Town boards: Planning Board, Forestry Committee, and Conservation Commission; and two members appointed at-large by the Board of Selectmen for three year terms. The terms of the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and Forestry Committee representatives on the FLESA Committee shall coincide with the term of office for their position on the originating Board. Selectman Strong seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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At 8:00 p.m., Household Hazardous Waste Day Coordinator Michael Richard came before the Board of Selectmen to discuss 1997 HHWD which is currently scheduled for September 27, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The Board reviewed bids received from various waste haulers for HHWD. Selectman Clay made a motion to use Laidlaw for hazardous waste disposal activities at 1997 HHWD. Selectman Strong seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Selectmen also authorized the purchase of alternative products for use at HHWD, as well the donation of hazardous waste educational material to the New Boston Central School as has been the custom over the last few years. Selectman Clay offered to assist Mr. Richard in her capacity as State Representative from New Boston in the ordering of alternative products for use at HHWD.

At 8:30 p.m., Town Clerk Margit Hooper came before the Board to discuss the resignation of Deputy Town Clerk June Hicks. It was decided that the Town would advertise publicly for the position vacancy. In addition, the starting pay will run between \$7.50 and \$8.50 per hour, depending on experience and qualifications. Town Clerk Hooper explained that it may be necessary for her to devote extra time to the office in the process of training a new Deputy Clerk. Mrs. Hooper would expect to be paid for this time if needed. In addition, if for some reason we are unable to attract a qualified candidate, it may be necessary to look at the possibility of moving the Town Clerk to full time status (30 hours per week) in which case she would be eligible for full benefits. This last contingency, however, would only be looked at seriously as a last resort.

The Selectmen are briefly scheduled to inspect the Thibeault Gravel Pit on River Road based on Mr. Lionel Chancey's wetland-related complaint tomorrow afternoon, April 8, 1997, at 4:00 p.m. The Conservation Commission has also been invited to attend.

May 30, 1997 is the scheduled date for the "*New Official's Workshop!*" for Selectmen in Concord.

Town Administrator Selig reported that the Town's audit for FY 1996 went well. A few problems were found with the Trustee of Trust Funds reporting forms which are in the process of being addressed. An extra fee charged on an hourly basis will be billed to the Town for the unanticipated work the auditors had to take on regarding the trusts. Also, due to the fact that the community received more than \$25,000.00 in grant moneys in 1996, New Boston was required to undertake a separate audit costing about \$700.00 for the COPS FAST grant.

A "*Dealing With Difficult People*" seminar has been scheduled for two separate days for Town employees: April 9, 1997 and April 23, 1997, from 9:30 a.m. to Noon. The Selectmen are invited to attend.

Selectman Clay made a motion to appoint Alan Briere to the Forestry Committee as a regular member to replace John Ryan for a three year term ending in March of 2000. Selectman Strong

seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Selectman Clay made a motion to appoint Jon Brooks and Lyn Lombard as nonvoting associate members of the Forestry Committee for two (March of 1999) and three (March of 2000) year terms, respectively. Selectman Strong seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board briefly discussed the expiration of a temporary trailer permit on Map 10, Lot 5 owned by George St. John, Jr. at 112 Butterfield Mill Road. The Board asked Mr. Selig to speak with Mr. St. John and Building Inspector Dennis Sarette to see if this problem could be resolved for the long term.

The N.B. Fire Association has voted to purchase a 30KW generator owned by Peter Beers, contingent on an inspection by Lee Murray and David Cramb this week. The cost is \$3,000.00. The Fire Association is up-fronting the money with the expectation that the Town will reimburse it for some of the cost. The Selectmen asked Mr. Selig to contact Mr. Beers with respect to this arrangement.

The Planning Board met with Jim Tethers of the SNHPC on April 1, 1997 concerning updating the Master Plan. A public meeting will likely be held on proposed changes on April 29, 1997. A public hearing will be held sometime in May.

The Better Times has asked whether the Selectmen would have any objections to the paper allowing people to take out classified ads in order to make more money to better fund the publication. While the Board did not have any objection to this idea in theory, it asked to have the Better Times better define what is meant by "classified ads."

The Selectmen have received a letter from Raymond T. Lazott who owns two parcels of land on Bedford Road: 009-058-003 (2.83 acres) and 009-059 (7.14 acres). The combined total acreage is 9.97 acres. Mr. Lazott has asked the Selectmen to allow him to place this land in current use. However, a minimum of 10 acres is required in order to place land in current use. Mr. Selig was asked to look into whether there were special attributes attached to this land which would allow its enrollment in current use. It appears as though the deeding of land to the Town for the improvement of Bedford Road a number of years ago may have reduced the acreage to fewer than 10 acres.

Selectman Strong made a motion to reclassify Red Hebert from a part-time temporary/seasonal worker at the Highway Department to a regular part-time employee currently expected to work 16 hours per week. Mr. Hebert has been a part-time temporary/seasonal employee at the Highway Department since June of 1995. Selectman Clay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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Selectman Strong reminded the Board that in the near future, it would have to mark trees on Clark Hill Road with the Road Committee and Road Agent for a scenic road hearing before the upgrade begins on Clark Hill Road this summer.

The Board reviewed a letter & map dated March 25, 1997 from the N.H. Department of Transportation regarding improvements to the intersection of Route 13 and Molly Stark Lane which are slated to begin in the next three to four years. It looks as though the map is merely a reflection of what currently exists on site at this location. It appears to be accurate.

Selectman Strong and Mr. Selig updated the Board on Mr. Lee Brown's current plan pending before the U.S. Post Office regarding the proposed relocation of the New Boston branch of the Post Office from the center of New Boston to Route 13 next to the Molly Stark restaurant. Mr. Brown explained various aspects of his plan to Planning Coordinator Claire Dodge, Building Inspector Dennis Sarette, Planning Board Chair Brent Armstrong, Mr. Strong, and Mr. Selig on March 27, 1997. A brief synopsis was given to the Selectmen. Mr. Brown is scheduled to meet with the Selectmen on April 14, 1997 at 8:15 p.m. to discuss a similar set of sketches regarding the project.

A "March for Parks" has been scheduled by the Recreation Department for April 20, 1997 beginning at 12:30 p.m. at the Old Coach Road ballfield. The Selectmen are invited to attend.

The Town of Weare is borrowing New Boston's voting booths for their SB2 Town and School election tomorrow. They have promised to take good care of them.

Mr. Selig gave the Board of Selectmen an update concerning the last department head meeting. Topics discussed included: CFNH Supervisors Academy; Sludge/Biosolids; Moore Center; Monthly Reports; Parker Mill Dam; and a recommendation that the Selectmen attend the meetings.

A vacancy on the Piscataquog River Local Advisory Committee currently exists as a result of Pierre Bruno's resignation last year. The Selectmen will advertise for the vacancy.

Selectman Strong made a motion to appoint Mark Frawley for the remainder of Karen Hall's three year term on the Recreation Commission which will expire in March of 1999. Selectman Clay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Selectman Strong made a motion to appoint Nancy Clark and June Hicks to the Recreation Commission for three year terms which will expire in March of 2000. Selectman Clay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. June Hicks will replace Peter Martinelli who decided not to seek reappointment on the Commission.

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The Board of Selectmen decided to allow Mr. Mitch R. Larochelle of 82 McCurdy Road to be issued a valid pistol permit (#237731) due to the fact that the Board felt that he was a suitable person to be licensed as per RSA 159:6 due to personal knowledge of this individual.

The Board authorized the termination of Mr. Chuck Strausbaugh as the cleaning person at the Police Department due to the fact that he has not been able to clean the department for a number of months. The cleaning position will be publicly advertised in order to find a replacement.


The Board also discussed their concern that the Police Department threatened to tow cars parked along Route 13 at the School District Meeting held last Saturday, April 5, 1997. The members of the Board generally felt that it was in poor taste to have threatened to tow the cars due to the nature of the occasion and the mood of the people in attendance. Selectman Carlstrom felt that the issue came about due to the relative inexperience of the officers covering the event. It was suggested that perhaps Chief McLaughlin, or at least a supervisor, should personally attend such events in the future. This matter will be discussed further when Chief McLaughlin meets with the Board on April 14, 1997.

The Board signed Intent-to-Cut forms.

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

Selectman Strong made a motion to adjourn at 11:05 p.m. Selectman Clay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

 4/21/97
Todd I. Selig
Town Administrator