

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

**PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**DATE:** June 2, 2008

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:35 pm

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Selectman, Charles Blinn

**MINUTES:**

- D. Poliquin made a motion to approve the minutes from May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, R. Gray seconded the motion and a few changes were made. The motion passed 3-0-1 L. Gil abstained because he was not present at the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No Public Comment, however J. Sherman used the time to congratulate Andy Mederos who will be appearing at Carnegie Hall, and Steph Barrette who graduated in the top 10 from this years class.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Opened at 6:39pm

- I. Acceptance of a donation from the Plaistow Police Association, in the sum of \$2,000. The donation is for reimbursement for personal expenses related to K-9 dog training.  
  
J. Sherman opened the discussion to the public at 6:41pm, there were no members of the public present so the discussion was closed at 6:41pm.
- R. Gray made a motion to accept the \$2,000 to personal expenses related to K-9 Training, D. Poliquin seconded the motion, and the motion passed 4-0-0

- II. Acceptance of a grant from DRED in the sum of \$250, the grant is a projected match of \$500. The grant is to go for fire hoses and nozzles for the forestry truck.

J. Sherman opened the discussion to the public at 6:43pm there were no members of the public, and the discussion was closed at 6:43pm.

- L. Gil made a motion to accept the \$250 grant from DRED, to purchase water supplies for forest truck, the grant is a projected match of \$500, and it will go to small diameter fire hoses and nozzles, for the forestry truck. R. Gray seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0-0.

Public hearing was closed at 6:45 pm.

J. Hoch added, regarding the grant from DRED that they are in the process of closing out the forest fire account, the grant will wipe out the account. And anything in the future will come through the general funds account.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:**

J. Hoch received a report from the Executive Councilor Hollingworth, he gave a copy to the Board in their FYI folder.

There is also a notice from PRIMEX for the Board about an upcoming training in Stratham about Powers and Duties of Governing Boards, the training is scheduled for June 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:15pm to 9pm and it includes dinner.

He received a letter from Comcast regarding changes to some packages that they say will affect "less than 1 percent" of their customers. They also passed along that they have 500 HD choices available.

There is a copy of a violation notice and administrative fine being levied by the Health Officer it is in the FYI folder for the Board.

J. Hoch put a copy of the Official Certification from PELRB for agreed change to Teamsters bargaining unit in the FYI folder.

He drafted an ad to place, to fill a part-time position for reception, office assistant and minute taker, to cover Ruthie's partial retirement. J. Sherman requests that it is put on the cable scroll. D. Poliquin asked why the position is only part time. J. Hoch explained that it is to cover for the time that they will be losing from Ruthie, also a part time position will save them from paying overtime when they

are attending Board meetings and taking minutes, and they will not have to pay health benefits.

J. Sherman read the job position description that will be posted, and it was determined that it was the consensus of the board that J. Hoch can place the ad.

J. Hoch gave the Board an e-mail from Gary Jaques about the ad for Town Manager search, he also gave them a copy of the revised ad. He asked the board for any comments or changes as soon as they can get them to him so they can place the ad. As they did the last time it will be placed with NH, MA, ME and VT municipal associations and Gary Jaques will place it in newspapers. He also posted it on ICMA the last time, and he is not convinced that it provides a useful return on the investment, which is \$400.

J. Sherman abstained from participating in the conversation, and turned the discussion over to D. Poliquin.

D. Poliquin said that he agreed with J. Hoch regarding ICMA. It was the consensus of the board to not post the job position with ICMA.

J. Hoch received a memo from Leigh noting that DES has informed them that the Little River will be subjected to Comprehensive Shore land Protection Act jurisdiction, which means any projects along the river may need a State permit if they are within 250 feet of the high water mark. L. Gil said that he will discuss the issue at the next conservation meeting.

J. Hoch received a note from the Police Chief saying that Al Hoyt and Sons would like to replace the storage shed at the firing range at no cost to the Town. Right now, the current shed is dilapidated and in need of a replacement. It's used to store barricades, targets, target frames, etc... No ammunition or weapons are stored in there. Advantages of such a building replacement are enhanced security, the dilapidated status of the current building and the cost to the town. J. Hoch said that he does not see any disadvantages or ongoing cost as the building is not serviced by utilities. D. Poliquin asked for the proposed cost? J. Hoch said that he was not sure, but it may be over \$5,000 at no cost to the town.

- R. Gray made a motion to accept the donation of the shed, and L. Gil seconded the motion. Discussion of the motion;

Discussion: D. Poliquin said that he would like to see dimensions of the shed and dollar figures before they vote on it.

J. Sherman called for the vote and the motion passed 3-1-0, D. Poliquin voted not to accept the donation yet.

The Cable ascertainment hearing was held on Wednesday night. There is a copy for the board in their FYI folder of comments provided by the Cable Committee. One topic raised was the idea of a senior discount, which is available in some communities. J. Sherman looked for opinions of the Board members on whether it should be on their contract request list with Comcast. R. Gray suggested that it is something to be looked into. It is the consensus of the Board that they will put it on their list of negotiable items to discuss with Comcast, however the Board needs more details on how the discount will affect other customers.

L. Gil asked if telecasting from different venues was discussed? He said that he may see the need for meetings in different locations and would like to make sure they could have the ability for mobile broadcasting, and he would like to see this item added to the list of topics.

J. Hoch received a notice from Deputy Chief Jones explaining: "Apparently, Busby put the wrong manhole covers on Rt. 125 (near Kohls) for that entire project. On or around June 9<sup>th</sup>, Busby will be back to tear up all the old ones and replace them with the correct covers. This will mandate the closure of one lane each day for about one week."

L. Gil asked if it is a weight bearing issue? J. Hoch said no but it is a quality and location issue. In the long run it could be a safety issue, however nobody will be falling through. J. Sherman asked that the notice of the closing of one lane, be put on the cable scroll.

J. Hoch received a memo from Nikki regarding CART's first quarter request for payment there is a copy in the folder for the Board members. Her recommendation is to release the payment.

The Board discussed the release of the money. L. Gil explained that he is in favor of it, considering the way the economy is going right now.

- R. Gray made a motion to release the \$1,600 to CART. L. Gil seconded the motion.

Discussion: D. Poliquin said that he does not want this to intend that they will release that amount every quarter. He would like to see more effort towards advertising. Although, he explained they are getting better, and bringing in people from other towns into Plaistow, he would still like to review the issue on a quarterly basis. L. Gil asked if they know where they are advertising? And he explained that he is willing to help anyway they can, with the expectation that they will continue to keep up with advertising. He explained that he can only see the program growing, and he thinks there is a definite need. D. Poliquin explained that the service is for anyone! And J. Sherman said if people are

looking for more information then to call the number is 434-3569, and again the cost is only \$2.00 one way.

Vote: the motion passed 4-0-0, with the addition that this payment is for the first quarter of 2008 only, they will review the issue again each quarter.

J. Hoch said that they have been reviewing Property/Liability covering and pricing through LGC and Primex. LGC will lock in a three year renewal with a maximum increase of 9 percent in premium each year (the 2007 premium expense was \$52,600). The Town has been with LGC for a number of years and has no issues with their performance representing the Town in claims. He explained that there are such minor difference in the price between the two, he would recommend remaining with LGC and is asked for authorization to sign all appropriate documents associated with that and for the Board to accept the resolution accepting participation in the multi year rate guaranty program.

- L. Gil made a motion to stay with LGC for Property Liability coverage for a three-year renewal period. R. Gray seconded the motion.

Discussion: the Board discussed the minor differences between the companies. J. Hoch explained the training that Primex provides for risk management, and added that they are both quality companies.

Vote: motion passed 4-0-0

J. Hoch said that the Board, in order to support the decision to go with LGC for another three years they need to give J. Hoch the ok to sign all agreements.

- D. Poliquin made a motion to allow Jason Hoch to sign all the agreements. L. Gil seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0-0
- R. Gray made a motion to give authorization to Jason Hoch to sign the PLT resolution. D. Poliquin seconded the motion, and the motion passed 4-0-0

J. Hoch met with Leigh and the project team for Rite Aid along with a representative from NHDOT. He explained that there are still some issues with the end of Garden Road. NHDOT will be asking that the Town consider taking over part of the proposed driveway as a new extension of Garden Road. He is expecting a letter and a plan from them shortly. They have been back and forth looking at different scenarios and it appears that this is probably the thing that will need to happen to have this project go forward. J. Hoch suggested that a winter maintenance agreement for the section that is part of the plaza might be helpful, and he also expects to see that as a part of their request. He asked the Board that because this is a postponed issue from the previous meeting, he get a general sense of the Board regarding acceptance. He added that any acceptance can't happen until the road is built. At the same time, any maintenance

agreement would not be effective until the road is accepted, which leaves sufficient time to work through any additional review of the document.

J. Sherman asked if this request was coming from the state? J. Hoch said the state wants to make sure there is still a curb cut to Garden Road, because they will be closing off the curb cut. L. Gil asked why the state has not coming up with this request before now? J. Hoch explained that they should have. J. Sherman asked what would the Town's obligations to the new curb cut be? J. Hoch answered that they would be to make a commitment to make sure that it receives winter maintenance, and at some point in the future they would be committed to their pavement plan and line striping. He also explained that the owner and the Town would have to coordinate together to discuss plowing, and work out an agreement. D. Poliquin added that the roads according to the plan do not meet town road standards. The Board discussed the map plan.

J. Sherman said that the Board needs to see more details on the plan before they make any decisions, he wants to see an updated proposal and details the next time they meet. He also explained that he might be in favor of extending Garden Road and maintaining it, and look to be compensated for it. Some questions and issues that the Board would like answered and brought to attention before any decisions can be made are: the size and dimensions of the town roads versus, the parking lot road, traffic flow, land ownership, plowing, and maintenance.

It is the Consensus of the board that they need more details before any decisions will be made. J. Hoch said that he will have someone come in next week.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

L. Gil asked how they are standing with the Recreation Fields? J. Hoch explained what was in the letter written to them regarding planting. L. Gil said that he did not think the types of plants would be a practical resolution. He suggested that they plant if anything what already grows in the location, and not to plant new plants that are not going to thrive under the wet and shady conditions.

R. Gray asked if there have been any updates on the sign on Rt 125? J. Hoch explained that it has been passed along to the Lions Club and he will follow up to see what they are doing about it.

D. Poliquin said that the sign for the Troops is ready and once he and J. Hoch determine a location, he will work on setting it up.

J. Sherman reminded the board to sign items in the signature folder.

**SELCTMAN REPORTS:**

**L. Gil:** Conservation Committee meeting next Thursday

**J. Sherman:** attended the Memorial Day Parade, wanted to thank the people who put it on, he appreciates everyone from the public that came and he said that it was a very nice program. Eagle Scout Billy Hortan was presented with the proclamation that the Board wrote. J. Sherman said that it was also a very nice ceremony. He also has a Recreation Committee meeting next week. And he made a request that J. Hoch put on the agenda for next week a non public session.

**D. Poliquin:** publicly announced the update on the Town Manager's search. The candidate that the Board had selected and made a proposal to had withdrawn from the process. The Board then decided to go back through the process again starting the search over, feeling that neither of the two alternate candidates would be a good match for the town. They elected to go back with Gary Jaques personal, and the cut off date for applications is the end of June. They hope to have a new Town Manager in place by the end of August beginning of September.

**R. Gray:** has a planning board meeting tonight.

L. Gil made a motion to go into a nonpublic meeting under RSA 91-A:3II (b) and RSA 91-A:3II (a). R. Gray seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0-0.

The Board went into a nonpublic session at 8:50pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45pm.

*Respectfully Submitted*  
*Christine Metcalf*

