

**Town of New Boston**

**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

**June 8, 1998**

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 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 accept the Selectmen's Meeting minutes from May 18, 1998, with corrections. Selectman Briere seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

At 6:30 p.m., the Board conducted a site-walk at 348 River Road and met with John Winslow to view the clean-up progress of junk material on the property. Although minimal progress had been made next to the shed as mandated by the Board's recent correspondence and meeting with Mr. Winslow, the work fell far short of the required clean-up schedule. Later in the evening, the Board decided to have Town Administrator Selig speak with Town Counsel Leslie Nixon about where the Selectmen should go from here in regard to cleaning up the property. Over the last twelve months, the Board has tried to work in every conceivable manner to assist Mr. Winslow in cleaning up the property. The Board feels, however, that the time has come to turn the matter over to Town Counsel for possible enforcement action.

Cable Meeting. At 7:00 p.m., the Selectmen met with Glen Hawes, Regional General Manager of Harron Communications and Bill Schmallberger, Vice President of Americable, to discuss the proposed franchise transfer from Americable T.V. Issues discussed included: Assurance on Harron's financial stability; local access; connecting rural neighborhoods; customer service; internet access, and the type of line technology currently used in New Boston. Approximately 15 residents attended the meeting and voiced their concerns to the Selectmen and cable company representatives.

1998 Revaluation Update. At 7:30 p.m., the Selectmen met with Gary Roberge, President of AVITAR, and George Hildum, the Town's Assessor, concerning the progress of the 1998 revaluation of property in New Boston. A topic-specific discussion took place concerning whether the Town will tax trailers which qualify as real property in the campgrounds. Tom and Christine Quirk from the Friendly Beaver Campground and Emily St. John from Wildwood Campground were also in attendance for this discussion. Selectman Clay felt that it would be unfair to tax the trailer sites since the Town already precluded development at the Friendly Beaver Campground within the 200 foot buffer zone which has been established at Friendly Beaver. Selectman Strong wanted to take time to see how other towns handle this issue. Selectmen Briere, Clay, and Strong all felt that more advanced notice should have been given to the



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campgrounds to warn them of the change in policy in 1998. Selectman Briere made a motion not to tax the travel trailers within the campgrounds in 1998. Selectman Clay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. If the Board later decides to tax travel trailers in 1999 based on new or additional information, advanced notice will be given to the campgrounds.

At 8:00 p.m., the Selectmen met with Patti Armstrong and Marti Wolf of the Better Times to discuss Marti's retirement as co-editor and the future of the publication. The Town is currently advertising for interested citizens willing to volunteer for the publication. Selectman Clay suggested posting a notice to this effect around town. Discussion revolved around ways in which the publication could continue with insufficient manpower. In addition, the risograph machine at the Central School is having problems which will make it inoperable in the coming months. This will likely drive up copy costs with sponsorship on the decline. One possibility which was suggested was to produce the publication on the internet only. Another was to run the calendar portion of the paper as a blow-out in the New Boston Bulletin until Town Meeting when the future of the publication could be discussed with more finality.

At 8:30 p.m., the Board of Selectmen met with Sheila Malynowski of 506 Bedford Road who has applied for the Finance Committee. A motion was made by Selectman Clay to reappoint Al Romano to the Finance Committee as a full member for a three year term to expire in March of 2001. The motion was seconded by Selectman Briere. The motion passed unanimously. Selectman Briere made a motion to reappoint Dan Rothman to the Finance Committee as a full member for a three year term to expire in March of 2001. The motion was seconded by Selectman Strong. The motion passed unanimously. The Board was extremely interested in Ms. Malynowski's candidacy and discussed advertising for an alternate position on the Finance Committee. In 1997, an alternate position was created on the Finance Committee for a short time. Ms. Malynowski will be considered for the alternate position on the Committee.

At 8:40 p.m., Rick Riendeau met with the Selectmen concerning recent appointments to the Road Committee. Mr. Riendeau was concerned that he was not reappointed to the Committee due to the fact that he has done a lot of work for the Town on the Committee. Selectman Briere apologized for perhaps not taking into account all of Mr. Riendeau's contributions before making the appointments to the Road Committee. Selectman Clay explained that the Board wanted to give new people chances to serve on Town Committees. In addition, the Board explained that it was trying to include more people in Town government. Since Mr. Riendeau was already an alternate on the Planning Board, it was decided to let another citizen serve on the Road Committee to increase citizen involvement. Chairman Strong suggested that Mr. Riendeau might want to run for one of the elected Planning Board seats in 1999. Mr. Strong hoped that he would. The Board also hoped Mr. Riendeau would stay involved with the Road Committee even though he was not a member.



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At 9:25 p.m., Mr. Bill Hebert met with the Selectmen concerning recent appointments to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. The Selectmen listened to Mr. Hebert's concerns that he was not reappointed to the Zoning Board as a full member, and that new appointees were appointed as full members instead of incumbent alternates as has been past practice. Selectman Briere and Selectman Clay explained that they were attempting to include new citizens on the various Town boards. They appreciated all of Mr. Hebert's past service to the Town and hoped that he would continue to be involved in Town affairs. However, they felt that the Board's new appointees were extremely talented and would make capable and valuable additions to the Board. Chairman Strong expressed his agreement with Mr. Hebert and felt badly that Mr. Hebert or one of the alternates had not been moved to the full member position on the Zoning Board. The Selectmen pointed out that no alternate members had applied to be moved up to full member status.

Clark Hill Road Update. Road Agent Lee Murray and surveyor Bob Todd have walked the site. The project is underway.

Skid Steer Bids. A total of \$22,000.00 was appropriated for this purpose at 1998 Town Meeting. The bids were: Case Uniloader - \$25,914.75; New Holland LX 565 - \$21,880.00; New Holland LX665 - \$22,973.00. Selectman Clay made a motion to accept the bid for \$21,880.00 for a New Holland LX 565 skid steer from Chapel Tractor. Selectman Briere seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Town has submitted a septic design for the Transfer Station bathroom facility to the State Department of Environmental Services Subsurface Systems Bureau. Bruce Fillmore has prepared this document for the Town.

The Board decided that it was still interested in setting up a "Town Meeting" type forum to discuss the Town's vision for the future of New Boston. This forum will be scheduled for the beginning of September.

Mr. Selig informed the Board that New Boston stands a strong chance of acquiring an intern for 8 weeks @ 30 hours per week. A Master of Public Administration student from UNH has approached the Town concerning this opportunity. This is an unpaid internship from which the Town will gain a great deal in terms of extra manpower. The tentative start date is June 22, 1998.

The Board briefly reviewed the plans for a proposed Major Subdivision from JFM Company - 8 Lots on Bunker Hill Road. No new comments were offered as the plans had been reviewed previously as part of a potential gravel pit discussion with Kris Stewart some weeks before.

The Board will review abatement requests and recommendations from Town Assessor George Hildum over the next two weeks. These will be discussed on June 22, 1998.



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The Board felt that the U.S. Postal Service should locate a mail box in front of Dodge's Store as in the past. In addition, the Selectmen inquired as to whether a cupola would be installed on the new Post Office building as was illustrated in the initial plans reviewed by the Selectmen in 1997.

The next Selectmen's meeting will be on June 22, 1998 at 7:00 p.m.

The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for June 9, 1998.

The "Mountain Of Demonstrations" (a.k.a. Road Agents Show) will be held this Friday at Gunstock Recreational Area in Gilford, NH. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Selig will be out on vacation on 6/15/98 & 6/16/98. Road Agent Murray is out on vacation for the next two weeks.

The Annual New Hampshire Municipal Managers' Conference is scheduled for next Wednesday through Friday, June 17 - June 19, 1998. Mr. Selig plans to attend.

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 10:42 p.m. Selectman Briere seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Todd I. Selig  
Town Administrator

*6/20/98*