

Town of New Boston

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

December 8, 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

At 7:00 p.m., the Board was given an orientation of the new Historical Building alarm system.

At 7:10 p.m., UNH Students presented forest evaluation and assessment findings on the Siemeze Lot to Selectmen, Forestry Committee, and others in attendance. A copy of the report is available in the Town Office.

At 8:00 p.m., the New Boston Conservation Commission met with the Selectmen concerning the possible replacement of the Parker Mill Dam. Only Joe Nangle and Brenda Lind were present representing the NBCC. Generally speaking, the pro's and con's of replacing the dam or a similar structure were discussed. The NBCC is generally opposed to replacing the dam with a dam. However, the Commission is divided on whether a breakwater would be an acceptable solution as opposed to leaving the site as is with the free flowing river. All issues including fire protection, aesthetics, surrounding wells running dry, and the cost of a breakwater were discussed, as well as the bill which Susan Clay has put forward in the State Legislature to allow for the replacement of the dam with some type of structure. Selectman Clay felt that she wanted to give the Town and the Legislature a chance to speak to the issue of replacing the dam even if various groups from New Boston speak both in favor and in opposition to the bill.

At 8:30 p.m., Lee Murray, Rick Riendeau, Gary Robbins, and Bruce Fillmore, all from the Road Committee, met to discuss 1998 Road Projects. It was decided to amend an earlier recommendation to the Selectmen to raise \$100,000 in a separate warrant article at 1998 Town Meeting for upgrading Clark Hill Road and instead, to recommend raising only \$50,000 in a warrant article and applying an additional \$50,000 in Highway Block Grant Funds to the Clark Hill Road upgrade (Phase II, Alternative IV). Monies will also be put into the completion of Meadow Road, as well as finish coats on numerous other Town roads. The group also discussed setting aside \$25,000 in 1998 in a Capital Reserve Fund for the eventual replacement of Howe Bridge.

At 9:00 p.m., Library Trustee Pat Jennings presented to the Selectmen a wage survey which she had conducted comparing the pay of area librarians to that of Sarah Chapman. The Library

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Trustees are proposing a wage increase for Sarah Chapman from \$11.80 to \$13.20 per hour. The average paid to area librarians based on the survey was \$13.76 per hour.

The Selectmen reviewed a memorandum from Todd Selig to Lee Murray and Jim McLaughlin about communication between the Highway & Police Department during emergency and non emergency situations dated December 7, 1997.

It will cost an estimated \$13,275.00/\$18,000.00 to pave any one of two driveway options at the Transfer Station. (See box.)

Lloyd Hill has submitted a resignation from his position on the Finance Committee due to work/time constraints.

At the December 3, 1997 department head meeting, the department heads requested to meet with the Selectmen to discuss pay issues. It was the feeling of the Selectmen that such a meeting at this juncture would be a waste of everybody's time. The Selectmen are aware of the department head's opinions concerning wages as these have been expressed individually by department heads at monthly meetings with the Selectmen. In addition, the Selectmen have not had an opportunity to date to decide how to proceed with wage increases in 1998. The Selectmen therefore preferred not to meet with the department heads as a group.

Selectman Carlstrom updated the Board on the last CIP/Planning Board meeting. Selectman Carlstrom will need a replacement for tomorrow evening's meeting.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 11, 1997. Although scheduled to attend, the Library would like to reschedule.

The Cemetery Trustees are scheduled to meet with the Selectmen next Monday evening concerning the Cemetery & expansion plans.


Jean Barss will meet with the Selectmen next week to discuss the Playground Association's taxes on the RR Depot for 1997.

Pat Monbouquette will meet with the Selectmen on January 5 to discuss Clark Hill Road Phase II. This was the earliest date which was possible for us to meet.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be on **December 15, 1997**.

The Board signed Intent-to-Cut forms.

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



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The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



1/5/98

Todd I. Selig
Town Administrator