

Town of New Boston

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

May 11, 1998

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chairman Strong.

PRESENT: Harold C. Strong, Chairman
Susan J. Clay, Selectman
Lois A. Briere, Selectman
Todd I. Selig, Town Administrator

Selectman Clay made a motion to approve the Selectmen's Meeting minutes from May 4, 1998. Selectman Briere seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board conducted a site walk at 6:30 p.m. at 248 River Road with regard to junk yard clean up and hours of operation. The Board of Selectmen toured the property with John Winslow and discussed the clean up schedule which had been set last fall for May 1, 1998. Although progress has been made toward cleaning up the property, it had not yet been cleaned up to the Town's requirements. It was stated by Mr. Winslow to the Board that within four weeks time, he would be able to completely clean up the area running from the front to the rear of the garage on the property. The Board felt that this was acceptable and decided to give the Winslows the requested four weeks to completely clean up this section of the property. At 6:30 p.m. on June 8, 1998, the Board will again meet with Mr. Winslow on site to view the progress of the clean up. The Selectmen also discussed with Mr. Winslow hours of operation for all businesses associated with the property except the wrecker service. Following the site walk, the Selectmen decided that the hours of operation (except wrecker service) will be 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday thru Saturday. These new hours of operation will become effective immediately.

At 7:20 p.m., the Board met with Road Agent Lee Murray to discuss Phase II, Alternative 4 of the Clark Hill Road upgrade in front of Maglathlin, Lee, and Monbouquette. Road Agent Murray has estimated that the savings associated with keeping the roadway in its current location as opposed to moving it opposite the stone wall along this 726 foot stretch would be approximately \$7,074.45. This estimate does not, however, take into account incidental costs such as surveying, rebuilding the stone wall, replacing shrubs, moving horse pens, etc. After much discussion, the Board ultimately felt that Mr. Ed Lee should be approached by Mr. Selig to see if he would be willing to foot the entire cost difference, including incidentals, between the two alternatives in order to relocate the roadway opposite the stone wall per Mr. Lee's desire. The Board felt that unless Mr. Lee was willing to cover these costs, the Town would leave the roadway in basically its current and existing location with only minor widening/alterations in certain narrow spots.

The Board of Selectmen met with the following individuals concerning their interest in serving on various municipal boards/committees: Bill Brendle - Board of Adjustment; Geoff Katz - Board of



Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

May 11, 1998

Page 2

Adjustment; Linda Pimenta - Recreation Commission; Susan Bennett - Recreation Commission; Al Romano - Recreation Commission & Finance Committee; Robert Fehsinger - Conservation Commission; Cynthia Wilson - Conservation Commission. Unfortunately, Joseph Constance, Robert Waller, and Douglas MacDonald were unable to attend the meeting and will be rescheduled on May 18, 1998.

At 8:20 p.m., Mr. Don Grosso met with the Board to discuss assessing issues surrounding the new U.S. Post Office building which Mr. Grosso is leasing to the Postal Service. Mr. Grosso would like a separate "building and land" tax bill for the 2 acres on which the Post Office will sit, although the actual lot of record contains more than this 2 acres. The Board asked Mr. Selig to discuss the matter with Independent Assessor George Hildum and asked Mr. Grosso to forward the names of various communities who tax Postal Service facilities in the manner requested by Mr. Grosso to Mr. Selig.

At 9:30 p.m., the Board met with Fire Wards Wayne Blassberg, Jim Dodge, Cliff Plourde, George St. John, Dick Moody, Dale Smith, Secretary Marie MacDonald, and newly appointed Fire Inspector Scott Jackson to discuss the following matters: Fire Department Emergency Generator - the Fire Wards still plan to hook up to the Town Hall and possibly the Community Church and Whipple Free Library as soon as manpower permits; Hilltop Insurance - no new information from the Hilltop Board of Directors in terms of moving coverage to NHMA-PLIT; Emergency Management Director position - the Fire Wards recommended leaving the position with a department head of the Town who deals with administration on a daily basis and farming out certain tasks to the newly appointed Fire Inspector. Fire Wards have reservations about giving such authority to someone not familiar with administration on a daily basis or the personnel/resources of the Town for a disaster which may only occur once or twice in a lifetime. Selectman Clay noted that it concerned her that neither the Police Chief nor the Town Administrator, past and present Emergency Management Directors, were residents of the Town if an emergency were to occur which cut them off from New Boston; Large Building Fire Code - a lengthy discussion ensued concerning the Fire Code review process and events which have occurred over the last two years. The Fire Wards requested permission to engage the services of a specialized attorney who could help them through their various issues with regard to the code. The Selectmen ultimately determined that Town Counsel Leslie Nixon should work with the Fire Wards to help them with the code review. If Town Counsel Nixon feels that more specialized assistance is needed, she will be asked to obtain specialized assistance from her various associates in the legal field or to refer the Town to a specialized lawyer in this area.

Good Neighbor Cafe signage complaint from Dwight Lovejoy. A cease and desist letter from the Town has been sent to Mr. Todd Storro. Mr. Storro is in the process of ordering State Department of Transportation directional signs and requests that the Town allow him to keep up the existing signs until the State signs are installed. The Board of Selectmen was willing to accommodate Mr. Storro in this manner if it became necessary after 30 days.



Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

May 11, 1998

Page 3

Review of New Boston Personnel Plan dated 5/13/97. The Board tentatively approved the plan pending final review and recommendations by Town Counsel Leslie Nixon. The Board will review once more after input has been received from Town Counsel.

Selectman Briere spoke with Margo McLeod from the Town of Weare concerning the perambulation of our boundary. The mornings of July 11 and July 18, 1998 were set up as tentative dates to perambulate the Weare/Francestown/New Boston boundaries.

Tom and Christine Quirk have invited the Selectmen to visit the Friendly Beaver Campground to get a better idea of the types of trailers which would be taxable if the Town taxes trailers in the future. The Selectmen will try to stop up individually to view the campground if needed.

No further discussion took place from last week on easing the work load for the Town Administrator.

A letter dated May 4, 1998 to Chairman Strong from Marti Wolf was reviewed in which Mrs. Wolf submitted her resignation from the Better Times. The Board will see if other people in Town are interested in assisting with the production of the newsletter. Brandi Mitroff from the New Boston Bulletin was present and stated that she felt there was a place for both publications in the community. Mrs. Mitroff also stated that it might be easier for the Better Times staff if it became more of the bulletin board type publication it had been at its inception. The Selectmen felt that perhaps more municipal topics could be discussed in the newsletter in the future. More discussion concerning the Better Times will be held in the future.

Selectman Clay made a motion to close the Transfer Station on July 4, 1998, and to allow July 4 to serve as the official vacation day for the Transfer Station and Recycling Center full time staff, as opposed to July 3, 1998. Selectman Briere seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Board also determined that it would not close the Transfer Station on May 30, 1998 as requested by the Transfer Station Manager. For Memorial Day, the official holiday observed by the Town is May 25, 1998.

A complaint has been received by Selectman Briere about cars parking along Route 13 between Old Coach Road and the Molly Stark Tavern near the apartment houses in this location. It was felt by the complainant that this caused a safety concern. Mr. Selig will check into the matter with the Police and Highway Departments. NHDOT will also be contacted.

Selectman Briere and Planning Board Chairman Hassel visited the Amherst Planning Board last week of their own volition to compare processes and procedures between New Boston and Amherst. Selectman Briere will distribute complete informational packets to the Selectmen and Planning Board over the next few days concerning this visit. More to be discussed in the coming weeks by the Selectmen and Planning Board.



Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

May 11, 1998

Page 4

The Board of Selectmen, Road Agent, and Forestry Committee will walk the Town Gravel Pit on the Lydia Dodge Lot next Monday evening, May 18, 1998, at 6:00 p.m.

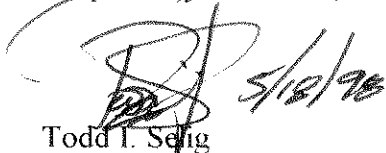
The Board's every other week summer schedule begins on May 18, 1998. The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen after May 18 will be held on June 8, 1998. Summer schedule runs through the end of August.

The Board reviewed and signed payroll and accounts payable warrants.

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

Selectman Clay made a motion to adjourn at approximately 12:32 p.m. on May 5, 1998. Selectman Briere seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Todd I. Selig
Town Administrator