

Selectmen's Minutes
25 January 1999
7:00pm

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

The Selectmen reviewed the meeting minutes of January 11th. Mr. Steiner made the motion to accept the regular and non-public minutes as written. Mr. Hines seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

- a. Veteran's Exemption - Peter Parker
- b. Abatements - various
- c. Refunds - various
- d. Coakely - Executive Committee Minutes
- e. Newsletter - Executive Council
- f. DOT - Driveway Permit (Jane Robie)
- g. Priscilla Leavitt - Declined Cemetery Trustee appointment

Town Administrator's Report

The Board reviewed and briefly discussed another possible appointment to the Cemetery Trustees. Ron Moores was discussed with Mr. Steiner making the motion to appoint Mr. Moores as cemetery trustee for the remainder of David Chevalier's term (March 9th). Mr. Hines seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Warrant Article Discussion

The Board reviewed and discussed which warrant article each Board member would present. Michael Harvel, Meeting Moderator, also reviewed the warrant and order of presentation. Mr. Harvell explained that the petitioner would introduce petitioned warrant articles. He also noted that this year he would require written motions from the floor rather than simple voice motions.

Discussion of Road Acceptance Policy

The Board briefed those in attendance about the Town's current lack of policy in accepting roads for winter maintenance. Mr. Hines noted that the Board was weighing on the one hand, the potential liability involved with maintaining a private road while weighing on the other hand, the Town's responsibility to provide emergency services for people living in a subdivision. It was explained that the Town had sought legal counsel on the matter of adopting a Road Policy for Winter Maintenance that clearly defined Town and Developer responsibilities in regards to the costs of providing winter maintenance within a subdivision where the road had not yet been officially accepted by the Town. It is the intention of the Board to establish a policy that is fair and reasonable to all parties and one that will serve to guide future Boards. Mr. Steiner noted that Mr. Lagassa was absent and that he would feel more comfortable accepting the Road Policy once Mr. Lagassa had the opportunity to review the document. The issue was tabled until the next Board meeting.

Selectmen Issues

Mr. Steiner asked that the TA write to Senator Beverly Hollingworth and invite her to a future Board meeting for a briefing on the education funding crisis. The TA agreed to do so.

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Questions & Comments

Robert Fitta from the Abenaki Country Club addressed the Board concerning a cease and desist order that the Building Inspector was issuing. Paul Charron explained that the order to cease and desist applied all commercial operations conducted by the Abenaki on the premises of 127 Atlantic Avenue, which was a residential zone and precluded commercial uses. Mr. Charron accepted responsibility for the current state of affairs by admitting that he had mistakenly given a temporary permit to Abenaki and that now, with the benefit of hindsight, Mr. Charron acknowledged that he should not have done so. It was explained that Abenaki was undergoing major renovations and needed a place to temporarily operate from. The original request was for a place to conduct a part-time operation needing only one room with one or two people at most. However, it quickly changed to an operation requiring all the rooms of the house, eight to ten cars in the driveway and many more than the original one or two people. Complaints from nearby neighbors prompted Mr. Charron to notify Abenaki that they would need to appear before the Zoning Board for a special exception to the ordinance. Mr. Fitta was apologetic and explained that it was not the desire of the Abenaki Country Club to cause any imposition or disturbance in the neighborhood. Mr. Fitta stated that he would do whatever was required by the ZBA. Mr. Hines commended Mr. Charron for his honesty in admitting that he had made a mistake on this issue.

There being no further business to come before the Board the public meeting adjourned at approximately 7:42pm. Mr. Hines made the motion to convene in non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister
Town Administrator