



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

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES:

DATE: Monday, September 8, 2008

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:33 pm

SELECTMEN PRESENT:

Chairman, John Sherman
Selectman, Lawrence Gil
Selectman, Charles Blinn
Selectman, Robert R. Gray
Interim Town Administrator, Craig Kleman

SELECTMAN ABSENT/EXCUSED:

Vice Chairman, Daniel Poliquin arrived 6:35pm

NOTE:

J. Sherman mentions to all that there will be lighting at the Town Hall on Thursday, September 11th in remembrance of the 7th anniversary of 9/11 and the bush will be lit for one week. A moment of silence was also given in remembrance of the upcoming anniversary.

MINUTES:

Motion to approve minutes of August 25, 2008 by R. Gray; 2nd by D. Poliquin.
Abstained by C. Blinn.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0-1.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public wishing to speak.

AGENDA:

David Dube of 169 Main Street approaches podium to discuss letter he mailed to Board of Selectmen.

D. Dube lives on the corner of Main Street and Ingalls Terrace and discusses the challenges he faces regarding the recreation field. He notes that while living on this street there is much

congestion and traffic and that it is extremely difficult for residents to get in and out of this area and he is mostly concerned for emergency vehicles to get there if needed. He is asking the board if there is anything that can be done to rid him of his concerns. He notes there is traffic in and out of there at all hours of the night and at various days of the week. He also mentions that he gets woken up at night due to cars in the park and wants the park locked at night. He notes that his concerns are from a public safety perspective regarding what the people are doing in the park after hours.

J. Sherman discusses the matter of locking of the park at night and notes that a person would need to be hired to do such. He noted that the park is open until dusk

D. Poliquin asks if the area is fenced.

C. Sarti, Recreation Director, replies yes the park is fenced however, there is no chain on the entrance and the gate needs to be fixed in order to do such. She also indicated that this area is used as a turn-around for large trucks such as the street sweeper, plow truck and Waste Management's Garbage Truck. These trucks cannot turn around in the street and use this area to do such because backing out onto Main Street is and unsafe act.

L. Gil asks D. Dube if the disturbances are all year.

D. Dube indicates that the disturbances drop off in the winter time however, the concentration is between April and November.

J. Sherman inquires as to when D. Dube reports this information to the police, do they show up.

D. Dube replies yes they do. He inquired as to why he needed to keep doing this. He has volunteered to lock the park himself.

S. Savage, Police Chief, replies that he would volunteer to do the locking, however if it is not done on a continuous basis, which needs to be done religiously, otherwise he doesn't think it would work really well. He agrees to have this area locked at night and thinks it is a great idea.

Mrs. Sherman of 3 Kimball Avenue and a long time member of the Recreation Commission, mentions that she herself, as a volunteer, use to lock and unlock the gate however, due to the recommendation of the police and fire department it was suggested to stop because the kids use to climb the fence and dangerously park their cars in people's driveways. She indicated that there was a concern for liability and the danger to youths entering the locked facility via climbing over the fence and getting caught on the sharp pieces of the fence so that is why the locking had stopped. She noted that signs were put up to discourage entry. She is concerned with the liability for one of them to lock and unlock and thinks that someone who is doing such needs to be covered under the town's liability.

D. Dube inquires as to the liability if someone goes in that area if town does not lock.

J. Sherman and C. Kleman have a discussion of liability issues.

R. Gray asks C. Sarti if there is a solution.

C. Sarti suggests putting a “V” off to the side like they did at Old County Road which would enable people to get in and out. She noted that they need to address the plowing and the trash issue, which large vehicles use this area for turning around. She suggests having the gate unlocked by Dave who comes in early which would be around 4:30 – 5:00 am.

L. Gil inquires as to what day and time that Waste Management shows up.

C. Sarti noted that it is Wednesday somewhere between 6:30 and 8:00 am.

C. Sarti mentions the liability concern of having someone who is not an employee opening and closing the gate. Something would need to be written for their liability for a volunteer to do this, however this is something that could be done. She noted she is not quite sure what she can do to ease the resident’s concerns and protect the town. She suggests looking into this matter regarding an employee doing such or a commission member because it would fall under a different scope.

J. Sherman asks the board and attending members if all agree it’s a good idea that the gate be locked.

B. Coye, resident of 9 Partridge Lane, inquires as to what happens if emergency personnel need to have access.

S. Savage notes to lock it but allow enough for pedestrian traffic.

C. Sarti agrees that the gate needs to be locked.

C. Blinn inquires if perhaps we should look into a newer gate, one that you can walk through but not drive through.

P. Rossi, resident of 3 Ingalls Terrace, notes that he wants to keep cars out, not so much people and suggests putting a chain up so people cannot drive through which may deter them from entering and then perhaps they will go elsewhere. He notes that a chain enables them to walk in and out however, it makes them park elsewhere.

R. Gray recommends that we take all this information under advisement and to assign this matter to C. Kleman and C. Sarti to jointly recommend something that may help here. He suggests they come up with ideas and then bring this matter back to the board in 30 days for further discussion.

J. Sherman agrees with this and notes that all suggestions should go through Carli and she will bring them to Craig for further discussion.

Highway Safety Charter discussion with Chief Steve Savage.

S. Savage noted as a volunteer committee they had many issues and a new charter reconstitutes, gives focus and it clearly delineates to whom we report. It was nebulous before whether it was planning or selectmen. We never really had a black and white charter. This clearly spells out membership, that it is the board’s responsibility to appoint memberships and the things we need to focus on as well as the things we have not. It is our effort to reconstitute highway safety and deal with issues, complaints and concerns by residents on those very narrowly interpreted issues.

J. Sherman noted that this discussion had triggered an email from Leigh who recovered a memo from 2004 from Frost Consulting about the Highway Safety Committee's recommendations and he had looked into it by a request of John Scruton, and Steve is right, one of the issues we had years ago was who does this committee report to. What Steve is recommending coincides exactly with what Mr. Frost had recommended back in 2004.

J. Sherman asks if the board thinks this is a good idea and should they continue.

L. Gil asks why this lapsed and was it due to issues.

S. Savage notes that he remembers it having something to do with the exchange between former town manager, board members and a number of people concerned that we were wandering into foreign issues such as school bus routes, so we lost our effectiveness due to not having a clear charter as to where we should go. Part of the problem was we did not have anything tangible in writing as to what we were to do.

L. Gil inquires if S. Savage remembers there being any issues with recommendations being given by the Highway Safety Committee being viewed by a potential applicant to the Planning Board and rendering a decision.

S. Savage discusses that there were more than a couple of instances that he could remember of applicants having scheduled meetings with the Highway Safety Committee instead of going to the Planning Board.

L. Gil noted that it became challenging to an applicant.

R. Gray indicated that the planning process has changed a lot. The new process is that the Planning Department does send out to the department heads a letter/memo telling them that they have input on a particular plan which enables them to have input into the upcoming plan. The plans that are submitted by the applicant are what the Planning Board sees now.

L. Gil thinks the issue was that they were coming to the Highway Safety Committee first and trying to get around the Planning Committee.

S. Savage noted that one of the values in doing it in a committee sense is that all will get to see and someone may catch something that someone else has missed.

J. Sherman remarks that he is sensing an agreement from the board that we are reconstituting this committee. He notes that if this is the way to go and there is no disagreement from the board, he then needs to know if the board is comfortable with the way the charter is written. He also noted that he has one suggestion which is removing the Planning Coordinator since it is not charged with site plan reviews.

R. Gray wonders if we need to have her in there for federal grants.

L. Gil disagrees and thinks that you would want the Planning Coordinator and he does not see a reason to exclude.

J. Sherman asks how the rest of board feels about it. He notes he is not concerned.

R. Gray agrees to keep.

C. Blinn thinks it a great thing to get the charter back and it would be good for all.

J. Sherman notes that the Charter as printed is fine.

R. Gray makes a motion to adopt the Charter of the Highway Safety Committee as presented printed and dated 9/8/08.

D. Poliquin 2nds the motion.

J. Sherman asks C. Kleman how he feels about this plan.

C. Kleman notes that it seems to be much better than earlier plans.

Vote 5-0-0

J. Sherman announces that we now have a Highway Safety Committee and asks if anyone wants to volunteer to be a Selectmen Representative to the Committee.

L. Gil volunteers and D. Poliquin volunteers second.

J. Sherman announces that the Selectmen Representative is L. Gil and the Alternate Selectmen Representative is D. Poliquin.

J. Sherman suggests to C. Kleman in regards to the Citizen Representative that he should get a posting on cable asking for a volunteer and perhaps have something put in the newspaper as well.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

C. Kleman discussed the replacement of the ballasts in Fire Department's Apparatus Bay. There was a work up done last week that was trying to factor in everything and since then, Ken Ray has come back and said he will not be using David Bowles. He submitted a new estimate which is \$3,760 with the town providing tubes and scissor lift.

J. Sherman notes that the issue here was that it wasn't a real bid process.

C. Kleman noted that the Fire Chief got a bid from Mr. Johnston and Mr. Ray and Mr. Bowles learned of it and decided they could save the town money and came in with another quote.

J. Sherman inquires as to where the issue stands right now and asks if the board has taken vote on this issue.

C. Kleman indicated no, it was only discussed and not action was taken.

R. Gray inquires as to what the bid criteria is.

C. Kleman indicates that if the estimate is under \$5,000 then it doesn't have to go out to bid, however if it is over \$5,000 then it does.

J. Sherman noted that his point is that he is not in favor of someone submitting a bid after they have seen what the another person has submitted. He wants to know what the consensus of the board is.

D. Poliquin indicates that there is a \$1,149 difference and he cannot justify giving this to someone who is that much higher, however, he does agree with John's statement.

C. Blinn indicates that he doesn't like the way it was done. He inquires if it bothers anyone else that someone has lost a bid because someone else has seen their bid.

R. Gray states that this wasn't put out to bid.

D. Poliquin indicates that yes it does bother him and his concern was for the quality of the work. Both companies have done work for the town and in question is the quality of Ken Ray's work.

J. Sherman notes that he is voting for Mr. Johnson due to the circumstances and he thinks that is the appropriate thing to do, however, he doesn't think there is a right or a wrong, this is just his opinion.

D. Poliquin inquires if anyone has checked into the difference of the cost of the ballast and is the difference in the quality of the ballast.

C. Kleman indicates that he did not research ballast quality.

R. Gray inquires if there was a specific type of ballast mentioned when the bid was requested.

C. Kleman indicates he does not know but will look into that.

J. Sherman entertains a motion.

D. Poliquin makes motion to hire Rick Johnston Electric to perform the work on the lights at the safety complex bay for the amount of \$4,909.

2nd by C. Blinn.

J. Sherman asks the Board if there is any additional discussion.

L. Gil inquires as to what the rational for doing that is.

D. Poliquin indicates that his rational for doing this is due to the \$1,149 difference also his concern is with the quality of the components being used as well the possibility of workmanship. He is not comfortable with the estimate coming in that was requested from a contractor and then someone else catching wind of it and submitting a much lower bid.

J. Sherman notes that his rationale is submitting an estimate after you have seen the other estimate.

R. Gray states he agrees with J. Sherman, however there is no process to formally follow for what has happened.

J. Sherman asks if there are any other discussions in this matter.

L. Gil suggests finding out the significant difference in the quality of the ballasts that are going to be used. He states that until you are going to start a policy about going out to bid that he recommends that we determine the quality issues before making a decision.

J. Sherman indicates that since there is a motion on the floor he suggests voting no and not awarding the contract to Mr. Johnston.

C. Blinn concurs; this is a hard case to fight as far as what L. Gil has said. He thinks if there was a third or fourth bidder, he'd be happier, however there were no bids. This is a code of ethics, someone working in your establishment, getting work from your establishment and it doesn't exactly look good. He indicates we only hire them to be inspectors not to be in on a first come first serve basis. The money issue is a big part of it, as well as the ballast. He can't see one of our electrical inspectors always getting work in the town, he feels that it kind of looks bad and doesn't know if this is a common thing in other towns.

J. Sherman calls for a vote.

Vote 2-3-0

J. Sherman directs C. Kleman to find out the cost of the ballast as to why there is such a price discrepancy and the estimated time frame of delivery.

D. Poliquin adds that he would like to see the specifications on the ballasts that each will use.

C. Kleman discusses the request for Water System Abatement for 15 Railroad Avenue from the Fire Chief. The building has been vacant for awhile and a bill was sent out however it has not been paid by the property owner. The amount not paid is \$8,428.64. The owner has removed much of material in the building so there isn't much of anything for combustibles he just has a small office space. The Chief suggests in order of being fair because we do use the facility for training purposes, he is willing to give a revised assessment with a reduction of 75% abatement with him paying \$2,107.

J. Sherman asks for a discussion or motion in this matter.

J. Sherman reiterates that basically, the statement from the Chief is that he recommends abatement because the building is not being utilized and the material there is not combustible.

L. Gil makes a recommendation to go with Chief McArdle's recommendation to reduce the assessment cost for water suppression from \$8,000 to approximately \$2,000 per the memo of August 12, 2008.

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2nd by C. Blinn

R. Gray recommends instead of referencing the amount for the reduction to take into consideration the percentage amount which is 75%.

J. Sherman notes that the Motion needs to be adjusted per R. Gray's recommendation.

L. Gil is in agreement with this change. The motion is adjusted to go with Chief McArdle's recommendation to reduce the assessment cost for water suppression by 75% per the memo of August 12, 2008.

D. Poliquin questions if this is only for the year 2008. He notes that it does not state that in the memo.

R. Gray indicates that this will come up again next year.

D. Poliquin notes that the letter is requesting abatement until December 31, 2008 or until the building is re-tenanted or whichever comes first, so he would like to see that put in there.

J. Sherman notes to add limited to 2008, then to revisit next year.

D. Poliquin would like the words if the building is re-tenanted prior to December 31, 2008 added.

J. Sherman notes that the motion will now include the wording, for the year 2008 or until the building is re-tenanted or whichever comes first.

The Board is all in agreement.

Vote 4-1-0

C. Kleman discusses the Notification of Tax Deeding he has received from the Tax Collector, Rosemarie. He discusses the list and passes out for all to view. Her recommendation is to take the top 4 properties because the 3 bottom are the Beede site.

R. Gray inquires if there are homes on these sites.

C. Klemen indicates that he does not know however there is a mortgage holder on two of them. He also notes to take the top four and to use Sumner to do a quitclaim and not to do the bottom three.

R. Gray would like to know what we are taking. He would like to see it on a map, and to find out if it is just land, or if it has a home on it and if it does what are we going to do with it.

D. Poliquin asks for details as to the reason for doing a quitclaim.

C. Kleman indicates that it would expedite the process. Rosemarie has sent out notice after notice to these people and her feelings are that they will just sign off because they have abandoned these properties.

L. Gil inquires as to what the acreage of each is.

J. Sherman notes that the map and lot number are noted on the paperwork. He also notes that the general consensus of the board is that they are not ready to agree on this and suggests getting more information, regarding if there are any buildings on the properties and what the acreage is.

C. Kleman discusses paperwork he received from Mike Dorman regarding Haseltine and Main Street. Mike has run into a little obstacle with the plaza people regarding expediting this process and it looks like it will be delayed until next Spring. Both he and Dan suggested in order to expedite this process, they take the town's portion of the asphalt berm that is there, grind it down which will give the people a little more room, maybe five or six feet, to get into the right hand lane. They suggested using the impact fees and Dan would use his own personnel then charge the impact fees to get reimbursed. This doesn't solve the problem of getting into the plaza but it does help the people get into the right hand turn lane.

J. Sherman inquires if that will require the repainting of the lanes.

C. Kleman indicates that he doesn't know.

J. Sherman indicated that he has received a complaint from a citizen that it is not clearly marked and noted that our citizens are being impacted and was wondering there is anything we can do. He questioned what the compulsion for the land owners would be to do anything.

C. Kleman indicated that they would like to get an easement across for the water.

J. Sherman questioned if we had any feel for where that stands.

C. Kleman indicated we would put a trench box in to go across, leave it there so it would be ready to go if they were successful with Haverhill.

C. Blinn suggested that we could always use our old entrance and let them put in lights. He indicated he is not happy with Haseltine and was wondering what the Planning Board was thinking when they did this.

R. Gray indicated that the initial thought was, at the time, there was a huge outcry from the public being able to exit 121A and go South. They had approached Haverhill several times to do something but they had no plans to widen or do anything, so they took it out of Haverhill's hands and put an intersection in NH and this is the way it turned out. His suggestion as a quick fix to a bad situation is to approve this proposal to be done as presented but ultimately we need to keep working with this property owner for an easement over their property.

D. Poliquin noted this needs to be done regardless because it is such bad queuing to make the right hand turn to Route 125.

R. Gray notes that the ultimate problem is the traffic that exits the plaza. If that could somehow be blocked off it would alleviate some of the issues there.

J. Sherman inquires as to why we cannot do that.

R. Gray indicates because they have an approved site plan from the town to allow them to have access onto Haseltine.

R. Gray makes a motion to let the Town use the impact fees from 125 to go ahead with this project as presented to us tonight.

2nd by D. Poliquin

R. Gray indicates for discussion purposes we will still need to proceed with as much speed as possible to continue to try and get a hold of these people.

Vote 4-1-0

C. Kleman discussed how he and a group reviewed a variety of intersections such as Danville Road where the proposed sidewalks are going to be, Route 121A, Elm and Main Streets, Westville Road, West and East Pine and ended up at Haseltine at which time they got out and looked at the proposal there. All and all it was a pretty good meeting and the DOT is now aware of the concerns around here. They also did Garden Road and looked at the proposed Rite Aid site. He requests the board to look at Leigh's memo which a lot of it is sending a letter to appropriate division of the DOT.

J. Sherman recommends that this discussion be put on hold until the next meeting to review.

C. Kleman discussed the continuous performance evaluations that have been ongoing on and indicated that he is awaiting one department head and that once all is finished, he will want to go into a Non Public meeting for discussion. He also would be looking for an October 1st deadline to implement them.

C. Kleman discusses his meeting with the Safety Complex Expansion Committee. He is trying to get an update to develop a report as to what needs to be done. The committee has not met in awhile and they have some issues with relocation of two drainage ponds nearby as well as a roadway. They are probably going to put a warrant article out there to get it done. Also the committee will probably develop three warrant articles, possibly cemetery improvement, ponds being involved with the access road and they are looking at the original generator which may possibly need to be replaced as well as the electrical needs of the complex.

J. Sherman inquires as to who is on the committee.

C. Kleman replies Bill Scully, Police Chief Savage, Fire Chief McArdle, Nikki, Town Manager and D. Poliquin.

J. Sherman inquires if there is a Public Citizen Representative.

D. Poliquin replies that there use to be a gentleman however, the meetings were during the day and he was unable to attend.

J. Sherman asks the board if they think it worthwhile to advertise for possibly two volunteers.

L. Gil thinks it a good idea to have public involved.

J. Sherman suggests to C. Kleman to advertise via cable and newspaper.

C. Kleman indicates that he is working on the budget and has a tentative schedule and will pass out that information at the end of the meeting for review.

C. Kleman notes that his only other concern is for trucks. He had a meeting with Mr. Pevna, who came back with a letter and a copy is in each selectmen's file.

J. Sherman asks C. Kleman to please summarize that discussion.

C. Kleman notes that he was glad that Mr. Pevna met with he and Mike Dorman and Mr. Pevna has indicated that he has downsized his operation, and he tells his trucks to avoid Main Street unless they are coming back. He feels that he has been singled out and has proposed a summit with people who have heavy duty trucks and sit down with the Selectmen to hear our concerns as well as theirs to get some traffic off the roads.

J. Sherman notes that as far as he can tell there is no restriction put on his business as far as truck traffic. He asks the board if anyone disagrees with that.

R. Gray notes that there was a letter sent out, a court decree that stated you could not take a left out of there and you had to take a right. The judge had to have found the document somewhere that they could not take a left. However, the Planning Board did not review this because it was out of their jurisdiction. The Newton Planning Board said they had to take a right out of there. He stated that Sumner litigated this in Superior Court and he may be the only person who knows.

J. Sherman suggests that C. Kleman look into this.

J. Sherman thought there was a restriction to his company travelling on the streets of Plaistow and we will pursue that, however we are not picking on him we thought there was a legal restriction.

L. Gil notes that his statement is rhetorical however aren't there any indication from the minutes of a discussion.

R. Gray notes that the Town of Plaistow never officially reviewed those plans because the operation is out of our jurisdiction, essentially we, The Town of Plaistow, we passed. In today's time, we would want to review, however in 1997; they did not feel it necessary because the jurisdiction is in Newton.

L. Gil notes that he kind of remembers some discussion and it being in Newton.

J. Sherman noted that Mike Dorman had done some research on such and has given him a copy of an interoffice memo which indicated that Sabbeth York of 35 Kingston Road has agreed to paving the road in the Spring, moving a gate and adding a sign, (Stop. All Trucks Turn Right). The new sign will be provided after they go to Board of Adjustment.

R. Gray notes this is part of an official document that went to the court.

C. Blinn notes that was the company before and he will go ask Dennise whom lives across from the road with the trucks because he thought that was part of the first restriction, however there may be another.

OTHER BUSINESS:

J. Sherman refers to an email he received from Barbara Snicer, Admin for the Atkinson Board of Selectmen regarding a reminder that there is an area selectmen meeting Thursday, Sept. 25th at 7:00 pm in Atkinson and if there are any items for the agenda to let her know before the 22nd.

J. Sherman notes that the Selectmen have an invitation for the 30th Anniversary of the Rockingham Nutrition Meals on Wheels which they are invited to join them at the Vic Geary Senior Center on Thursday, September 25th at Noon and if they do plan to attend call Emily.

D. Bowles, Building Maintenance for the Town of Plaistow, approaches the podium regarding the earlier discussion of estimates and bids for Plaistow. He wanted to clarify that he checks all the bids that come across his desk because it is part of his job to question these items. He asked Mr. Ray to get him a quote for the cost of the ballasts. Whether he is charging a shipping charge or a pickup charge he doesn't know, however it is part of his job to question every estimate that comes across his desk. He wanted to let the board know that this wasn't picked out of any place. As far as Mr. Ray he had asked him if he could do the job cheaper and he said yes. As far as himself, he cannot tie himself up due to budget season. As far as bids, no one opens bids which are \$5,000. This came across his desk and if he is able to get the job done cheaper then that is part of his job and that is what he had done. He just wanted to set the board and the record straight.

L. Gil inquires if there is any difference in the quality of the ballast.

D. Bowles indicated that they have the ballast number and it is the newest and most energy efficient ballast you can get. A lot of your bidders will charge an additional 10% for pickup and delivery, which is usually the difference; whereas Kenny has done so much around the town he is able to absorb the cost.

J. Sherman thanks Dave Bowles for coming in and also thanks him in advance for the upcoming lighting of the lights on Thursday at the Town Hall.

SIGNATURE FOLDER:

J. Sherman notes that the Signature Folder is going around and the manifest needs to be signed.

R. Gray noted that he has a question on an item in the Signature folder regarding a transfer of money from the Town Hall Trust to get paid or reimbursed the General Fund that he did not sign and wants to know what it is for.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS:

L. Gil indicated he had nothing to report.

C. Blinn indicated he had nothing to report.

J. Sherman notes that the Budget Committee will be meeting September 23rd.

J. Sherman noted that the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) meeting is tomorrow night at 7:00pm.

J. Sherman mentioned that the polls are open tomorrow, due to Primary Day and as Selectmen need to be at the Pollard School about 8:30 to sign off on the sealing of the ballots.

J. Sherman noted that Wednesday is Recreation Commission meeting at 6:00 pm.

D. Poliquin notes that there was a meeting of the Safety Complex Committee and he was not able to attend. There is a meeting coming up of the South Eastern NH Hazardous Material Mutual Aid District. Any board member interested is invited to attend. There will be equipment on display and team members there to demonstrate and answer questions. The date is September 18th at 6:00 pm at the Candia Fire and Rescue Department located at 11 Deerfield Road in Candia. He attended last year's and was quite surprised at the technology and equipment and found it to be quite interesting.

R. Gray indicated that on Wednesday he went on the street inspection with the DOT and will discuss more next week.

R. Gray also noted that he had a Planning Board meeting Wednesday night where the Green Machine issue was continued. They are apparently putting a video presentation together for the town and it wasn't completed.

R. Gray noted that another issue which several people brought up to the Planning Board was the use of flags on properties. The definition of a flag is anything that draws attention to the business. For industrial and commercial zones two signs are permitted per business. There are some businesses that Mike had gone out and taken pictures of along Route 125 to show us that have multiple flags. He noted that this is going to be an issue that will need to be dealt with in terms of ballot measures in March. In this economy you want to be able to attract people to the business, however how many flags are too many. This issue needs to be regulated.

R. Gray noted that polling is tomorrow and he will be there tomorrow night to sign off.

D. Poliquin states regarding wave runners, he believes it is in the ordinance regarding signage attached to the roof of the buildings in certain commercial zones within Plaistow; which doesn't allow signage to be attached to the roof.

R. Gray indicates he does not have the exact wording for the definition of a sign however he will bring it to the next meeting, but basically anything attached to the building or not attached to building which attracts attention to the business is considered a sign, so a wave runner would be considered a sign. He questions if the American flag would be considered a sign and if so, would you make someone take down the American flag. This is a sensitive issue however it is something that needs to be addressed.

J. Sherman asks C. Kleman what is the status of the GIS rollout that Jason was working on.

C. Kleman indicates that Leigh met with the person doing the maps, ironed out his contract and he has produced revised maps, however we are still looking at them to see if they are exactly as we want them.

J. Sherman asks C. Kleman if he received a copy of the CIP from the school.

C. Kleman indicated he did not however he would follow up with Jack Paone.

J. Sherman questions the Route 125 Impact Fee and asks if it has been discontinued and if so then what the logic behind that is.

C. Kleman noted that off the top of his head he did not remember the reasoning behind it however it does seem that it needs to be reinstituted.

R. Gray replied that he did not know it was discontinued.

J. Sherman suggests to C. Kleman to pursue this issue as to why it was discontinued.

J. Sherman notes he received a letter from the Rockingham Planning Commission regarding grant information and asks C. Kleman to please put it in the folder for next week.

C. Blinn notes a week ago he received a phone call from a citizen that a train was idling all during the night so at 9am in the morning he drove his car near the tracks and there it was, a freight train, just idling there. He stated that this was the first time he has ever saw this. As he watched, the train pulled away and the entire area was covered in grey. The train stayed over 8 to 10 hours and when they leave they give off a lot of smoke when idling for long period of time. He noted that all need to keep their eyes and ears open because they did say in the paper that the MBTA did have someone interested in sharing their property for layovers. He wondered if L. Gil had heard anything or wanted to check into this. He also thought when they mentioned someone being interested along the tracks, that since there is already another track there he thought they could do this under state law.

D. Poliquin mentions that's a condition that has to go before the Planning Board if they were going to use that spot.

L. Gil noted that is town property, if on Chart property that requires them to come before the Planning Board to utilize. The articles he saw in the paper presented that they were looking for property however, no property was ever identified.

D. Poliquin indicates that the article he read didn't come to an agreement, but that there was talk between parties involved with property in Plaistow.

C. Blinn notes that perhaps it may have been just an accident that they had to lay it over, however it ran all night.

Sherman inquired if all agree that if they are there that long then it is a violation and if someone sees it happen they need to call Building Safety because that is where the jurisdiction is.

R. Gray mentions that he has seen emails regarding Sumner coming next week and wanted to know if he was still coming.

C. Kleman indicated he spoke to Sumner today and he has a case he is working on and once he gets passed that then he can tell us when he will be in.

Meeting adjourned 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Audrey Michaud