

Selectmen's Minutes
07 December 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 meeting minutes of November 23rd. Mr. Steiner made the motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

1. DES - SRF Loan Repayment for Coakley Landfill Construction Costs
2. Intent to Cut - Park Avenue Development Corporation
3. Land Use Change Tax - Theodore Kopanski
4. Veteran's Exemption - Brian Donovan
5. Property Tax Refunds for overpayments - \$4,247.78
6. DES - Dredge & Fill Permit for DOT on Lafayette Road
7. DES - Time Extension for construction of driveway culvert (Marion Buffington)
8. Right of Way - Town access through Mill Road Subdivision to Town Property
9. Coakley - Executive Committee Minutes
10. Rockingham County - Nursing Home Data

Town Administrator's Report

The TA briefed the Board on a proposed gift of two parcels of land to the Town (021-037-000 / 017-074-000) from Beth Lewis & Richard Hobbs. The Board reviewed the parcel maps noting that the parcels were small and landlocked, but that it would add to the open space in Town. Mr. Lagassa made the motion to accept the parcels. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The TA next briefed the Board on the NH Public Works Mutual Aid Program. It was explained that the program was crafted after the mutual aid agreements for fire and police that have been in place for many years between municipalities. The impetus for a public works mutual aid agreement were the ice storms and flooding problems of the last few years. No single Town had the equipment resources necessary to clean-up the magnitude of damage left after last year's ice storm. The mutual aid agreements allowed municipalities to provide assistance to each other. The TA also explained that he had reviewed the insurance implications with Tobey & Merrill. Representatives with Tobey & Merrill determined that there would be no additional coverage costs associated with such an agreement. The Board agreed that the idea was a good one and extended CAO authorization to the TA to sign the documents necessary for the municipality to enter into the mutual aid agreement.

The Board reviewed the request by Jones & Beach Engineering to accept the Road at Ridgemont Estates. It was mentioned that a wear coat had been put down for the winter, but that the road had yet to be officially accepted. The Board tabled any decision to accept the Road at Ridgemont until review by Bob Strout and the Planning Board.

Paul Cuetara, Planning Board Chair

Master Plan Update / RPC Contract

Mr. Cuetara noted that the master plan was coming along on. The planning board was working on a wrap-up and review of the text and language of the document. There were also 6 or 7 zoning revisions to be looked at as well. Mr. Cuetara next briefed the Board on the status of the RPC Contract for planning services. Mr. Cuetara explained that John Krebbs, who provided planning services to the Town via the RPC, had provided many more hours of service to the Town than what the Town had actually paid for. The

proposed RPC contract called for 3 hours of service per week including 16 meetings per year. Mr. Cuetara felt that this time was necessary, and certainly well worth it, due to the work involved in the Master Plan and the number of planning issues before the Board. Mr. Cuetara also explained that since Forest Griffin's resignation, there was a need to nominate an RPC Commissioner to fill a vacancy left by Mr. Griffin. Mr. Cuetara recommended Bill Carlson for the nomination. After brief discussion concerning the nomination Mr. Lagassa made the motion to nominate Bill Carlson as the RPC Commissioner for the Town. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Mr. Cuetara noted that his discussions with the Heritage Commission revealed that the Town Hall had received historic designation by a vote of the Town some years past. It was explained that historic designation was an item exempted under the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Therefore, siting of a tower by Nextel within the municipal complex was not possible. The Board discussed the implications and agreed with the conclusion.

Selectmen's Issues

Mr. Steiner noted that there was a vacancy on the Heritage Commission. It was recommended that Janice Mellian be appointed as a full member to finish out Ruth Griffin's term that was left vacant after her resignation. Mr. Steiner suggested that Jenny Landman be nominated as an alternate member to fill Ms. Mellian's slot. Jack made the motion to appoint Janice Mellian to full member and Jenny Landman to alternate member on the Heritage Commission. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Mr. Lagassa addressed the issue of Jim & Phebe Mixter's letter concerning recent assessments. The Board discussed what legal means were available to ease the tax burden that increasing assessments have precipitated. There was reluctant acknowledgement of the State's statutory requirements that regulated the taxation and assessment functions in a municipality. The Board asked that Howard Promer prepare a summary of the assessing procedure the Town is obligated to follow. The TA agreed to follow-up on the request.

Mr. Steiner next addressed the recent resignation of David Chevalier as a Trustee of Trust Funds that was effective January 1st. Mr. Steiner made the motion to appoint Priscilla Leavitt as a Trustee of Trust Funds to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Chevalier's resignation. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Questions & Comments

Lucille Ellingwood expressed her disappointment on the costs associated with the Coakely Landfill closure. The TA and Board wished Ms. Ellingwood a happy 50th anniversary.

There being no further questions to come before the Board a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The public meeting adjourned at approximately 9:05pm. Mr. Steiner made the motion to convene in non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister
Town Administrator