

## **Town of New Boston**

### **Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

**November 23, 1998**

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7PM by Chairman Strong.

#### **PRESENT:**

Harold Strong - Chairman  
Lois Briere - Selectman  
Susan Clay - Selectman - absent due to illness  
Burton Reynolds - Town Administrator

#### **I. SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

1) Toni Pierce from the Rec Dept. reported that the ballfields drainage, landscaping, and seeding by JGE would be done within the week. Burton and Toni visited the site last week. It appeared an excellent job had been done. Next on the list of things to do: parking and water. Burton was to check with Road Agent Lee Murray as to whether enough sand had been processed across the street from the field so some parking could be possible over there. What would the highway dept. need to do to make the site useable? Could they also stripe a cross walk? Water will be needed to run sprinklers. The question was whether it was too far to run a line from the Transfer Station well to the ballfield. Would using the water truck Lee has be a possible solution?

Dave Hulick updated the Board on the Wellness Grant. Initially the State offered only 25K of the 58K we requested and it had to be used for payroll. That offer was declined. They have now offered 30K with possibly no requirement it all be used for payroll. Dave is waiting for the details. It is possible we might be able to make 30K work. Still not sure where it would be located or who would run the program. The grant would be released as follows: 50% Jan., 25% July, and 25% next March.

#### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1) Minutes of 11/2/98 were approved without change.

#### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

1) Lyndeborough Road bridge bid review by Holden Engineering was read. There were some difference in materials and methods between the three bidders. Holden felt the low bidder specs were acceptable so advised us to chose them. Based on a motion by Lois Briere and 2nd by Chairman Strong, the Board agreed to accept the bid of Laminated Concepts to manufacture the timber bridge for \$102,662.

The Board wondered from what account Lee planned to cover the installation costs. Burton was to ask Lee when they worked some more on his budget for '99. Also, do we know approximately how much it would be if someone else did the installation?

2) Burton, Lee and Bo will do a site walk of Clark Hill Rd. on Wednesday and then Burton will put the bid specs together for the Board to review next meeting.

3) There was a general discussion of how to implement the salary program. Chairman Strong questioned the practice of all the Dept. Heads discussing salaries with the Finance Committee. Burton felt it was important that what was approved at Town Meeting be presented in the budgets. That way the effects of implementation could be seen, and input by the Finance Committee given. A related issue is the cost of benefits. Burton expressed the belief it would be a challenge in the years ahead to adhere to the salary program without better cost controls on the benefit side. The health insurance increase of 12% for '99 is a case in point.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

1) It was decided we would wait until next week for budget work so Susan could be present for the discussion.

2) Burton and Lois reported on the NHMA conference sessions they attended.

3) Mark Rielly, the town hall cleaning contractor, asked to be able to use his own cleaning supplies if he did so without changing the weekly cost of \$95. The Board saw no problem with this.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM. Motion Lois Briere, 2nd. Chairman Strong.



Burton Reynolds  
Town Administrator