

Town of Plaistow ~ Board of Selectmen
145 Main Street ~ Plaistow ~ NH~ 03865

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

DATE: March 17, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 pm

PRESENT:

Vice-Chairman, Lawrence Gil
Selectman, Charles Blinn
Selectman, Dan Poliquin
Selectman, John Sherman
Selectman, Robert Gray
Town Manager, Jason Hoch

L. Gil requested nominees for Chairperson.

- C. Blinn nominates J. Sherman as Chair, D Poliquin seconds, the vote passed 4-0-1, R. Grey abstained.
- C. Blinn nominates D. Poliquin as Vice-Chair, the vote passed 5-0-0

SWEARING IN NEW ELECTED OFFICIALS:

The officials repeated the oath after J. Sherman

COLORING CONTEST:

There was an announcement of the coloring contest winners.

MINUTES:

- D. Poliquin made a motion to approve the minutes from March 10th, 2008. L. Gil seconded the motion. There was discussion regarding some changes to be made on the minutes; Christine is going to make the changes. The motion and the second stand, and the vote: passed, 4-0-1

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No members of the public wish to speak.

REORGANIZATION-LIAISONS FOR 2008-2009

Chairman: John Sherman

Vice-Chairman: Dan Poliquin

Budget Committee

Representative: J. Sherman
Alternate: L. Gil

Planning Board

Representative: R. Gray
Alternate: L. Gil

Capital Improvement Program

Representative: C. Blinn
Alternate: D. Poliquin

Highway Safety Committee

Representative: R. Gray
Alternate: C. Blinn

Cable TV Advisory

Representative: C. Blinn
Alternate: L. Gil

Family Mediation

Representatives: D. Poliquin and
Barbara Tavitan
Alternate: L. Gil

Recreation Commission

Representative: J. Sherman
Alternate: D. Poliquin

HAZMAT

Representative: D. Poliquin
Alternate: L. Gil

Conservation Commission

Representative: L. Gil
Alternate: C. Blinn

RPC

Representative: M. Senter
Alternate: L. Gil

SPW TAC

Representative: M. Senter
Alternate L. Gil

Old Home Day

Representative: C. Blinn
Alternate: L. Gil

Town Report

Representatives: J. Sherman and R.
Gray

Rte 125 Task Force Committee

Representative: M. Senter
Alternate: L. Gil

Plaistow Source Water Source

Representative: L. Gil
Alternate: C. Blinn

Elderly Affairs Committee

Representative: C. Blinn
Alternate: J. Sherman

**Open Space, Town Land and
Building Committee**

Representative D. Poliquin
Alternate: L. Gil

**Public Safety Complex Building
Committee**

Representative: D. Poliquin
Alternate J. Sherman

**Rockingham Economic
Development Council**

Representative: J. Sherman

NH Café

Representative: J. Sherman

Highway Garage Committee

Representatives: L. Gil and D.
Poliquin

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

J. Hoch received a letter from CART asking for the board to reconsider payment for 2007. There was a discussion between the board members regarding the issue. R. Gray asked for some time to catch up on the issue. The board agrees that it is ok to hold off on deciding until next week. J. Sherman explained that there is no new evidence that he has heard to change his mind. L. Gil also believes that the rider-ship will go up in the future, but he does not want to increase the budget until it does. J. Hoch is going to ask the new director of CART to come in April, to discuss their future.

J. Hoch received a letter from Sumner regarding the Silva Case, the Sheriff was unable to make service of the notice, a copy of the Administrative order from DES for Pro Bark, the board members have a copy of the letter in their FYI folder

There is also an invitation from Rockingham County Adult Medical Day Program in their FYI folder the program is for April 2nd between 9:00 am and 11:30 am.

There are copies of several violation notices regarding pumping water into the street. The problem comes when the water travels on the road and freezes into ice.

Follow up letter from DOT about Main Street/Danville Road intersection. The DOT will review by April 7th and get back to the board.

J. Hoch spoke with Gary Jacques, he has received 8 resumes so far. He would like to come in on the 31st to discuss expectations and issues for the next manager. Gary suggested having the resumes reviewed by the end of the week of the 31st, and to have phone interviews completed by the week of April 21st, with the assessment center scheduled for May 4th and 5th. J. Sherman has volunteered to be a part of the resume review and phone interviews. J. Hoch asked if anyone else from the board is interested in being involved in either part of the interviews? Gary also suggested that a community member be involved for the phone interviews. The person who participates in the phone interviews should be involved in all of the interviews. R. Gray asked some questions regarding the interviews, and said that he would like to be a part of the final interview process, with the stipulations that he will not have a restriction on the questions he is aloud to ask. J. Sherman suggested that the board have Gary in to ask questions regarding the interview process.

J. Hoch went to PELRB for hearings about the proposed bargaining units. They completed one hearing, for Town staff. The counsel, Mark Broth, had thoroughly prepared for the hearing. They recessed before the next hearing, which was to be the Supervisory position unit. The union representative approached them with a settlement proposal. The union withdrew both petitions. J. Hoch agreed to move the one new hire they made this year to the same split as the other full-time Town employees. The effective date is 3/16, with a cost of \$ 40.83/week. Also no changes to healthy insurance will be made during the remainder of the 2008-year. The board should try to discuss what approach seems most reasonable to go forward this summer. J. Hoch explained that on the third petition, which was to expand the existing bargaining unit at the Police Department, they agreed to add the positions of Victim Witness Advocate and the Part-time Secretary, those being the positions that they would unlikely win on appeal. They also dropped the Animal Control Officer and Crossing Guard those are positions that the union would likely to lose.

J. Hoch read a letter from Carli: it said that she was at the Old County Road fields last week and on Sunday and Monday this week. The base was working very well everything held and was functioning on both sides of the fields. The backside was working very well. Carli also stated that the right side of the access road there is the pooling area after the entrance that was full but draining down into the back area. She thinks that adding an additional stone check dam may help with the amount of ground water. And the drainage looks great under the road and along the parking area.

L. Gil and J. Hoch visited the fields. L. Gil explained that he went out, after the heavy rains with a camera. He found that everything was working the way it was suppose to. He found no evidence of filter fabric. The water is clear and there was no additional erosion. Along the North side stream bed there is ground water flow, and he believes that the system is working well.

J. Hoch said that he had a request from the Recreation Commission to reappoint Sue Sherman to Recreation Commission with a term expiring in 2011, and to appoint Leona Stevens to a term expiring in 2011. she is a new member. She has met all requirements and has already participated in a number of events. She would take Martha Sumner's place.

J. Hoch, had a memo from Chief Savage regarding a donation of a 2000 Chevy Blazer to replace 1996 Ford Explorer. The Explorer was taken out of service due to a need for costly repairs. J. Hoch said that the board can ask questions next week when the Chief comes in.

J. Hoch explained that they spent \$89,655.00 on the contract snow plowing budget already, the budget is for \$100,000.00. He suggested two things to use as a cushion for the end of the year. He reserved at least \$40,000.00 of previous year's unspent block grant for this type of situation. And he will identify a road project to defer from the construction this year. The money will either cover winter maintenance cost if the end of the year is anything like it has been, or it can be carried forward as an encumbrance into 2009, so the road project can be done. J. Hoch also suggested that it would be a good idea to increase the budget for next year, and to develop a new contingency scheme for the coming year.

J. Hoch said that there are two water fee abatements in the signature folder, which was passed around. The properties had not come completely online during the period, which they are being billed.

J. Hoch told the board that they received a donation of cabinets for the kitchen from Plaistow Cabinets. He does not yet have all the details, however the approximate value is \$3,400.00, and he will discuss more when he does have all the details.

J. Hoch discussed the reorganization information. Bob Gray submitted a resignation from the Budget Committee, they have several people who have come to long terms of service to the Town and he is wondering if and or how the board wants to recognize them. The people include: Helen Hart, with 47 years of service through Town Clerk, Budget Committee and Trustee of Turst Funds, Kay Fitzpatrick with 30 years from Assessing, Building Secretary and Supervisor of the Checklist, and Eleanor Peabody with 22 years as Tax Collector and Supervisor of the Checklist.

J. Hoch mentioned that he put goals in the agenda for the next meeting, as well as conversation about paying for Jacques and his status. He discussed that if they stay on schedule as outlined, it puts them at late June for a start of a new manager.

R. Gray asked when J. Hoch's official day of the end of his "60 day plan"?

J. Hoch said that it would be March 26th, but his plan is to make sure everything is effective.

OTHER BUSINESS

J. Sherman explained to the board that the Town Manager sets the agenda, although it should be something done by the board, it has conveniently worked out that way and has never been a problem.

L. Gil asked if they had any outstanding contracts?

J. Hoch said that there is nothing new, just waiting for some.

L Gil discussed that a meeting with Carli may be rescheduled.

D. Poliquin had a followed up about the situation with the drain on Dustin Avenue, he has had people look at it but has not quotes yet. At some point he will get prices in writing to J. Hoch

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

L. Gil: said he already reported on the recreation field, besides that he has nothing else.

C. Blinn: has nothing for tonight, but has a meeting on Tuesday, so will have a report for next week.

J. Sherman: Recreation Committee held a mother daughter tea, and had a great turn out of about 100 participants. This Friday is the Toddler Easter Egg Hunt, and Saturday at 10 am is the Easter Egg Hunt for the big kids. Dr Suess will be at the library Saturday the 22nd. There will be a chance to go to the new recreation building, not will not be an open house it is for Selectmen and budget committee only, and a reminder that recycling is Wednesday the 19th, and the Area Selectmen meeting is Tuesday March 25th.

D. Poliquin: Family Mediation meeting is Wednesday night. He also asked the board for their ok for him to informally meet with Chief Savage, regarding police detail work.

R. Gray: had no report because he is new to the board, but he had a few things to talk about; he discussed the election, he said that it was a low turn out and he blames that on there being no controversial items on the ballot. He heard threw the "grape vine" that some people in the town think that he is here to for fill other peoples' agendas. He wanted to rid the rumor by saying he is here not to serve anybody's agenda, he is here to do what is best for the town. Also he had spoke with some senior citizens, who had concerns with not being able to receive tax refunds, because they do not file for taxes and their names is not in the system. He asked about how they can get the papers.

L. Gil said that he would try to find out more information regarding the IRS Stimulus Package.

J. Sherman thinks that it is an important issue to pursue, he said he did not realize that there was a problem.

J. Sherman also wanted to thank the voters before closing the meeting.

L. Gil thanked people who have served the town.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:04 pm

Respectfully Submitted
Christine Metcalf

