



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

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES:

DATE: Monday, March 23, 2009

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:37 pm

SELECTMEN PRESENT:

Chairman, Dan Poliquin
Selectman, Michelle Curran
Selectman, John Sherman
Sean Fitzgerald – Town Manager

SELECTMEN EXCUSED:

Vice Chairman, Robert Gray
Selectman, Charles Blinn

MINUTES:

Minutes of Monday, March 9, 2009 delayed until the following BOS meeting.

*Motion by J. Sherman to approve Minutes of March 16, 2009 with correction to page 7.
2nd by M. Curran.*

Vote 3-0-0.

Motion passes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public wishing to speak.

AGENDA:

Dan Garlington & Chief McArdle – Ice Storm Debris Clean Up

Dan Garlington, Highway Supervisor and Fire Chief John McArdle approach podium to discuss burn permits and landfill. The Board has copy of Ice Storm Clean Up hand out.

D. Garlington discusses handout regarding Plaistow Ice Storm Clean Up noting the landfill will be opening earlier than normal; usually the landfill opens in May however suggestion is to start in March to help with cleanup.

S. Fitzgerald discusses clean up of debris from ice storm to help residents.

J. McArdle discusses burn permits noting residents are to call the Safety Complex for a burn permit and that Fire Explorers from the Fire Department will be available to help residents that need assistance with burning material.

D. Poliquin discusses items that will not be accepted at the Landfill.

S. Fitzgerald notes this handout will be posted on the web site but presently is not because he wanted the BOS to review prior to the posting.

D. Garlington discusses Commercial Landscapers filling out the attached form when they are helping a resident that is unable to bring the debris to the landfill.

Board discusses wording of handout and verification form.

D. Garlington reads handout and gives explanation for items listed.

Board discusses and suggests changes.

J. McArdle discusses attentiveness to burning yard debris and the safety hazards involved with both the burning of debris and chain saw activity safety.

J. Sherman expresses his feelings regarding this clean up activity noting that this is a good thing for the residents and a great idea.

D. Garlington discusses his upcoming meeting with a member of the Unitil crew from Peterborough who will be driving around with Dan in Town to get an idea of what is Unitil's responsibility to hanging branches.

J. Sherman discusses the magazine, Town and City, noting it has a good article. He discusses trees belonging to the homeowner.

D. Poliquin inquires if there are plans for roadside clean up.

S. Fitzgerald discusses he was looking for a little more information regarding protocol before bringing this matter to the Board and discusses his conversation with current landscapers regarding additional help to the Town.

Chief Savage – Request to apply for 2009 COPS Grant

Chief Steve Savage approaches podium and passes out handout regarding COPS Grant.

S. Savage discusses traditional COPS hiring grant which is part of the stimulus package plan; what the grant consists of noting this is for the hiring of a new position of an officer; the details of the grant; the details for his reasoning behind this and the information in his handout.

D. Poliquin discusses increasing the number of officers on the force by two; the grant cost coverage and the hiring process.

S. Savage discusses approval; grant tracking; special Town meeting and the information that is put in the application for the grant period.

Board and S. Savage discuss: soft costs (uniforms, body armor and weapons) and entry level salary noting raises are not included in the grant.

S. Savage discusses vehicle management with a fleet increase of one.

M. Curran and S. Savage discuss overtime not covered, buy backs and Town being responsible for overtime.

J. Sherman inquires if Steve's plans would be to hire an entry level person.

S. Savage notes that he has to do that because of the stimulus.

J. Sherman and S. Savage discuss the breakdown of the \$8,000 for soft costs.

S. Savage discusses entry level police officer; specialized operations that the Town is seeing; funding the position; commitment if this passes that the grant would fund the first 3 years and the Town is obligated for the fourth year and training agreements. He notes he is here to ask permission from the Board to apply for the grant.

S. Fitzgerald discusses Warrant Article for Police Officer being a frequent one; demand for police services in the community; significant traffic hazards and concerns; Police Department being a significant part of the Town; getting money from grants; challenges; operating budget; and proposal from Police Chief noting one position is appropriate, it would be giving someone a job and it comes with his recommendation.

D. Poliquin discusses clarification noting if BOS approved to go forward then we would have to hold a special Town meeting and at the point the residents could say yes or no.

J. Sherman notes just because they get the grant it does not mean they have to go forward with this depending on the cost, and the BOS can say no along with the residents.

Motion by J. Sherman to authorize the Police Chief to apply for the COPS grant for one police officer per the memo from the Justice Department dated Monday, March 16, 2009.

2nd by M. Curran.

Vote 3-0-0.

Motion passes.

Non Public – Personnel Matters RSA 91-A:3,II(a) & RSA 91-A:3,II(c)

Motion by J. Sherman to go into Non Public under RSA 91-A:3,II(a) & RSA 91-A:3,II(c).

2nd by M. Curran.

Selectmen polled:

Curran = yes

Poliquin = yes

Sherman = yes

Public meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm - Board returns to Public meeting at 9:06 pm.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

S. Fitzgerald discusses monthly budgeted expenditures and revenue reports noting they have been updated to reflect the adopted 2009 budget as approved at the Town meeting; MS-2 (Report of the Appropriations Actually Voted) noting as part of the Town's requirements under the RSA we must file the MS-2 form with the Department of Revenue Services; Highway Safety Committee and the various highway concerns from pedestrian traffic to vehicles, sidewalks and strategies to better define public safety and action items that the committee is reviewing; and Old Home Day noting it is scheduled for Saturday, June 27, 2007. He holds a discussion regarding assisting with budgeting for Old Home Day and raising some funds noting he is looking for direction from the Board regarding soliciting/request funding for municipal project. He notes he is requesting a motion or direction from the Board to go forward if they are so inclined.

D. Poliquin notes that it is always good to try other funding.

M. Curran inquires if anyone has come to him willingly to offer a donation.

S. Fitzgerald notes no one has come to him however a committee member has held a discussion with him regarding funding for specific purposes for Old Home Day.

M. Curran inquires if his intent is to solicit for fireworks.

S. Fitzgerald notes he would be soliciting for community programs.

M. Curran inquires if he is looking for a particular amount.

S. Fitzgerald notes the \$15,000 that was cut from budget would be his target and his thought is to draft a letter and send it out to local businesses asking them to support the Old Home Day program through levels of sponsorship.

J. Sherman suggests waiting for a full Board and then to discuss.

D. Poliquin notes he would like a little more time to mull this idea over and suggests putting this on the agenda for the following week.

S. Fitzgerald discusses Mosquito Control contract which was signed this past week to ensure the Town has a multi-phase strategy for combating mosquitoes.

D. Poliquin suggests adding this information to the cable scroll regarding measures to alleviate mosquitoes.

S. Fitzgerald discusses Plaistow Economic Development Committee noting he has been asked to serve on the board of the Route 125 Committee, which is to better define the economic development of 125, along with a member from the BOS and one from Planning. He notes he is just presenting this to the Board and will bring back when there is a full Board. He discusses Town Hall Generator noting that Scott Nickerson has submitted the report of the electrical power usage for Town Hall and he will be setting up a follow up meeting of the Town Hall Generator Task Force to review the findings, which may be scheduled for this Friday at 11.

OTHER BUSINESS:

D. Poliquin discusses the ribbon cutting ceremony at 5pm for the grand opening of Primo Pasta which is in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. He thanks John Sherman for his time and efforts as Chairman for the past years and for continuing his services on the Board. He also welcomes Michelle Curran to the Board as a returning member.

J. Sherman discusses Charter, Committee assignments last week noting he has found Charters written a few years ago regarding renovating Town Hall, expansion of Safety Complex, Open Land and Space Committee and has given copies to Selectmen to review along with the Budget Committee members.

D. Poliquin publicly congratulates Kristin Lewis Savage for her position as Budget Committee Chair person.

SIGNATURE FOLDER:

D. Poliquin notes there are items in the Signature Folder that need to be signed.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS:

M. Curran notes she has nothing to report.

D. Poliquin discusses Family Mediation meeting this past week which was geared more to personnel matters and legislation noting he has supplied the Board with stats; Highway Safety Committee meeting discussed stop sign inventory in Town, minimum fines regarding Town parking noting they looked at different fine schedules and they will be coming to the Board to discuss wording regarding those fines.

J. Sherman discusses Budget Committee meeting met last week and had their reorganization meeting: Kristin Lewis Savage is Chair, Martha Sumner is Vice Chair and Neal Morin has been appointed to the vacant slot left by Jan Penta. He notes training is forthcoming to the Budget Committee members. He discusses Recreation Commission meeting talked about field usage policy which is just about finalized; discussed dug outs at Old County Road and drainage, noting the anticipated opening date is April 15.

D. Poliquin discusses the communication form from Community Development Finance Authority and asks Sean to give some information on.

S. Fitzgerald discusses outline grant for Town, low income families noting they will be looking to utilize that grant.

D. Poliquin notes he will put in the FYI folder.

J. Sherman discusses Regional Selectmen meeting which is scheduled for April 2 at 7pm noting they will be hosting here.

Meeting adjourned at 9:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Audrey Michaud