



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

**PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**MINUTES:**

**DATE:** Monday, May 18, 2009

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** 6:34 pm

**SELECTMEN:**

Chairman, Daniel Poliquin  
Selectman, Charles Blinn - excused  
Selectman, John Sherman

Vice Chairman, Robert Gray  
Selectman, Michelle Curran  
Town Manager, Sean Fitzgerald

**MINUTES:**

*Motion by J. Sherman to approve Minutes of May 11, 2009 with noted changes.*

*2nd by M. Curran.*

*Vote 4-0-0.*

*Motion passes.*

**AGENDA:**

**Lawn Care at Old County Road**

Carli Malette, Rec Director and Dana Rabito, Highway Department Forman are present.

S. Fitzgerald discussed saving money, renegotiating contracts and landscaping associated with Town properties. He discussed his conversation with Dan Garlington, Highway Supervisor, in terms of experience with lawn care amongst the highway department's employees; the present cost/time for mowing 26 times at \$500 a mowing and the \$1200 spent for wet land clean ups. He spoke about the Highway Department employees agreeing they could handle and address issues at the rec field and noted they rented lawn mower for \$100 and they cut the field today and did an outstanding job. It was professional and looked as well cared for as a professional contractor would have done. The Town employees have pride in the work they do. He noted he was seeking thoughts from the Board regarding landscaping maintenance. He thanked Dana for cutting the grass at the rec field today and commended him for a job well done.

C. Malette discussed her numerous use of the highway department's employees; their work with contractors and their help with individual items at the rec field. The Highway employees have worked with Carli for many years and they work well together. She noted the numerous upkeep of a wide variety of items that the Highway Department does for rec such as mowing, cutting, filling in the diamonds, upkeep after storms, beautification, and the bridges built at the rec field. She spoke about normal upkeep and the savings which could be recouped.

D. Poliquin inquired about items of need for the maintenance of the fields by the Highway Dept.

D. Rabito discussed the rented equipment today: 60" ride on mower which worked very well on the fields. He noted that the field was cut at 2 ¾ inch today, the same height cut that was done 5 days ago. He discussed that the Highway Department has weed whackers, and some hand tools such as racks however they are in need of a blower, which they did have however it has broken down and cannot be fixed so it needs to be replaced.

J. Sherman discussed saving money on the budget by doing less paving and inquired if we had firmed up what we are going to do for paving this summer such as road scheduled and which ones have been taken off the list.

S. Fitzgerald discussed that he spoke with Dan Garlington however he does not have a list for the Board tonight.

J. Sherman noted that he would like to know what the paving list looks like and how many hours would be freed up for the highway department.

J. Sherman and S. Fitzgerald discussed trial basis for lawn care and getting contracts in sync.

J. Sherman and C. Malette discussed fertilization and irrigation being done by a greenskeeper.

D. Poliquin inquired about possibly leasing or renting on a long term basis.

D. Rabito discussed his conversation today which was regarding renting equipment only. He noted that mowing would only be done on weekdays.

R. Gray discussed accounting for budgeting purpose: coming from a rec line and not a highway line. He inquired if Carli was satisfied by the Highway Department's work and noted his concern for the accounting piece of the field regarding the mowing.

R. Gray and C. Malette discussed budgeted money and contractors.

R. Gray inquired as to what exactly Sean was looking for from the Board.

S. Fitzgerald noted informational for the Board and to hear Board's input.

J. Sherman discussed preparing the budget, dollars spent and charge back items.

M. Curran noted she had the utmost confidence in Carli with the right decision regarding the rec fields and inquired if this could be done without adding extra staff or increasing overtime.

S. Fitzgerald discussed accomplishing this work at a lower amount of money; the challenge to figure out how to rent or lease equipment; and not committing for long term.

J. Sherman noted he was glad that they have taken the initiative to look for ways to save money in the budget however if the fields aren't maintained appropriately it would cost money in the end. They would have to make this process work in order to save money because the field is a valuable asset to the Town. He inquired as to who would hold responsibility for the fields.

C. Malette noted she would still hold the responsibility however she would go to Dan with any issues that arose.

Board thanked Dana for his input.

Greg Mason from the Rec Commission approached the podium.

G. Mason discussed the Rec Commission's concern regarding everything at the field being maintained properly. He expressed his concern for the Highway Department having enough time that is required for the fields but noted that he was willing to give this a shot if it gets all the contracts in line.

J. Sherman discussed the trial run done today and inquired if Carli was comfortable with the work that was done today.

C. Malette noted that she was.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

C. Malette noted she had an item for public comment and discussed Sponsorship Signs at P.A.R.C with regards to the use of revenue.

M. Curran discussed her concerns for establishing accounts for individual departments.

Board discussed opinions regarding 50% versus 100% being transferred into the general fund.

J. Sherman noted he was in favor of the 100%.

S. Fitzgerald discussed helping each other out.

*Motion by M. Curran to keep wording of the Sponsorship Signs at P.A.R.C as inactive (same).  
D. Poliquin asked for a 2nd to the motion.  
No second to the motion received.*

*Motion by J. Sherman to change the wording of the Sponsorship Signs to read all monies will be deposited into a Town Account held by the Trustees of the Trust Fund with 100% being transferred.*

*2nd by R. Gray.*

*Vote 2-2-0.*

*Motion does not carry.*

*Opposed: D. Poliquin & M. Curran.*

D. Poliquin suggested to put this back on the agenda for another date.

### **Route 125 Improvement Project**

Leigh Komornick, Larry Gil and Tim Moore present.

L. Komornick discussed the presentation given on Wednesday at the NHDOT meeting; plans for the final/upcoming segment of Route 125; the posted plans which were hung for the viewers to see regarding the route south of the Rockingham Athletic Club (across from Sawyers Banquet Hall) to north of Old Road; turnarounds; jug handles; medians; two areas that cars can go into which are protected pockets to make turns; raised medians; Danville Road becoming a signalized intersection and containing a median; not being able to cross over Jesse George Road and southbound traffic no longer being able to take a left.

R. Gray and L. Komornick discussed cut outs along the map.

S. Fitzgerald discussed the business impact, residential and school function in Town.

R. Gray and L. Gil discuss drainage issues.

L. Gil discussed his concerns to service roads, wet lands, truck traffic and safety issues.

S. Fitzgerald discussed the informational hearing on Wednesday and noted that individuals from DOT are willing to come back to the Board for future questions/comments.

Board discussed concerns; each department being polled; documenting their concerns; giving their concerns to Sean and to hold another discussion with DOT.

T. Moore discussed previous public hearings; completion dates of 2017 and 2019; design parameters; not going more than 400 feet without being able to change your direction; lights set up to change direction and rear access road to businesses.

S. Fitzgerald discussed speaking with Senators and getting their thoughts, putting items on paper and then meeting with NHDOT. He spoke of working with colleagues such as NHDES regarding watersheds and noted those conversations would be valuable to NHDOT officials. He discussed the upcoming meeting with Cliff Sinnott from Rockingham Planning Commission which should provide a broader conversation with the NHDOT folks.

### **Flag Presentation - Cosgrove**

S. Fitzgerald discussed the honor for him to present a flag to the BOS on behalf of Ruth Jenne. The flag is the service flag of Royston Cosgrove who passed away on February 1, 2009. Roy was Ruth Jenne's son, Bob's, best friend. Bob asked for the flag to be brought back to Plaistow because Roy always thought of Plaistow as his home Town. Sean presented the flag to Dan Poliquin to present to Town Hall and to fly the flag over town Hall and then put it in a case in Town Hall. He noted he would present a letter of appreciation to the family regarding the flag.

D. Poliquin gave thanks to the Cosgrove family and extended condolences on behalf of the Board.

### **TOWN MANAGER REPORT:**

S. Fitzgerald discussed his Town Manager Report:

- Lawn Care at Old County Road.
- Route 125 update.
- Plaistow Police Department put together a list of 2nd hand dealer Pawn Broker licenses which needs signatures of the BOS.
- Budget Committee Training, tomorrow night. Dan Hooper has been working hard on the roll of how the Budget Committee works with the Board of Selectmen and how the dynamics work under the RSAs.
- Highway Safety meeting with Rockingham County Planning's Cliff Sinott regarding traffic and how it will impact neighborhoods, Wednesday at 9:30 in the Donald Sargent Memorial Hall.

J. Sherman suggested to get the Capital Improvement Plan in sync with the project and to start scheduling those meetings, it is that time of year again.

- Town Hall Open House for the dedication of the Donald H. Sargent Hall and the close to \$600,000 building improvements from drapes to windows, carpets, and elevators. It was a well attended event. Town Hall employees volunteered their time, and took a lot of pride in their building. It was a very nice time to have music come out of these halls.
- The Snorkel truck has been sold and the new fire truck, a pre-owned 1991 fire truck will be heading to Plaistow from NY state on May 30th. This is a very good piece of fire apparatus and a great value to the Town which will meet the public safety needs.
- Memorial Day Parade, Monday, May 25th. The Parade will form at the Pollard School at 1:30 and begin at 2pm and head towards the Plaistow Cemetery where the American legion and Pollard School children will have a brief ceremony then on to Town Hall Park for Memorial Day services.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

M. Curran discussed:

- Update regarding Beede site and noted that she, believes work started today, setting up two wells, pumping into retention container, she can't be positive as to what they have begun however she is concerned with noise mitigation. It was very loud and annoying but not constant.
- Kelly Road and Old County Road, where there is an increase in traffic on both roads. Speed on Kelly Road is 25 mph, however it is not being obeyed. Her concern is with the increase in the foot traffic of children and suggested that the Police Department look into this.

D. Poliquin discussed article in the paper regarding the Garden Road Bridge and noted that this was the first time that he was made aware that the Town had been approved for 100% reimbursement on that project through stimulus funds. He discussed the letter that was passed on to him by John Sherman regarding the approval of 100% reimbursement.

S. Fitzgerald noted that was the first notification of the funding that he was aware of.  
Dan gave letter from NH DOT to Sean

D. Poliquin discussed the 2009 Welfare Administrative Workshop pamphlet and gave to Sean.  
He also noted that June 10 is the RPC Annual meeting which has an RSVP no later than June 1.

R. Gray discussed the letter that was in Union Leader regarding the courthouse and inquired if we get a copy of the Union Leader at Town Hall and if it had been saved? He noted that if yes, he would like it put in the FYI folder for next week's meeting.

D. Poliquin noted that the Board needs to set a summer schedule.

### **SIGNATURE FOLDER:**

D. Poliquin noted the Signature Folder and Manifest were going around and required signatures.

### **SELECTMEN'S REPORTS:**

J. Sherman discussed:

- Budget Committee training session tomorrow night for responsibilities and rolls of various groups and the public is welcome.
- He was not at the Route 125 meeting because he attended the Rec Commission meeting.
- The purchasing of certificates for Cow Patty Bingo which is during Old Home Day and encouraged all to get one as he had done. He noted Friends of Rec are selling as a fundraiser.
- Not attending Town Hall Dedication, however he was glad to hear it went well. It was a nice outcome. He was glad they kept the history of the building. He gave congratulations to all that participated and to Donald Sargent for his participation and Bob Gray for his time on the committee.

M. Curran discussed:

- Attended dedication of the Donald H. Sargent Hall on Sunday and noted it was a privilege. She thanked the staff for volunteering, for the extra effort on their part, and noted she did not know they volunteered which was a positive outcome. Barry did an excellent job as Moderator, the music was nice, it was like having an old fashion holiday celebration and using the hall.
- Helping with planting in front of Town Hall with Bernadine this year which she is looking forward to.
- Memorial Day celebration and noted she is hoping to attend.

R. Gray discussed:

- Not being able to attend yesterday's Open House celebration due to a previous family engagement. He was glad to see everything went all right and all had a good time. The hall looks great, the picture and plaque are in a good location, the facility was renovated for a short amount of money and is going to be able to give the Town a great facility to use for the upcoming years. He is very proud, and happy that we are able to keep things in the building that were historic to the Town however able to modernize for today's use.

- Planning Board meeting this coming Wednesday night regarding a letter received from the attorney representing Snows Brook asking to issue a conditional use permit in lieu of going to the ZBA for a variance regarding encroachment to wetlands.
- Attending Monday's Memorial Day Ceremony and he has prepared remarks in Dan's absence. He noted they will be honoring veterans and people who served our country and is looking forward to it.

D. Poliquin discussed:

- The Dedication of the Great Hall. He thanked all the staff involved for preparation throughout the entire day and noted they kept everything flowing. He thanked the volunteers for the planning stages and different phases of the renovation, the string quartet and vocalist, and the Mayor of Plaistow.
- Wednesday there being a Family Mediation meeting.
- Highway Safety Committee meeting at 9:30 am in the Great Hall.

J. Sherman congratulated both Bob and Town Hall Renovations Committee for the work to get the Town Hall into the shape that it is. He thanked Donald Sargent for his donations and the Tax Payers for supporting them and the capitalization project.

D. Poliquin discussed:

- The Town Hall being the focal point of Plaistow for all to enjoy.
- Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 25, forming at Pollard School which begins at 2 pm.
- Recycle will have a one day delay next week due to the holiday.
- June 29 Rec begins and sign-ups are on a first come first serve basis.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Audrey Michaud