



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

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES:

DATE: Monday, July 13, 2009

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:38 pm

SELECTMEN:

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

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

MINUTES:

Motion by M. Curran to approve Minutes of June 22, 2009 as written.

2nd by J. Sherman.

Vote 4-0-1.

Abstain: C. Blinn.

Motion passes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

AGENDA:

Marine Sgt. Joseph Nelson

Board Members, Town Manager and Representative Norm Major present Plaistow Citation of Appreciation to Marine Sergeant Joseph Nelson for his commitment in serving our country.

D. Poliquin read the citation.

Representative Norm Major said a few words to honor Sgt. Nelson and thanked him for his commitment. He noted that Joseph Nelson just got promoted from Corporal to Sergeant on July 1st. He also discussed how Sgt. Nelson helped to improve communications for his regiment by establishing a radio station at their location and designing his infantry's web page.

S. Savage gave Sgt. Nelson cards made by the children of Plaistow Recreation Department and thanked him for his service.

J. Sherman thanked all members of the armed forces for serving in Iraq.

S. Fitzgerald noted that Sgt. Nelson was Corporal Nelson during the old Home Day Parade and has since been elevated to Sergeant. He noted it was an honor to march with him in the Town's parade and he thanked him for his continued service and for what he has done for our country.

Boy Scouts – Chuck Fowler – Contents of Capsule buried June 27th

C. Fowler was not present. No discussion ensued.

Drawing of Conservation Commission Raffle Ticket

N. Major pulled three winners from the raffle ticket envelope.

D. Poliquin announced winners: Laurie Houlihan, Joyce Thurston and R. Heider.

Representative Norm Major – Courthouse

N. Major gave the Board members handouts. He discussed the State budget which passed; noted the Governor signed the package which included the courthouse; Plaistow being removed from the closure list and not being closed; Plaistow Courthouse agreement to remain open for the next 2 years and the next battle which would be for a District Court Judge and to get the Governor to appoint a District Court Judge.

J. Sherman inquired about the specific steps that are needed next.

N. Major spoke about a sit down to create strategies to address issue of Plaistow Court staying.

R. Gray suggested the Police Chief contact surrounding communities before their budget session.

M. Curran noted it was in the Town's best interest to secure a District Judge.

Board Members and Representative Major discussed permanent home for court house.

S. Fitzgerald thanked Norm Major for his instrumental duties with the court house dealings. He discussed having a plan ready if a grant becomes available; state agencies willing to work to support a busy commercial center; economic incentives; broader plan; joint facility and immigration office.

J. Sherman discussed building necessities, requirements and using buildings on Route 125.

Board discussed Judge Kelly and sending a letter to him.

Board thanked Norm for all his extra efforts and contributions to the court house.

Chief Savage – ATV Grant Application

S. Savage discussed OHRV patrols; the grant which is ongoing noting it has been off and on for the last four or five years; grant period July 1 to June 30; last year's grant expired; grant for next year is \$1,350 and covers a limited amount of overtime; the grant will help with observation of the landfill; the OHRV is available to both Fire and Police Departments; four operators are already certified to use equipment; opportunity to help observe community and help with OHRV complaints from landowners; investigate registrations, and kids riding without OHRV license.

M. Curran inquired about the \$6,480 difference being absorbed by the Police Department budget.

S. Savage noted he requested \$6,480 but grant only gave \$1,350 and the Police Department will not be absorbing difference between numbers.

J. Sherman inquired what was needed from the Board.

S. Fitzgerald noted a motion by the Board is requested.

Motion by J. Sherman to authorize the Chief of Police to apply for the OHRV Enforcement Grant to complete on June 30th as presented on July 13th.

2nd by M. Curran.

Vote 5-0-0.

Motion carries.

D. Poliquin noted at 7:45pm the Board will go into a brief Non Public Session.

Motion by R. Gray to go into Non Public under RSA 91-A:3,II(c) Matters of Personnel.

2nd by J. Sherman.

Board polled:

D. Poliquin = yes; R. Gray = yes; C. Blinn = yes; M. Curran = yes; J. Sherman = yes

Board enters Non Public at 7:45 pm.

Board returns from Non Public at 8:10 pm.

D. Poliquin noted the discussion from the Non Public was regarding a Pawn broker's license which was denied.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

S. Fitzgerald discussed:

- Meeting with Haverhill Mayor James Fiorentini regarding regional waste opportunities.
- Old Home Day which was a terrific event; an extraordinary weekend filled with fun, family activities and events; an estimated 3,000 people attended and all had a great day.
- Main Street Traffic Study; meeting with RPC to review concerns; intersections; limited funds to do in depth analysis; focus on intersections that they can best identify to mitigate traffic on Route 121A; data collection to define intersections; making study beneficial; and meeting to review critical path of the project over the next several weeks to discuss the stages of the study and evaluate its progress.
- Meeting on June 29, Small Business Expo which was held in Manchester and hosted by Senator Jean Shaheen; small businesses and other state agencies were involved; he met Warren Gerety from the Southern NH Division of the Chamber of Commerce there and used this opportunity to net work; he met Senator Shaheen and spoke to her about his concerns at Plaistow and noted she was ready to lend a hand; the event was 2.5 hours and he made some good connections that can help the Town.
- Haseltine Street Project moving forward and ready for public hearing on the proposed work and the Planning Board meeting of June 17 that approved the property lot line adjustments.
- Two requests to release funds from the Route 125 Impact Fee Account and noted there was a memo describing these matters in the Signature Folder.

- Request to withdraw funds from the Highway Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$75,790 for the purchase of the 2010 International Truck for the Highway Department.
- Cable license renewal negotiations; Town moving forward with negotiations with Comcast; upcoming meeting with Attorney Rob Ciandella on Wednesday, July 15.
- Teamsters negotiations; Union would like to start contract negotiations; meeting on August 5th which he invited Chief Savage to attend.

C. Blinn inquired if Sean will be negotiating the contract and if he has negotiated before.

S. Fitzgerald noted he has done some negotiating in the past.

C. Blinn suggested a volunteer Selectman to go along with him.

C. Blinn and S. Fitzgerald discussed arbitrator and money being set aside for this.

- Notice of Intent which is in the FYI folder and Town's interest in helping to enhance public safety through sidewalks.
- Garden Road Bridge meeting with Matthew Low P.E. and Vice President of Hoyle Tanner and Associates on July 2 to review the Municipal Agreement issued from NHDOT.
- Signature folder having an appointment for Tim Moore to be the representative for the MPO Technical Advisory Committee.

***Motion by R. Gray to appoint Tim Moore to the MPO TAC (Technical Advisory Committee).
2nd by M. Curran.***

M. Curran and R. Gray thanked Tim Moore for all he has contributed.

Vote 5-0-0.

Motion carries.

- Richard Latham looking to serve on Highway Safety Committee; he has discussed with Chief Savage and noted that he comes highly recommended.

***Motion by R. Gray to appoint Dick Latham to the Highway Safety Committee.
2nd by J. Sherman.***

Vote 5-0-0.

Motion carries.

- Meeting on August 4th with Laurel Bistany, Executive Director from the Rockingham Economic Development Commission, to discuss various financial assistance programs available for traffic mitigation, infrastructure improvements and Brownfield's identification and mitigation.
- Town Clerk and Tax Collector's office has been looking at e-registration and on line payments associated with both offices; several companies have been presenting information to the Town.

J. Sherman noted those are both excellent ideas, no cost to the Town, cost will be given to the people taking advantages of the conveniences offered to them.

- Continuity Training Event in Derry which he, Police Chief Savage, Fire Chief McArdle, Health Officer Horrocks, Finance Director Sadewicz and Highway Supervisor Garlington attended for core functions of government during emergencies.
- Meeting with Vic Geary Board of Directors regarding how the Town and the Vic Geary Center can work together during difficult financial times to ensure that seniors who are struggling financially or with health care can get the help they may need.

J. Sherman discussed volunteer group working on the siding at the Vic Geary Center. He named off a few individuals that he could remember and thanked them and all others that he had not mentioned for helping. He noted they have been doing a great job.

- Bob Carolan recently retired; he now is the president of the Historical Commission and he is staying involved in Plaistow; the Town had a retirement party/luncheon for him last week and he has discussed this transition with Dan Hooper.

Board and Sean discussed future ideas for the Cable Commission.

D. Poliquin thanked Bob Carolan for his past help with the Cable Studio and his future help with the Historical Society.

- First CIP Committee meeting scheduled for July 16th at 4 pm.
- MDA Lock-Up Campaign; he thanked all those that helped out with the MDA Lock-Up; he noted the lock-up was a muscular dystrophy fund raiser and he was pleased to see that they have raised over \$10,000 in donations from citizens and businesses.

Town Manager Goals

J. Sherman discussed his updates and suggestions submitted.

Board members discussed Goals handout.

J. Sherman suggested to not addressing the Goals at this time.

Board members noted they are in favor of the Goals.

Motion by J. Sherman to adopt Town Manager's Goals as presented on July 13, 2009.

2nd by R. Gray.

Vote 5-0-0.

Motion carries.

OTHER BUSINESS:

R. Gray discussed weekly manifest and proposed change to improve the way things are done during the weeks when there are no meetings. He called LGC and noted if Board agreed then Town Manger could sign off on the manifest for the Board during the weeks that they do not meet. He favored this change and noted he approved the Town Manager to sign off on manifest.

S. Fitzgerald noted that occasionally this would be okay however he was not advancing to the Board and noted that this situation was not overly problematic.

Board members discussed the manifest and the regularity of their signatures that are required.

M. Curran noted her dilemma is the manifest, it use to be ready on Friday, but is now ready on Monday. She would like to reserve the right to sign off on the manifest, it is a way to use checks and balances and she would like to continue to have the authority as a Selectman in doing such.

D. Poliquin noted that he looks at the manifest as one of his responsibilities as a Selectman to be responsible with the Town's money. He noted that he has not found anything wrong with the way Sean has been doing things, he is quite happy with his performance, however he noted that when he himself is on vacation then he would not be signing.

J. Sherman noted he would like to continue to sign the manifest.

D. Poliquin noted the consensus of the Board is that they would like to continue to sign on a weekly basis.

S. Fitzgerald noted these are issues they will address and look into.

D. Poliquin discussed his recent phone calls and visits regarding the Town Clerk's office being closed on Friday afternoons which is becoming more and more of an issue. He suggested that they consider a review of this situation. He noted that while he was at Town Hall this past Friday within 15 minutes two people had come in looking to do business with the Town. He noted he is looking for food for thought and not a long discussion.

S. Fitzgerald noted they are looking at e-reg and hopefully these items can solve some of this dilemma, he noted he has discussed this issue with both Rosemarie Bayek and Maryellen Pelletier and will look at strategies to be accessible.

SIGNATURE FOLDER:

Signature Folder and Manifest are going around.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS:

D. Poliquin discussed:

- Old home day which was a great event; he was not in the parade; he thanked all that participated in the events and the day to make it a great turn out.
- Generator meeting regarding the Safety Complex generator. They are gathering information from Mr. Nickerson who has volunteered his time and expertise to the Town. He is helping to develop what the needs for emergency power would be at Town Hall and Safety Complex.

J. Sherman discussed:

- Rec sign ups are up.
- Dug out roofs are being worked on.
- Phone line at Rec field is in the works and is scheduled to be installed in three weeks.

- Issues with rain and Summer Rec have made them do different events like karaoke and movies.

R. Gray discussed:

- Planning Board scheduled for Wednesday night.
- His attendance at Old Home Day, fantastic day. It was a busy weekend for him, limited time spent at Old Home Day however it was a wonderful day, parade was great for having its funds slashed and overall it was a good day for all.

M. Curran discussed:

- Her attendance at the Planning Board Meeting on June 24th; she was asked to replace Bob Gray due to his absence. The meeting contained minor site plan review for auto exchange; application for pottery studio on Main Street which was approved for studio but not for classes; the business would be a new business on Main Street; application for Colonial Auto body for an expansion, they were denied based on the fact that they need to go to the ZBA; and a Doggie Day Care located off Garden Road, they are in the process of moving business to Sweet hill and need special variance, so they were denied on the fact that they now need to go to ZBA.
- Attendance at Old Home Day whereas she helped the Lions Club with participation in the Road Race which had 255 participants.

C. Blinn discussed:

- Old Home Day which was a great event. He marched in the Parade with Sgt. Nelson and was amazed at the perfect step of the soldier they honored tonight; he commended Sean for the foresight in buying candy for the children; it was enjoyable passing out the candy.
- Cow Patti Bingo which was held the next day and a great event also, they dissected the cow all day.
- Bob Caroline's retirement party whereas Bob discussed his background, his Master's Degree, and military background, a good time was had by all. Sean went out of his way to give Bob a new straw hat.
- Karaoke at the Recreation Department noting Sean rallied behind them and how unbelievable Sean was. He noted Sean sang karaoke and he enjoyed himself watching the Plaistow children and Sean.

D. Poliquin thanked Mr. Mark Harding for the work he has done on the corner of Main Street and Elm. He has been responsible for the beautification of the island and has done a great job. He extended his appreciation to Mark for beautifying the Town.

M. Curran noted the simple things like that help tremendously.

D. Poliquin noted this Wednesday will be Doc Rocs concert in the park and the Landfill is open this Saturday.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Audrey DeProspero