

Selectmen's Meeting
10 August 1998
7:00pm

The scheduled Selectmen's meeting was called to order by the Chair, Allen Hines, at 7:00pm. Those present included George Lagassa & Jack Steiner (Selectmen), and Russell McAllister (Town Administrator).

The Selectmen reviewed the meeting minutes of July 27th. Mr. Steiner voted to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

- Veteran's Exemption - Dudley Childress
- Current Use Penalty - Mill Place Realty LLC Map 12 / Lots 18,21,24,26 & 30
- RPC Contract - For Master Plan Services
- Ruth Griffin - Executive Council Newsletters
- Coakely Landfill Minutes
- DES Permits - Time Extension (Ralph Littlefield) Wetlands Min. Impact (Dick Wollmar)
- RPC Coastal Communities Meeting - Exeter August 19th 8-10am

Topics of Discussion

The TA gave a brief status report on the Conservation Easement on a lot in the Runnymede subdivision. A rather lengthy conservation easement deed had been delivered to the Town Office ready for the Selectmen's signatures. After review by the Town Assessor there was a question as to the intent of the language in the deed. The TA explained that he was uncertain as to whether or not the language sought to have the land in the conservation easement classified under current use as agricultural land. Property of less than 10 acres would be eligible for current use classification as agricultural land if the owners were generating a minimum of \$2,500 in crop sales on the land in question. Because of the legal language involved in the deed, the TA was forwarding a copy of the deed to the Town Attorney for review and recommendation.

Mr. Hines next addressed the Coakely Landfill issue noting that an article appeared in the local paper over the weekend. Mr. Hines voiced his opinion that it was important that the issue and that public discussion about it was a matter of course in North Hampton. Mr. Lagassa commented that the merits of the present civil suit between the Group and former contractor, IT, bore close scrutiny. Mr. Steiner added that it was one of the first issues he acquainted himself with as a new member on the Board and that the civil case between the two parties was not scheduled until the year 2000.

The Board next opened the police cruiser bids. The results of the bids are listed below.

Vendor	Ford w/104,912 mi	Ford w/136,168 mi.	Total
Munroe Auto Sales	\$ 2,090.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 2,890.00
Legion Auto Exchange	\$ 2,150.00	\$ 1,950.00	\$ 4,100.00
Modern Classics	\$ 2,825.00	\$ 1,950.00	\$ 4,775.00
Bay Ridge Motors	\$ 2,301.00	\$ 1,801.00	\$ 4,102.00
Whitney's Garage	\$ 2,207.00	\$ 1,507.00	\$ 3,714.00
William Doucette Auto Sales	\$ 2,832.99	\$ 2,111.99	\$ 4,944.98
Winners Motor Corp	\$ 3,312.00	\$ 2,808.00	\$ 6,120.00
FleetMaster / Fleet Transport One	\$ 2,851.00	\$ 2,222.00	\$ 5,073.00
Westside Truck Equipment	\$ 1,057.97	\$ 1,057.97	\$ 2,115.94
Jersey One Auto Sales	\$ 3,008.00	\$ 2,808.00	\$ 5,816.00

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The highest overall bid for both cruisers was from Winners Motors (\$6,120.00). Mr. Steiner made the motion to accept the bid from Winners Motors. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Mr. Strout addressed the Board concerning his recommendation of which model backhoe would best serve the needs of the Town at the most reasonable cost. Mr. Strout explained that of all the backhoes he had test drive, the John Deere, Cat and Case were comparable. He opined that the Case represented the best value at the best price that was some \$9,000 less expensive than the previously mentioned makes. The cost for the Case was \$55,312. Mr. Strout explained that a ride-leveling package would be necessary to keep the machine from bouncing as it was driven down the road (approximately \$1,000) and a radio (approximately \$500). Mr. Lagassa made the motion to award the bid to Beauregard Equipment. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The TA briefed the Board on correspondence he had received regarding traffic concerns along Exeter Road. Specifically a resident complained about the excessive speed of cars traveling the road and the lack of police presence to enforce the speed limit along Exeter Road. Chief Maloney was asked to address the issue in regards to police presence. Mr. Maloney reported that the Police Department had stopped 947 vehicles since the beginning of the year and of that total 206 stops were made on Exeter Road. Mr. Maloney explained that vehicle stops on Exeter Road alone represented 1 out of every 5 vehicles stopped this year. Mr. Maloney indicated that Exeter Road was a heavily traveled by commuters and commercial truck traffic, but that he was in contact with state officials concerning the problem.

Selectmen's Issues

Mr. Hines recounted a citizen concern and the subsequent details of a site visit he had made to a property over the weekend with the Health Officer, Bob Dunkle and Shirley Carter, Chair of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Hines reported that there were indications of what appeared to be effluent seeping out of the ground on the Jeppesen property. Lucille Ellingwood, who had contacted Mr. Hines over the weekend concerning the problem, voiced the opinion that the septic system for the property needed replacing. Ms. Ellingwood went on to say that the original drainage swale was now a mound. She believed that the swale, if returned to its original condition as outlined in the deed, would solve the drainage problem and prevent runoff from the Jeppesen property inundating her abutting parcel. Mr. Hines reported that he had phoned Denis Plante at the DES concerning the problem of the septic system. The Board next reviewed correspondence from Michael Iafolla, who is a managing partner of the property involved, in which Mr. Iafolla relates an unusual increase in water consumption—a possible water leak—that was the cause of the septic failure. Water usage increased from 900 gallons/day to 1750 gallons/day. A water bill from the Hampton Water Works confirmed the increase in metered usage. Within the correspondence Mr. Iafolla outlined a course of action by which problems with the septic system will be addressed including identification of the water leak w/in 5 days and repair of same within 3 weeks. Mr. Himes indicated that the stones in the leach field were clean and not clogged with effluent, as is usually the case with a failed system. Also offered as a course of action within the correspondence from Mr. Iafolla, was the weekly pumping, or more as needed, of the septic tank to keep the water out of the rest of the system until the leak could be repaired. Ms. Ellingwood commented that the septic system was put in years ago and was not designed to support a restaurant. Further discussion ensued in which timelines for correcting the problem were discussed. Mr. Lagassa noted that there was immediate need for a short-term approach that would not only address the problem, but also not prove to be an undue burden on the business owner. Discussion continued on the topic with all members agreeing that the problem needed to be rectified, in the short-term because of the public health concerns, but that would not force the businesses located on the property to shut down. Two issues were identified. The first issue concerned the septic system. Mr. Steiner made the motion that the owner of the property pump the septic tank daily, providing records of the amounts pumped, and that further pumping and frequency of pumping be determined by the Code Enforcement Officer after review of the pumping records. The second issue concerned the restoration of the drainage

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swale easement as recorded in the deed. Mr. Steiner appended to the previous motion, the motion to have the owner of record restore the drainage swale as outlined in the easement that ran with the land. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion(s) so moved. The TA was directed to write a letter informing the owner of record of the Board's decision. The TA agreed to do so.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister
Town Administrator