

The Chair, Jenifer Landman, called the regularly scheduled public session to order at 7:05pm. Those present included Lloyd Sullivan, Allen Hines (selectmen) and Russell McAllister, (Town Administrator).

Due to the potential discussion length of one of the agenda items Ms. Landman moved the opening Question & Comments portion of the meeting to after Selectmen Issues.

Selectmen Issues

Town Web Site Discussion

Ms. Landman noted that after further research she and Mr. Landman had found that Michael Brandt had offered to provide web site development. The charges for site design and maintenance included \$300 for site design, \$20 per page, \$20 per hour/page update, and \$20 per hour for research. The site address would change from a dot com to a dot us. Ms. Landman noted that zoning ordinances, applications, Centennial Hall activities, planning and zoning minutes. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to accept Mr. Brandt's proposal for updating and maintaining the Town's web site. Mr. Hines seconded the motion. Further discussion garnered comments from those in attendance that maintenance and upkeep would be a problem as well as getting the information to the web developer. There being no further discussion a vote was called. The vote to approve the development of a new site was unanimous and so moved.

Condition of House on 16 Squire Drive

Mr. Hines explained that the house at the above location that was once under construction had been abandoned for almost a year. Construction activities had recently resumed under a different contractor. Mr. Hines noted that the house was exposed to the elements for almost a year. Mr. Hines was concerned that the house may have sustained weather damage, which may not be addressed by the present contractor, and that such damage would later become a problem for the new owners. The TA noted that he had sent the Building Inspector to the site to speak with the contractors. It was explained that the Building Inspector was still inspecting the building and that the contractors work would still be subject to building codes.

Cedar Road Issues

Ms. Landman noted that she had received a letter from Mr. Doug Wood, a resident living on Cedar Road, outlining his the volume of traffic and his public safety concerns. Mr. Woods noted that he had counted twelve to fifteen cars a minute, which worked out to 700 to 900 cars an hour. The current stop sign configuration was being ignored by drivers particularly motorists traveling west towards Route 1 from Mill Road. Motorists were not stopping at the sign located west of the bridge. The flashing red light was working while the flashing yellow warning light was not working. It was also noted that the police had recently monitored traffic on Cedar Road west of the bridge and that they had made 11 stops in two hours. The Police Chief, Brian Page, reported that six accidents had occurred during the last three years, which he attributed to vision obstruction. The Road Agent, Bob Strout, explained that the NHDOT inspected the bridge every two years and that while the bridge was not in the best condition it was deemed safe for travel by DOT bridge engineers. Mr. Wilson, Planning Board Chair, noted that it was a lousy bridge with a poor approach and that the signage on Cedar Road was poor. It was suggested that the bridge be closed a way of curbing traffic on Cedar Road. A member of the audience commented that such a move would result in more traffic traveling on Pine Road. Replacement of the bridge with available federal and state money was discussed. Mr. Wood brought up the proximity of the North Hampton Airport to the proposed replacement bridge. He noted that federal regulations governing aviation, specifically improvements in close proximity to the airport, which may alter, take off and approach lanes, would likely not be allowed. Similar discussion followed. Ms. Landman after some lengthy debate noted that there appeared three potential options to address traffic volume and public safety; closing the bridge to traffic, further traffic study, and making Cedar Road a one way. The access road just west of the bridge that led into the Home Depot and Shaws supermarket was discussed as an option. It was suggested that the access road be closed, or blocked as a means of limiting traffic just west of the bridge which in turn would address the public safety concerns

of the Board. After further discussion of the access road owned by W/S Development Mr. Sullivan made the motion to block ingress and egress to the access road from Cedar Road, reducing the Cedar Road weight limit to 5 tons, making Cedar Road a one way in the direction of east to west towards Route 1, and contracting for a traffic safety study. Mr. Hines seconded the motion. Mr. Wilson noted that blocking egress and ingress might constitute a taking issue for the Town. The TA agreed. A vote was called. The vote was unanimous and so moved. Mr. Brian Page noted that public notice was necessary prior to adopting a Town ordinance that would be enforceable by the Police. The Court requires a period of public notice consisting of several meetings before the court would uphold the Town ordinance. The TA was directed to contact the Town Attorney regarding the issue.

Other...NHMA Policy Committee

Ms. Landman explained that she was on the Finance Policy Committee and that she had introduced the issue of increasing the veterans exemption to the policy committee and that the issue would soon be voted upon.

Other...Attorney services by the CBT Committee

Ms. Landman noted that Rob Ciandella had investigated the broadband issue and the Town's franchise agreement with AT&T. Mr. Landman, as chair of the CBT, was requesting an hour of attorney time, to review with Mr. Ciandella's the details of his recent proposal. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to approve the one-hour time request. Mr. Hines seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Discussion of IRS Section 125 (medical savings account)

The TA explained that he had researched the benefits and costs associated with adoption of the medical savings account. It was explained that employee health premiums were currently treated as taxable income. Under a 125 plan the premiums would become pre-tax. This was a benefit to the employees because it lowered their pre tax earnings. It was also a benefit to the town insofar as the town's share of FICA costs would decrease because employees' total taxable wages would decrease, as health premiums became pretax benefits. The savings were modest in the first year, approximately \$200 because of plan implementation costs. The TA noted that a representative from Benefits Strategies was scheduled to explain the program to employees on June 13th. Ms. Landman agreed to attend.

Other...Route 1 corridor management study

Mr. Landman provided copies of the above plan noting that the above was an RPC study with impacted towns providing a portion of the funding for the project.

Questions & Comments

Mr. Thomas McMannus addressed the Board about the upcoming Old Home Day activities, specifically the 5k road race. Mr. McMannus thanked the TA for his help in posting road race applications on the web, but asked if police coverage could also be provided. Mr. Page (Police Chief) noted that there would be substantial overtime costs (\$1,200-\$1,500) associated with coverage and that he felt the go ahead should be given by the Board. Mr. McMannus believed that 2 officers would be sufficient. Mr. Page explained that the Town had received a permit from the State to close a State Road and that the Town was accepting liability for the safety of the runners and traffic and that two officers would not provide sufficient coverage. Given the number of overlapping activities scheduled for the day police coverage would be an "all hands on deck." The Board approved the overtime. Mr. McMannus asked if the Fire & Rescue personnel and ambulance would be on site as in the past. Mr. Lambert, Fire Chief, explained that they would but that if they received a call they would have to respond. Mr. Sullivan asked if he could shoot the starting pistol this year. Mr. Page agreed to first check that the pistol was loaded with only one blank and Mr. Page further reminded Mr. Sullivan to point the pistol into the air and not at his foot.

Selectmen's Minutes
10 June 2002
7:00pm

Mr. Roland Neves expressed his disappointment that no Board members were present at a recent meeting where Laura Simmons, of the planning board, received federal funding for the purpose of conducting a groundwater study. The Board acknowledged that Ms. Simmons had done an admirable job.

There being no further questions the Board moved to the next order of business.

Administration/Business

Mr. Lambert addressed the Board with the purchase status of the new pumper truck for the fire department. He noted that delivery was scheduled for late June, but that payment would probably be disbursed in July, which necessitated an encumbrance of the remaining money approved for the purchase. The TA explained that \$70,463.59 of the \$230,000 appropriations had been remitted to date. The TA requested that the remaining balance of \$159,536.41 from account 01-4902-10-740 be encumbered, or carried over into the fiscal 02-03 year. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to encumber the remaining amount of \$159,536.41 from the above-mentioned account to pay for the pumper truck. Mr. Hines seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Mr. Sullivan made the motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 20th. Mr. Hines seconded the motion. Ms. Landman was not present at the meeting so abstained. The vote was otherwise unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

- a. Minutes - May 20th & 22nd, 2002
- b. Payroll
- c. Manifest
- d. Appointments (signatures) Barbara Hobby / Jane Meneghin / Peter Parker
- e. Abatements – various
- f. Elderly Exemptions – Donna Ricker / Catherine goldsmith
- g. Executive Council Newsletter
- h. Coakley Minutes
- i. Nursing Home Data

There being no further business to come before the Board Mr. Sullivan made the motion to adjourn, Mr. Hines seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:40pm.

The scheduled non-public session was cancelled.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister
Town Administrator