

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

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

DATE: May 5, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: 6:35 pm

PRESENT:

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

MINUTES:

- D. Poliquin made a motion to approve the minutes from April 28th, 2008, R. Gray seconded the motion, the members reviewed the minutes and made one change, the vote was 3-0-2, L. Gil and C. Blinn abstained, and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mark Harding addressed an issued with the Yield sign on Elm Street. He explained that he and his neighbor both have trouble getting in or out of their drive way because people ignore the sign. His suggestion would be to make it a Stop sign if possible, however he understands it is a state road and he said that the Public Works department said that the Board of Selectman need to send a letter to the State to request a sign change.

The Board discussed the issue; R. Gray recalled that in the late 90's he believes, that there was an idea to "Tee" off the intersection. D. Poliquin explained that at one point they blocked the intersection to make cars have to come around, however it created more accidents, although a Stop sign is a different issue, and would be a good idea, with the exception that there is no way of warning people of the stop early enough.

J. Hoch said the first step would be to write a letter to the State and ask them to review the road and the intersection. Ask the State for recommendations on what to do about it considering the amount of driveways near the sign.

J. Sherman said, "it is the consensus of the board to have the Town Manager contact the State to have them review the intersection" J. Hoch said that he would work on a letter.

Livestrong Day- Vanessa Underwood:

Vanessa approached the board at 6:45pm and discussed Livestrong Day. She explained that it is Lance's one day to raise awareness for cancer. The focus of the Livestrong day is to unite communities and raise awareness about cancer being an epidemic, and leading cause of death in the United States. Vanessa explained her theme for Livestrong Day will be "Strength in Numbers" and "Boot Camp" last year the Atkinson event was 1 of 200 events in the US this year it is 1 of 600 or 700. National Livestrong day is May 13th, but Vanessa explained that she changed the event to May 10th because of the convenience of a Saturday could bring more people to the event. She displayed a quilt that they made for last year's program. The attendees all had yellow squares and they wrote whatever stories or tributes they had. It is the first Livestrong quilt. It will be on display in the Town Hall, and then the Atkinson Community Center, and then it will make its way to the Lance Corporation.

The event is to take place Saturday May 10th, 2008 from 1pm to 3pm at the Atkinson Community Center, 4 Main Street.

J. Sherman read a Proclamation declaring May 13th Livestrong Day in the Town of Plaistow.

Vanessa Underwood left the Board at 7pm

Assessors Update- Wil Corcoran:

Wil Corcoran approached the board at 7pm he showed a Power Point presentation, discussing 2 issues; first being the real estate market in Plaistow and second a comparison to Plaistow's neighbor Atkinson on tax rates. The bullet points in his presentation were; discussion on foreclosures being up dramatically from 2007, sales volumes down from 2007, and the residential market was relatively stable in 2007, but is now showing declines in market values for 2008.

The Plaistow Atkinson tax rate comparison showed that the overall rate is Atkinson with 14.66percent and Plaistow at 18.33 percent

- L. Gil made a motion to go into nonpublic under RSA 91-A:3 II (e), R. Gray seconded the motion the vote was 5-0-0 all in favor.

Wil Corcoran left the Board at 8:30pm.

Meeting resumed at 8:35pm

L. Gil said that was an excellent presentation by Wil.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

J. Hoch received a letter from DRA allowing the appropriation for Article 15. The reason is listing of \$419 on MS 7, he put a copy of the flyer in the FYI folder for the Board.

He received a report from the DRA regarding Equalized Valuation; the total is \$ 1,042,617,430 and last year was \$1,047,622,228.

He gave a copy of a letter to the board, from the Assessor's Agent requesting additional information from the agent appealing to the BTLA.

J. Hoch gave the board a Bulletin from the NHMA Legislative, regarding retirement.

He also gave the board a copy of a notice of violation for Atlas Trucking.

He received a request from Dan Garlington to rehire the seasonal highway laborer. This person has worked for the Town in the past and on an as needed basis or to cover vacation times. J. Hoch gave a copy of the memo to the board. J. Sherman said that it is the consensus of the board to rehire the person.

He rewored the water tower RFP per comments from the last meeting, he will be sending them out next week. He needs responses by the end of May.

J. Hoch gave a copy of Jill Senter's notes from the site walk with the Wetlands Preservation at the Recreation Field.

Also heard from Carli about PARC; she said "the Old County Road Fields will not be open until at least the week of May 19th. Extensive work is being done on the base paths and the softball infield. Kevin Wade is bringing in sod and additional materials to finish the fields. No one can go on them so time is givin for the sod to take. I have notified all the coaches and am rescheduling and moving things around now. We have to go with Kevin's recommendations as we have to much invested in this project to cut corners now."

J. Hoch said the annual approval of Traffic Control Devices is due. He gave the board an updated list of stop signs and signals; the Board should approve the list with reference to date on the report (5/2/08).

- R. Gray made a motion to approve the Traffic Devices on 5/2/08, C. Blinn seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0-0 all in favor.

D. Poliquin has received bids for the drainage problem on Duston Avenue. On comparison of all the items, the prices varied significantly, low bid based on likely quantities of material is Continental Paving.

The sign design has been chosen for donated "Plaistow Supports our Troops" sign the design is in the FYI folder for the Board, and it is being produced now.

J. Hoch looked into the issue about mailing items with tax bills, and under RSA 76:11 reads, in part, "Said bill shall be mailed separately and not included with mailing of other town or city bills, unless the governing body of the town or city votes to mail other town or city bills or information directly related to municipal business along with the tax bill. Under no circumstances shall a city or town mail statements of position on matters of public policy along with the tax bill."

J. Hoch asked the Board to confirm or adjust a possible summer schedule that J. Sherman made, so it can be passed on for the master calendar.

Leigh provided definition of motor vehicle from zoning ordinance, there is a copy for the board in their FYI folder, and there is no differentiation between car and RV.

J. Hoch has worked with Waste Management this week to revise the flyer to be mailed with the tax bills. It is similar to the previous years, with a few edits to condense it into 3 pages.

OTHER BUSINESS:

L. Gil asked if he could get a recap on the Transportation meeting? J. Hoch said he would get one.

SELCMAN REPORTS:

L. Gil: Conservation Committee, J. Hoch, Carli, and the Wetlands Preservation met; the outcome was that the stream issues were minor, simple adjustments can be made, for example, relocation of boulders and some replanting can solve some of the problems, however the ground water flow will be there regardless. They are waiting on the Wetlands report.

C. Blinn: Nothing to report

J. Sherman: said there is a notice in the mail from Greater Derry Community Health Service. He also asked about the issue of a donation for the development on Rout 125? J. Hoch said that he has had informal contact regarding it.

J. Sherman told the board that he is expanding his expertise on judging birdhouses, he was a judge for the Lions Club Bird House Contest. He also had a tour of the Geary Center and said that it looks good.

D. Poliquin: Nothing to report

R. Gray: attended the assessment for the Town Manager search, it was a long 11 and half hour day. He also has a Planning Board meeting on Wednesday,

- R Gray made a motion to go into nonpublic under RSA 91:A-3 II (a) & (b), D. Poliquin seconded the motion, the vote was 5-0-0 all in favor.

The board went into nonpublic session at 9pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50pm

Respectfully Submitted
Christine Metcalf