

Board of Selectmen
Minutes of 10/12/04
Approved 10/25/04

I. Call to Order.

Chairman Don Gould called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were present, Emily Creighton, Selectwoman, Jon Rineman, Selectman and Michael Pardue, Town Administrator. Mr. Pardue served as the Recording Secretary for this session.

II. Selectmen Items

A. Recognition of Police Officers J. Stokel and M. Oliveira

Due to prior commitments, Officers Stokel and Oliveira were unable to attend this meeting.

Mr. Gould, on behalf of the Board, acknowledged the fine work both officers had performed in relation to their efforts with the local D.A.R.E. program. Chief Page was present and provided the Board and the audience with an overview of the D.A.R.E. program and the positive impact it has had on North Hampton's youth.

Mr. Gould and Chief Page acknowledged that the two officers would again be formally honored for their contributions at an upcoming meeting of the Masons. This ceremony will be held at the Masonic Lodge on October 21, 2004 in Hampton.

The entire Board of Selectmen expressed their appreciation for the work of Officer Stokel and Officer Oliveira.

Mr. Rineman also expressed to Chief Page his praise for the recent "Simulations" training that had been conducted by the North Hampton P.D. Mr. Rineman advised that a fellow Delta pilot, whom also serves as a part-time police officer in a surrounding community, had cited this training to be "the best training he ever had".

Ms. Creighton inquired as to the upcoming disaster event training and the role of the Board in this exercise. Chief Page and Mr. Pardue provided an overview of the exercise and the role of the Board.

B. Cedar Road Speed Limit Reduction Request

Chief Page advised the Board that he had spoken with a representative of the NH DOT who had outlined the criteria for adjusting the speed limit of a local roadway. Chief Page further advised that the police department had been conducting speed surveys on Cedar Road and that speeds range from a low of 21 mph to a high of 52 mph and that he, Chief Page, would likely be recommending the Cedar Road speed limit be adjusted

downward to 25 mph. This matter will continue to be researched and monitored and will appear on a future Board agenda for action.

C. Vision Appraisal Technologies

Mr. Pardue advised the Board that this item had been postponed and would appear on their 10/25/04 meeting agenda.

D. Mosquito Control Update

Mr. Michael Morrison was present to provide an overview of his efforts in controlling mosquitoes during the summer 2004 "season".

Mr. Morrison advised that the rainfall during the 2004 mosquito season had been such that the control efforts were far more effective than in the 2003 effort.

Mr. Morrison advised that the mosquito control efforts around catch basins were continuing and that positive results had been observed. He felt this was especially encouraging as this is the breeding area for mosquitoes carrying the West Nile virus.

Mr. Morrison summarized that the Adulticiding efforts were very effective this year. He further emphasized that he, Morrison, had worked hard to ensure that there was consistency in the application efforts by assigning the same personnel for the same routes throughout the spraying efforts.

Mr. Morrison advised the Board that next year his firm was implementing a Mosquito Hotline, allowing callers to report problems or request "no sprays" etc. Further, in continuing with his efforts to promote increased communication between residents and those charged with controlling mosquitoes, he will be implementing a new web site, allowing for daily updates, spray schedules etc.

Mr. Morrison further advised that he had just had new aerial photos taken of North Hampton. These photos will be used to assist him in laying out his 15-year plan for combating mosquitoes.

E. Solid Waste Report

Mr. Gould summarized the recent report presented by the Solid Waste Committee. The narrative section of the North Hampton Solid Waste Report is reflected below.

***Additional data contained in this report may be obtained from the Town office. Please refer to North Hampton Solid Waste Report Fiscal 2003-2004 when inquiring.**

North Hampton Solid Waste Report Fiscal 2003-2004

Total Trash Disposal

In Fiscal 2003-2004, the Town of North Hampton continued to generate increased levels of trash. It produced 2,436 tons of trash, or about 6.7 tons per day. Of this, 1,944 tons were delivered to the landfill at a total cost of \$112,549. The town paid the Southeast Regional Refuse Disposal District 53-B rate of \$57.86 per ton pursuant to the District's long-term contract with Turnkey Landfill. The remaining 492 tons were recycled. A month-by-month breakdown is shown in the attached spreadsheet.

In spite of the Town's recycling efforts, the quantity of trash to the landfill continues to escalate. Total tons to landfill have increased over the last 4 years at an annualized rate of 6.8%. This increase results from a combination of population growth, greater amounts of packaging and shifts in lifestyles.

Recycling

Recycling can save the Town money. As a whole, the Town recycled about 20.2% of its total trash (versus 18.3% last year) and higher than in previous years. This past year, recycling avoided the payment \$28,476 in landfill tipping fees. Nonetheless, it still cost the Town for recycling, net of landfill tip fee avoidance.

The Recycling Facility

In Fiscal 2003-04, the Recycling Center processed 123.76 tons of combined recyclables, which was only about half of last year's total and only 5% of the Town's trash. As a result of this low productivity, it incurred a *net deficit* of \$26,844, 69% greater than in 2003. The recycling center is not financially self-supporting. Given its low utilization performance and resulting high cost, its operation must be more closely scrutinized to find ways to reduce the tax burden. Ironically, in Fiscal 2004, it was more than *three times more expensive to process recyclables* shipped from the recycling center than to have landfilled the tonnage.

Curbside Collection

Both residential collection service companies (Waste Management and Coastline) continued to provide curbside collection of recyclables to their residential customers in Fiscal 2003-04. Over the 12-month period of operation, the curbside program resulted in over 368 tons of recyclables collected, at a landfill avoidance savings of \$21,316. The quantity of curbside collected recyclables was more than double that from the previous fiscal year (which had 8 months of collection) and triple the tonnage processed at the recycling center.

The tonnage, cost and savings numbers indicate that the significant savings result from curbside collection while significant costs result from the recycling center operation. Nearly

three times more recycling tonnage was collected from the curbside program than from the recycling center.

Issues Relating to Recycling in North Hampton

By continuing to operate the recycling center at decreasing tonnage, the deficit will grow. It does not cost the Town to recycle by using curbside collection.

As indicated in last year's report, the "hidden" costs that are not included in the recycling center budget should be more closely examined. Costs such as workmen's comp, insurance, overhead, social security, sick time/holidays or health care, typically found in other parts of the Town budget, should all be scrutinized to get a true picture of the recycling center's added costs.

Public Information is Needed

The Town needs to improve its public information campaign to stimulate participation in the percentage of trash that is recycled. The 20% rate of recycling is low compared to other areas with curbside collection. Taxpayers need to be reminded that the more that is recycled from the curbside program, the greater the taxpayers' savings for landfill disposal.

Trash Disposal Costs and Savings

North Hampton continues to grow, therefore adding to its already large budget for trash disposal. We need to encourage residents to recycle more and throw away less. In the foreseeable future, it is likely that even with better recycling participation, our trash quantities and resulting disposal costs will continue to go up. Assuming a 6.7% increase in tonnage during this fiscal year, the estimated landfill costs for Town trash for Fiscal 2004-05 is projected at over \$123,000.

Notwithstanding the fact that we enjoy a landfill tip fee through the District that is well below market rates, it is still getting more expensive to get rid of trash.

Following an in-depth review of the report, discussion ensued related to whether there is a need for the continued operation of the recycling center as curbside recycling is already provided in Town. Also, there was discussion concerning the Rochester landfill and its long-term use and projected capacity level.

A great deal of discussion ensued about the need to further educate the public on the benefits of recycling and increasing public awareness regarding the availability of the Cherry Rd. recycling facility being open and available. Mr. Rineman suggested partnering with the school for a public awareness campaign concerning recycling. Mr. Rineman advised that he would be willing to lead a campaign to increase public awareness related to recycling. The Board voiced their thanks to Mr. Rineman for taking on this initiative.

F. Dennis Mires, P.A. Report Discussion

Mr. Pardue provided the Board with an update concerning his efforts to obtain materials from the office of Dennis Mires, the architect that assisted the Town in 2001 with the research / construction related to community building facilities etc. Mr. Pardue advised the Board that over the past several months he had made numerous inquires to Mires' office seeking a copy of the final report, presentation materials, graphics and any other

materials the Town should be in possession of following this 2001 effort. Mr. Pardue stated that he had had some minor success in obtaining materials from Mr. Mires' secretary and that those items had been forwarded to Ms. Day and other members of the Municipal Facilities Advisory Committee. Mr. Pardue stated that he had received notice from Mr. Mires' secretary, Peggy, that another set of presentation materials had been located and shipped to the Town and that he expected to see these materials within the next day or two.

Mr. Gould spoke of his review of the contract that the Town had with Mires for this 2001 effort.

Mr. Phil Wilson, Chair of the Planning Board was in attendance and offered that he too, had reviewed both the contract and the proposal and had great concern that the Town had not been afforded the materials it was entitled to, and paid for, as stipulated in the contract and proposal.

Mr. Gould complimented Mr. Wilson for his efforts in illustrating the relationship between the proposal and the contract.

The Board requested Mr. Pardue to contact the Town's legal counsel regarding this matter, having the Town's lawyers render a decision relative to the obligations of the contract / proposal and related project deliverables.

G. 205 Lafayette Rd. Update

Mr. Pardue and Road Agent Strout provided the Board with an overview of the most recent events at 205 Lafayette Rd.

Mr. Strout advised that the Jacques Whitford Company, Inc. had performed an environmental study on October 8th and the results would be submitted to the Town within the next few weeks. He also advised that the Local Government Center had sent a representative to the facility for the purpose of performing a Safety Survey that mirrors those performed by the Department of labor. Those results too, should be provided to the Town within the next few weeks.

Mr. Pardue advised the Board that he has been in contact with Town legal counsel regarding the anticipated need to bond the facilities purchase pending voter approval in March. The Town's legal counsel has expressed their desire and availability to assist with defining the bonding process and developing a step-by-step procedure going forward.

Mr. Pardue advised the Board that he had contacted American Appraisal, the firm hired by the Local Government Center to assess municipal buildings throughout the State, to conduct a Fair market appraisal of 205 Lafayette Rd.

Mr. Strout advised the Board that early estimates indicate 205 Lafayette Rd. will require upwards of \$60,000 of electrical work should the Town decide to purchase the building and that the heating systems are in terrible condition, likely needing replacement.

Discussion ensued related to the poor condition of the building and the advantages (probable long-term cost savings) to demolishing the existing structure at some point and constructing a new facility on the current building footprint. The Board asked Mr. Strout to obtain demolition costs for this effort in the event this needs to be considered in the future.

H. Announce November 2nd Polling at the North Hampton School

The Board announced that the North Hampton School would serve as the Town's polling place for the November 2, 2004 election. The Board asked the reporters that were present at the meeting to please included an announcement in their respective newspapers.

I. Questions and Comments Related to Above Topics

NONE.

IV. Administrators/Business

A. Town Administrator's Report

1. PWD – Environmental study @ 205 Lafayette Rd. performed on 10/8 – report pending
2. PWD – Boulder on Pond Path has been relocated as per request of Pond Path Assn.
3. PWD – 10/23 is Bulky Goods Day – held at Recycling Center – Cherry Rd.
4. FD – Ladder truck out of service for annual maintenance
5. FD – Ambulance is on schedule for late October delivery
6. TA - The Town line between Hampton and North Hampton has been surveyed and set with new granite markers as appropriate including granite post engraved NH / H. Cost shared with Hampton – NH share being \$462.50
7. TA – Awaiting report from Rye re: perambulation effort
8. TA – GASB-34 process begins 10/18
9. TA – Department budget reviews begin 10/18 with Chairman Gould
10. TA - Annual audit begins 10/25

11. TA – Structural engineering assessment of Town Hall building = \$1,500- \$2,000
12. TA – Exploring on-line checking system for programming registration in Rec. Dept.
13. TA – Conservation Commission requesting Mr. Dan Twombly to be moved from alternate position to a full board member, replacing Mr. Gregg DeVolder. This request needs a BOS vote on this appointment.

B. Correspondence

NONE.

C. Local Health Officer / Deputy Health Officer Nominations

The Board received documents nominating Deputy Fire Chief Corey Landry as Health Officer and Building Inspector Richard Mabey as Deputy Health Officer. Following their review of the documents the Board took the following action.

Motion / Vote: Mr. Rineman made a motion to appoint Deputy Chief Landry to the position of Health Officer and Building Inspector Richard Mabey as Deputy Health Officer. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0.

D. Approval of Minutes

September 27, 2004 – Public Session
September 27, 2004 Non-Public Session

Motion / Vote: Mr. Rineman made a motion to accept the public session minutes of 9/27/04 as written and the non-public meeting minutes of 9/27/04 as written. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0.

E. Manifest

The Board reviewed and signed off on the manifest.

J. Other Business

Ms. Creighton spoke of her efforts to obtain assistance from UNH regarding the Town's Local Origination Point and the expertise needed to appropriately broadcast Board meetings etc.

Ms. Creighton inquired about the Town's reply to the Municipal Facilities Advisory Committee regarding their request for information. Ms. Creighton advised she would discuss some of the particulars with the Town Administrator at a future time.

IV. Adjournment

Being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Creighton made a motion to adjourn at 9:11 p.m. Mr. Rineman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pardue
Town Administrator