

**Town of New Boston
Selectmen's Minutes
May 21, 2001**

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Gordon Carlstrom at 7:08 PM.

PRESENT: Gordon Carlstrom Chairman
 David Woodbury Selectman
 David Delorey Selectman
 Burton Reynolds Town Administrator

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES: Dave Delorey made a motion to accept the minutes of May 7th with minor corrections. Gordon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

APPOINTMENTS:

7:00PM Additional Appointments

Selectmen reviewed the application of Nancy Lodengaard for the Forestry Committee. Dave Woodbury made a motion to re-appoint Nancy to the Forestry Committee. Dave Delorey seconded the motion. All were in favor.

7:30 PM Morrissey Mill Pond Conservation Area

Selectmen went on a site walk with Jed Callen, attorney for Mr. & Mrs. Bill Morrissey, at the Mill Pond Conservation Area to review access to the property and parking availability. Also present were Mr. Randy Parker, abutter to the property, and members of the Conservation Commission. Upon conclusion of the site walk, the Selectmen agreed that the width of the Right of Way, (the width between the Morrissey's stone walls), is acceptable at fifteen feet, six inches. Selectmen did NOT support parking within the easement due to it being too narrow. Parking on the property remains the decision of the Conservation Commission. Dave Delorey moved that the Board of Selectmen has determined that the access to the Mill Street Conservation property is adequate and appropriate at fifteen feet six inches as constructed, and that parking is not permitted in the access easement, and with this determination, the Notice of Violation be withdrawn. This motion is subject to change upon advice from town counsel. Dave Woodbury seconded the motion. All were in favor.

8:30 PM Fire Wards

- George St. John reported that with the warmer weather, they are working on summer maintenance projects, such as painting, and the overhead door.
- Wayne Blassberg is trying to install a new radio base. They've brought in new service and the new module is coming in soon. The cistern Master Plan is being worked on, in conjunction with new developments and the Planning Board. Sprinklers are now allowed in new sub-divisions, but not on one to two house lots.

- Dick Moody informed the Selectmen that the vehicles are in good shape.
- Cliff Plourde reported that all outside burning has been prohibited due to the lack of rain and will continue until we get three to four days of rain.
- Dave Rugg gave an update on the rescue squad's training. They recently completed the First Responder course and a number of those who took part are looking forward to EMT positions. The department has some new training aids; a mannequin, which simulates different heart arrhythmia's, and has an intravenous arm for venopuncture, and an automatic defibrillator, which has a monitor and is very user-friendly. These purchases were done through the donations of very generous people.
- Chief Dan MacDonald informed the Selectmen that Bedford has a new fire chief, Scott Wiggins. There has been no news on the pump truck at the New Boston Tracking Station yet. An additional truck has been sent down for Forestry training. Vehicle insurance is costing the department \$4286 dollars per year. Burton will look into getting a better quote. The fire department is repairing a lawn on Tucker Mill Road where a tanker was parked.
- Dave Woodbury inquired about future expansion of the fire department. Dan forecasted that the current firehouse should be adequate for another ten years. New Boston will always have access to the service and employees of the New Boston Tracking Station's fire department.
- Dave Delorey asked about the Emergency Management Plan. Dan's reply was that they need someone to type the plan up. Gordon suggested that they pay someone to finish the plan.
- Burton suggested that the fire wards use some of the FEMA money or it will be taken back by the State.
- Dan informed the Selectmen that New Boston has a major exposure in the downtown area, with no current major water supply. This issue needs to be addressed as soon as possible.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) **Planning Issues** – Last week's meeting was mainly a work session. Driveway regulations were discussed and should be completed within a month, with a ten- percent pitch requirement. The Land Use Committee will be looking at the wetlands ordinance and the slope of potential new house lots. There was also some discussion regarding who will be the independent inspector for the completion of Phase I and II of Juniper Hills, on Byam Road. Next week there will be a public hearing on the sub-division of John Palmer's property on Middle Branch Road. There will be a meeting of the Growth Management Committee on Tuesday, May 8th, at 8:15 PM.
- 2) **Fuel Oil Bids** – Burton spoke with Michelle at the SAU, and their best quote was ninety-five cents per gallon. The Town's best quote is much less volume and one dollar per gallon with Putnam's Fuel Oil. The Selectmen agreed with Burton to renew the current contract for oil. Burton will sign the bid and send it back.
- 3) **Audit – Fund Balance** – Last year started out with \$602 thousand dollars in the fund balance and used \$120 thousand dollars to reduce taxes. This year the balance is \$745 thousand dollars, and the Town will probably use a

comparable amount to reduce taxes again. The auditors and the DRA would like the Town to keep approximately five percent of total expenditures in the unreserved fund balance. The Lyndeboro Bridge cost \$61 thousand dollars less than expected, of which a large part was due to the installation of the bridge by New Boston's Highway Department. The auditor's report should be available within two months. The auditors have expressed some concerns with the internal accounting controls of the Recreation Department. They have made their recommendations for a special revenue fund as approved by Town Meeting, and suggest an annual accounting and independent audit.

4) Granite State and Police Firing Complaints –

- A resident on Hopkins Road complained about the hours of operation of the Granite State Gravel Pit. Burton has spoken with the owner and has also asked Chief Begin to observe their hours of operation. Hopkins Road will be paved this summer and Granite State will pave an apron into the access road to reduce the amount of dirt and dust into the intersection.
- Burton sent Chief Begin a memo with various issues involving the firing range on Old Coach Road and is waiting for his reply.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) **Gingrich Land Dedication Hearing** - The Gingrich's would like to donate a sliver of land to the Town, from their sub-division. There will be a public hearing on this issue at the June 11th Selectmen's meeting at 8:30 PM.
- 2) **Summer Schedule** – There will be no meeting on May 28th due to Memorial Day observation. The Selectmen will meet on the following dates *only* during the summer months: June 4th, 11th, and 25th, July 9th and 23rd, and August 6th and 20th. The regular weekly schedule will resume in September.
- 3) **Howe Bridge Approval** – Phase I engineering is underway and the Town has the option to keep the current abutments from the bridge. Other options are a single or double span bridge.

OTHER:

- 1) **Application for Current Land Use** – On May 18th the Board of Selectmen received a letter from Barbara King requesting her application for current use be granted for the year 2001. Barbara King had purchased a five-acre parcel that abuts her home on McCollum Road on February 28, 2001 and was not aware of the April 15, 2001 deadline for current use application. An extension was requested, and after review by the Selectmen, David Woodbury moved that the application be accepted and approved as if it had been filed on time. Dave Delorey seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- 2) **Town Hall Boiler Repairs** – The front boilerplate is rusted and needs to be replaced and the smoke pipe needs repair. These will be taken care of in June.
- 3) **Warrant** – Selectmen signed a new warrant for tax purposes.
- 4) **Skateboard Park** – The survey work has been done and a site has been located in between Town Hall and the School. A tentative plan has been drawn up, but the children, ultimately, should come up with the design for the

park. The property is owned by the Playground Association and the Daniels need to look into insurance coverage.

- 5) **Audit of Recreation Department** – Steve Plodzick wrote a letter explaining his reservations regarding the internal controls of the Recreation department's finances. The Recreation Commission needs to be aware of the specific issues that need to be addressed and more checks and balances need to be established. Burton would like to get the advice of Bill Drescher; it was suggested that he speak with the Department of Revenue and get their recommendations first. Burton will be meeting with two representatives from Recreation within the next two weeks to address these issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Joe Nangle informed the Selectmen that the Conservation Society has noticed that certain parcels of land on the Town books has increased somehow, just enough to get an additional houselot out of them. Gordon suggested that it be brought to the attention of the Planning Board for them to investigate.

David Woodbury made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 PM. Dave Delorey seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Prepared by Cindy Romano