

Selectmen's Meeting  
19 October 1998  
7:00pm

The regularly 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 regular meeting minutes of September 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lagassa made the motion accept the minutes as written. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

1. Abatement - Joseph Fitzgerald
2. Easement - Joseph & Susan Lawlor
3. Waste Management Contract - Recycling Center
4. DES Compliance Letter - Turner Porter
5. RPC - Zoning Ordinance Amendment Schedule

#### **Town Administrator's Report**

The TA briefed the Board concerning the current legal status of the Ladd Carmen v. NHHH. It was reported that the superior court had ruled to send the case to mediation. The timetable for the mediation was to be forthcoming from Town counsel.

The TA that asked Paul Charron (Building Inspector) to brief the Board concerning recent developments concerning the property located at 219 Post Road. It was explained that the house was built in the wrong place and that much of the construction did not meet code. Part of the proposal to alleviate the set back requirements from the wetlands, in which the house was in violation, was to fill part of a wetland while simultaneously creating another wetland. The difficulty, as explained by Mr. Charron, lay in the fact that the Town had twice previously rejected the wetland remediation proposal. The reason for the rejection was because there was already a stagnant pond adjacent to the property. It was described by neighbors as nuisance because of the dubious benefits it conferred—a breeding pond for the hatching swarms of large mosquitoes with voracious appetites that preyed upon the young and weak in the beleaguered neighborhood. The proposed remediation, approved by the DES, would only increase the size of the stagnant pond. Without an inflow or outflow, it was believed the increased size of the stagnant pond would only serve to create a more mutant strain of killer mosquito with ravenous appetites greater in size and more powerful than previous generations of mosquitoes. On behalf of the inhabitants of the neighborhood Mr. Charron was objecting to the DES permit.

The Board took up the issue of a conservation easement offered by Dick Wollmar on a parcel of land he owned. Shirley Carter was asked to comment on the matter. Ms. Carter explained that the offering of the easement did not meet the public access criteria established by the Conservation Commission. Ms. Carter reported that a house lot had been sold which abutted the offering in question. The owners of the lot were not in favor of granting a public right-of-way to the property offered by Mr. Wollmar. Therefore, there would not be any means of public access to the land, explained Ms. Carter. This condition precluded the Conservation Commission's acceptance of Mr. Wollmar's offer.

#### **Budget Review**

The Board reviewed the General Government portion of the budget. The TA explained that the previous line item under Town Administration for Administrative Assistant had been changed to Administrative Clerk. This line item reflected Peggy Neves salary. Another change noted was under Financial Administration category for Bookkeeper. That description had been changed to Administrative Assistant which reflected Jan Facella's salary. There TA explained the increase in the salary of the Administrative Assistant by pointing out that the Town of Rye had offered Jan a position of bookkeeper earlier during the

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year at a salary of over \$17/hour. The new salary reflected a salary increase to \$15/hour. It was also explained that the Town had lost Susan Zarlengo, the previous building inspector, to the Town of Rye because they offered her more money and fewer working hours. A similar incident occurred in the PD where a recently hired officer resigned because the Town of Seabrook offered a salary increase of \$12,000 per year more. The Board next reviewed the debt portion of the budget. The TA explained that the principle payment was increasing as part of the terms of the bond. The principle would continue to increase by \$5,000 per year with a maximum principle payment of \$60,000 during the last few years of the bond. The TA reported that the operating budget looked very similar to last year's and that depending upon requests made by the Library and Recreation, the amount should not vary by more than +/- \$50,000. The Board agreed to make recommendations after they had seen the total operating budget.

**Selectmen's Issues**

a. Rob Parsons NexTel representative / location of telecommunication tower.  
CANCELLED - failure to appear.

Mr. Steiner inquired about the status of last week's complaint by Wayne Brasseur. The TA reported that he had contacted the DES and that they were scheduled for a site visit on the following Wednesday and that a report of their findings would be forthcoming shortly thereafter.

**Questions & Comments**

Mr. O'Kane inquired, through the Chair, what the TA, in his opinion, thought were the two biggest issues confronting the Town. The TA replied that at the time he believed that development of organizational processes that strengthened internal control and accountability and were more responsive to citizen needs was a big challenge. Another challenge was that of trying to make the budget more goals oriented and establishing performance measures for the organization.

Lucille Ellingwood complained that the septic system on 62 Lafayette Road appeared to be in failure. The odor was horrific and there was raw septage flowing on the road. Mr. Charron addressed the question by reporting that he had been walking the property and had yet to find evidence of failure. Mr. Charron admitted that he had not walked the property for two weeks, but that he would do so.

There being no further question to come before the Board the public meeting adjourned at 8:54pm. Mr. Lagassa made a motion to convene in a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion so moved. No votes were taken nor any decisions made. The Non-Public session adjourned at 10:00pm.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister  
Town Administrator