

Town of New Boston

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

August 24, 1998

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:10PM by Susan Clay.

PRESENT:

Harold Strong, chairman
Susan Clay, Selectman
Lois Briere, Selectman
Burton Reynolds, Town Administrator

Sarah Chapman - Library

Completed work on a couple items so they now can pass their safety inspection by Scott. Bldg. Committee continues to meet to refine plans for expansion. Hope the model will be done for the 9/19/98 Library meeting. Have a fundraising committee and they are looking at several approaches. Making a list of those in town they think might want to give. Lead donors are being identified. No set goal for donations is being set until they have a better idea what they might contribute.

Grant money from FEMA is available to improve and raise the wall to reduce the chance of flooding in the future. Construction plans have us staying away from the wall because of all the permitting that would be required. Put pilings in the area so building can be near the wall but not include it.

Minutes of the August 17, 1998 meeting were reviewed and a motion to accept was made by Susan Clay and seconded by Lois Briere. The motion passed.

Bathroom project at Transfer station will be taken care of for free by Gerry Perron. We have to do the prep (Lee Murray will do that) and pay for the concrete. Gerry will also hook-up the water (pipe and pump) which was not in the original proposal. Motion to accept moved by Lois and 2nd by Susan. All in favor. Bill forest is doing the siding and roofing at no cost.

Cable ownership is changing from Americable to Harron. Mr. Epstein, our attorney, sent a letter outlining agreement and Harron sent us a letter saying that within 90 days they would meet with us to talk about what services we want, etc.

Claire Dodge - Planning

Change in Planning Board ordinance so that the Board now has 65 days to act after they have deemed to app "complete" rather than 90 days. And they must make the "completeness" determination within 30 days of delivery or the next meeting date after delivery.

Emergency Mgmt. Director

Handed-out a page listing some of the issues to be considered.

Bookkeeping Hours - Karen will take money until end of month when Irene starts as our tax collector until March and elections are held. Books will be audited as required by law. Don't expect much expense because we do balance monthly. Burton explained how training will work and what days she will work initially. Susan asked about paying every other week instead of every week to save money. Burton to ask Dept. Heads. Burton asked about paying bills more on a 30 days cycle instead of paying them right away. Perhaps something we can consider in future with the new bookkeeping system.

Mrs. Byam has written the town to inquire whether or not we would have an interest in her land. It abutts other conservation land and would help to preserve River Rd. We will wait to hear from Planning Board and Conservation Board after they hold hearings on the issue. Linda has told Mrs. Byam we are interested and will get back to her. May want Leslie to help us on this.

Willard Dodge made a presentation questioning whether Hans Hassel and Jeff Downing meet the residency requirement to be on the Planning Board. This whole discussion has been copied in it's entirety from the tape of the meeting and is a part of these minutes as an addendum.

Marcy will not be able to continue cleaning the Town Hall. Her last day will be 8/27/98. Decided to post and advertise. She will keep the Police Station cleaning job. Motion to advertize made by Lois, 2nd by Susan, all approved.

MS-1 is used for providing the State with our town assessed valuation. Have asked for an extension so the process of our town reval is complete. Have asked that the extension be until 10/16/98. Board asked Burton to meet with our assessor and Gary of Avitar to see when we can wrap-up and what needs to be done to bring closure to the process.

Several townspeople came in to complain about some reval issues. We took their names and the specific concern and promised to take those to Avitar for resolution.

The plan to add another heating zone upstairs for the Rec Dept. needs to be bid or quoted. Several contact names given to Burton.

Livery business wants approval to run horse and carriage. Board asked Burton to research what some other towns have done.

Herman Walker had asked the town to consider requiring everyone to place the street number on their home. It was determined that most people already do and emergency personnel have books in the vehicles with all the street numbers listed. A letter will be written to Mr. Walker.

Patricia Monbouquette on Clark Hill Rd. is having a small piece of her property taken for a road improvement project. We are waiting to hear from counsel as to whether a variance is needed.

We want to get together with the the Fairground people to develop better procedures for people who want to use the fairground. The town needs to be better informed as to events and have a checklist of things we want to see done before a permit is issued.

No other business so Chairman Strong made a motion to adjourn. Lois Briere 2nd. All approved.