

Town of New Boston

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

December 28, 1998

Chairman Strong called a regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7PM.

PRESENT:

Harold Strong – Chairman
Lois Briere – Selectman
Susan Clay – Selectmean
Burton Reynolds – Town Administrator

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

1) The bids for Clark Hill Rd. were opened by Road Agent Lee Murray.

D & S	\$82,330	//	\$24,000
Wheeler	\$59,459	//	\$17,000
CSSI	\$101,925	//	\$27,675
Gomes	\$73,328	//	\$18,600

Motion by Susan Clay, 2nd Lois Briere, all approved awarding to Don Wheeler. The Board also decided to have Wheeler do the optional crushed gravel only section for \$17,000 instead of the town trying to do with it's own forces. The cost would be almost as much to do ourselves and we expect a tight work schedule next summer so contracting it out was approved.

A letter to the Road Committee was approved and a February 3rd date set to discuss it with the committee.

Board members went to look at Lewis Rd. which is Class VI and is now being used as a logging road. The Board wants a letter to go to the logger reminding him we expect the road to be left in the condition it was found and to place the stone walls back where they were.

2) Tom Mohan asked for Board support of an article to fund a FLESA mapping project. The idea is to develop a solid scientific base for evaluating conservation land. He felt the \$17,000 study would support the desire expressed at the September "town meeting" that preservation of open space is to be a high priority. The Board did not vote to place on the ballot on their own. Need to be further into the budget process before making a decision. Susan felt they should do by petition whether the Board supports or not just as a way to get out into the community more thus increasing public awareness and building support.

- 3) Wayne Gagnon gave the Board a status report on the snowmobile club's efforts to establish some trails in New Boston. They now have 45 members with ½ being from town. He outlined the sections in town where they still need to work things out. Chairman Strong suggested he also work with the Fire Dept. They are very interested in using Cochran Hill Rd. (or some of the land in that area)which is the Class VI road next to the Morgan's. They have not been willing to speak with the snowmobile group thus far. Wayne hopes they will and is against the town making a deal with the Morgans for a conservation easement on their 80+ acres unless snowmobiles can use at least a section of the property.
- 4) Maureen Mansfield was in to explain her functions as the caretaker of the cemeteries. She provided the Board with a written outline of all her functions, and explained how the trust funds are spent, how much it costs for lots and how that money is used, and burial costs. It was decided the next step should be a meeting with the Cemetery Trustees as it appeared some of Maureen's duties were more typically done by Trustees in other towns.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Lois Briere, 2nd Susan Clay to approve 12/7/98 minutes as written.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Reviewed a letter from Leslie Nixon on regulating grand fathered businesses. It can be done but you need a town ordinance to enforce. We have none. Typically any ground rules are set as part of the Planning Board approval process and are specific to the business in question. This has come up as regards John Winslow and a complaint about noise made by neighbor "Red" Hebert. The Board decided they wanted to inspect the site to see if, with the good weather since early November, perhaps some progress had been made with the rest of the items on the list used to identify "junk". If he does not clean these remaining items up, the Board may exercise it's option to force Mr. Winslow to get a junk license and then enforce the rules that are in that ordinance.
- 2) The January 4, 1999 meeting was set aside to discuss budget items.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Members of the Board visited a logging site off Lewis Road after Road Agent Lee Murray expressed some concern over the condition of the road. They felt a letter should be sent to Mr. Simoneau reminding him we expect the road to be left in the condition it was found, any damage to culverts should be repaired, and disturbed stone walls need to be placed back where they were.

- 2) Discussed next was a letter from Forestry and one from Conservation criticizing the Board for chastising Joe Nangle at the last meeting during a discussion of the "Right To Know" law and the failure of those groups to post a meeting they had with Mr. Morgan. Because Mr. Nangle was present, he was asked if he had been offended or felt he had been treated in a hostile manner. He said "no". The Board felt the tape of the meeting confirmed they appreciated the difficulty of always posting meetings but re-enforced every effort should be made to do so.
- 3) Status of '98 year end was postponed until 1/4/99 when the final numbers will be available.
- 4) The minutes and the tape of the Klardie ZBA hearing were reviewed individually before the meeting. Should the Board ask for a rehearing? They felt the reasons for the decision were unclear, that some members were unsure of what some zoning regulations were saying, and that only hearsay, not facts, were used. In previous meetings with Mr. Klardie, the Board had emphasized the need to prove a dwelling existed before zoning and that he needed to provide that proof to the Building Inspector. Based on these factors, Burton was asked to write to the ZBA asking them to rehear with a focus on these issues. Motion Susan Clay, 2nd Lois Briere, all approved.
- 5) The Board approved sending a letter of thanks to Gerry Perron for his donation of labor and materials making restrooms and a shower at the Transfer Station a reality.
- 6) Chairman Strong asked if the Board would consider a waiver of interest for Helen Bloch. She is elderly and missed paying the June tax bill. Members were sympathetic but did not vote to rescind the \$77. in interest.
- 7) Bob Todd has delivered a binder book to be used in researching the deeds for the Johnson Lot. \$1,500 was appropriated at Town Meeting for this to be done. Now that Bob has this part complete, we can ask someone to do the rest of the research.
- 8) The Planning Board approved Wendy Peck placing her driveway on Old County Rd(a Class VI road) instead of off the main road which is McCurdy. The Board had already approved this and just acknowledged the OK from Planning.

Motion to adjourn at 10:55PM Susan Clay, 2nd Lois Briere, all approved.



Burton Reynolds
Town Administrator

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Selectmen's Meeting Agenda

December 28, 1998

I. SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

7:00 Lee Murray Clark Hill Road bid opening
7:30 Tom Mohan Budget request for FLESA mapping
8:00 Wayne Gagnon Snowmobile trails
8:30 Maureen Mansfield Cemetery maintenance: duties and costs

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of December 7, 1998
Minutes of December 14, 1998

III. OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Winslow property – right of Board to regulate “grandfathered” business
- 2) Budget discussions

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Logging off Lewis Road
- 2) Letters from Forestry and Conservation re Right To Know
- 3) Status of 1998 budget – expenditures and revenues
- 4) Klardie hearing at ZBA

V. ADMINISTRATIVE

For Signature

- a) payroll
- b) accounts payable
- c) misc.