

Board of Selectmen
Minutes of 01/12/04
Approved 2/23/04

I. Call to Order.

Chair Lloyd Sullivan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. There were present Jenifer Landman, Selectman, Paul Cuetara, Selectman and Michael Pardue, Town Administrator. Mr. Pardue served as the Recording Secretary for this session.

II. Selectmen Items

A. Mr. Richard Goeselt – Mr. Pardue advised the Board that Mr. Goeselt would not be presenting this evening.

B. Senior Tax Credit Discussion

Ms. Landman provided the Board with an overview of the current exemption allowances in North Hampton. She further provided an overview of the research she had conducted in area towns as related to this topic matter. She then offered recommendations for North Hampton based on her research. Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Cuetara thanked Ms. Landman for her work on this matter. It was acknowledged that this matter was included in the proposed warrant articles. It was further noted that the proposed warrant article related to senior tax credits reflected Ms. Landman's recommendations.

C. Grant Agreement – Storm Drainage Mapping

Mr. Pardue provided the Board an overview of the grant agreement and the related Scope of Services.

MOTION/VOTE: Ms. Landman made the motion to accept federal Clean Water Act funds and enter into a contract with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and to further authorize the Town Administrator to execute any documents which may be necessary to effectuate this contract. Mr. Cuetara seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0.

D. Town Report Cover

Ms. Landman summarized the work she had done in relation to this topic area. She noted that she had spoken to Mr. Reid Bunker, a local photographer and that Mr. Bunker had offered a photo for the Town Report Cover. The photo was that of a tree adjacent to a crescent shaped beach. Ms. Landman asked Mr. Pardue to ensure that Mr. Bunker was appropriately acknowledged as the photographer responsible for the Town Report Cover photograph.

E. Board of Selectmen Draft Annual Report

Ms. Landman reported that she had authored a draft Annual Report for the year 2003. She stated that she would submit it for inclusion in the Town's Annual Report following Board review and approval.

F. Draft Dedication for Town Report

Ms. Landman advised she was writing a draft dedication and will submit it to the Town Office following Board review and approval.

G. Discussion of Facts Sheets

The Board discussed the advantages / disadvantages of sending out an informational mailer to voters that would serve to identify pertinent points related to each proposed land / facility purchase. Mr. Pardue echoed the benefits to such an effort but cautioned that many facts may not be attainable in regards to 239 Atlantic Ave. He advised the Board that the owner has not authorized the Town to conduct any inspections of the property. The Board came to consensus that it was more appropriate to have narrative information below each proposed land purchase article and that the deliberative sessions would prove to be an excellent forum to further educate the voters on the benefits, or lack thereof, of each land / facility purchase article.

H. Tax Assessment Certification Discussion

Mr. Sullivan provided an overview of the 12/29/03 meeting between the Board and representatives of Vision and the State of New Hampshire DRA.

Mr. Cuetara also offered his thoughts on this meeting. He suggested that residents review their property cards to ensure that they are accurate. Mr. Cuetara also noted that some property postings displayed on the Vision website needed revision. Mr. Pardue advised the Board that new file information had been transmitted to Vision and that website updates were underway at this time.

Ms. Landman offered stated that the questions she had concerning the assessment certification process had been answered by Vision and the DRA representative at the 12/29/03 joint meeting.

Mr. Sullivan advised that beginning on 1/22/04, a representative from Vision would be on site four hours – one day per week (1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19) to review abatement filings and to meet as needed with persons filing abatements.

Mr. Cuetara advised the audience of the assessment process and related laws as pertaining to allowing an assessor into properties for the purpose of measuring and listing.

I. Warrant Articles – Review and Vote

The Board reviewed each warrant article and voted on those considered to be “money” related. The Board did not vote on a citizen petition presented under the name of Deborah Sillay. (This was voted on at a meeting of the Board held on January 16, 2004). The summary of the per-article vote by the Board is reflected on the Town Warrant.

The Board further discussed a citizen petitioned warrant article designed to establish a mosquito control committee. Mr. Sullivan read the petition to the audience. This item will appear on the Town Warrant.

The Board discussed a Board of Selectmen warrant article in relation to the North Hampton Heritage Commission. The Article to read: Shall the Town of North Hampton adopt New Hampshire State RSA 674:44-d authorizing the North Hampton Heritage Commission to accumulate appropriations and gifts?

Recommended by Planning Board 7-0. Recommended by Board of Selectmen 3-0.

J. Proposed Bond Hearing Discussion

Mr. Pardue advised the Board that the Town and/or the Town Attorney have not received a Purchase and Sale Agreement from Mr. Robinson in relation to his Lafayette Road property.

Mr. Sullivan expressed his concern that without a Purchase & Sale Agreement, the Town cannot move forward with this initiative. He stated further that he believed the Bond Hearing should be cancelled.

Ms. Landman expressed her desire to continue to plan to hold the bond hearing in the hopes that the seller will come forward in the 11th hour.

Mr. Cuetara expressed that he feels very conflicted with this matter. On one hand he wants to pursue this effort however, he feels great frustration due to the seller’s reluctance / failure to present the Town with a Purchase and Sale Agreement. He further expressed concern that the lack of a Purchase and Sale Agreement from the seller has resulted in the Budget Committee not having sufficient time to review and consider the matter.

Mr. Sullivan stated that he would not participate in this matter any further.

MOTION/VOTE: Mr. Sullivan made the motion to cancel the bond hearing, as the Town does not have sufficient (any) information relative to a Purchase and Sale Agreement from the seller. Mr. Cuetara seconded the motion. The vote was 2-0 with Ms. Landman abstaining.

K. Questions/Comments Related to Above Topic Areas

None.

III. Administration/Business

A. Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Pardue made his report to the Board. Issues discussed were as follows:

1. FD Calls for Service are on the increase – 43 calls for period of 1/1/01 to 1/10/04.
2. **Winterberry Lane – Road Acceptance Discussion**

The Board discussed the condition of Winterberry Lane and the fact that the Town was performing winter maintenance of said road at this time. The Board discussed that all that needed completion along Winterberry was some drainage work (not on roadway) and that was scheduled to be completed upon the return of favorable weather conditions.

MOTION/VOTE: Mr. Sullivan made the motion to accept Winterberry Lane as a Town Road. Ms. Landman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0.

3. **Guardrail – Lafayette Rd. and North Road**

The Board asked Mr. Pardue to continue to review this matter and seek associated costs for construction of a guardrail at this intersection.

B. Correspondence

Mr. Pardue passed out the draft report as issued by the NHMA as related to a Mock DOL survey of Town owned / operated facilities.

C. Hardship Abatement Request - NONE

D. Approval of Minutes

- i. December 22, 2003 Open Session – Approved 3-0.
- ii. December 22, 2003 Non-Public Session – Approved 3-0.
- iii. December 29, 2003 Open Session – Approved 3-0
- iv. January 5, 2004 Open Session – Approved 3-0
- v. September 24, 2003 Open Session – Approved 2-0.

E. Payroll

Payroll was reviewed and signed off on.

F. Manifest

The manifest was signed off on.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board in open session, Mr. Cuetara made the motion to adjourn the open session and move into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a,d,e). Ms. Landman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. Open session temporarily adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

The Board reconvened the public session at 9:45 p.m.

MOTION/VOTE: Ms. Landman made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cuetara seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Pardue
Town Administrator