



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

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:

DATE: Monday, December 13, 2010

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:37 pm

SELECTMEN:

Chairman, Daniel Poliquin - excused
Selectman, Michelle Curran - excused
Selectman, John Sherman

Vice Chairman, Charles Blinn
Selectman, Robert Gray
Town Manager, Sean Fitzgerald

AGENDA:

MINUTES:

Motion by J. Sherman to approve the minutes of December 6, 2010 as written.

2nd by R. Gray.

Vote: 3-0-0.

Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

COPS Grant Public Hearing – Chief Savage

S. Savage discussed applying for COPS hiring grant in mid spring; significant amount of money nationally; relatively small amount in grand scheme of things; applied because they were short handed; did not anticipate receiving; three year grant; no matching money required; Town has to outfit officer with equipment; budgeting in year four and voters deciding whether to approve or not; very fortunate to be awarded the grant; uniquely positioned; and size of Town.

J. Sherman inquired about deployment of new position.

S. Savage discussed opportunity; transfer more hours of Part Time Detective; and allowing transfer of hours from another person to work as a Resource Officer at the Middle School.

R. Gray noted good job by Chief.

C. Blinn opened up the Public Hearing at 6:42 pm.

No one present for Public Hearing.

C. Blinn closed the Public Hearing at 6:43 pm.

Motion by R. Gray to accept the COPS Hiring Grant program as outlined in the memo dated October 13, 2010 by the Police Chief.

2nd by J. Sherman.

J. Sherman discussed fourth year of grant and submitting a Warrant Article in fourth year.

S. Fitzgerald discussed different realities in four years; second year start looking at projection of position; changes; using new position to fill changes; possibly not having to add position to bottom line of the budget; reduction of overtime; reducing some cost; supporting added or needed community policing; support of additional position; different paths; economy and department needs.

S. Savage discussed not being certain of how he feels regarding a Warrant; past grants; having not gone forward with a Warrant Article in the past; March Town meeting; cautious about supplementation; opportunities; situation depending on Board and Town Manager at the time; possible Warrant Article; and possible economy change.

S. Fitzgerald discussed fourth year; Chief and he having an affirmative action to present funding for the position; Board or Town not voting to support the position; going out for a Warrant; and time investment in the position.

S. Savage discussed obligation of good faith to budget for the position.

J. Sherman discussed costs are minimal this year and already planned for in the Operating Budget.

R. Gray inquired if the Chief had spoken to the School Board.

S. Savage discussed holding informal discussion only.

Board discussed having Sean sign grant.

Consensus of the Board was for Sean to sign the COPS grant.

Vote 3-0-0.

Motion carries.

S. Fitzgerald discussed recommendations from the Highway Safety Committee: 1) Recommendation to relocate the Stop Sign from the middle of Garden Road and to reposition it at the end of West Pine and 2) Recommendation for “No Thru Trucking” on Crane Crossing Road. The Highway Supervisor was contacted by the Town of Newton’s Highway Supervisor who asked if the Town of Plaistow would post on their portion of Crane Crossing Road “No Thru Trucking” due to apparent complaints of heavy truck traffic.

Motion by J. Sherman to direct the Town Manager to remove the stop sign from the middle of Garden Road and reposition at the end of West Pine.

2nd by R. Gray.

Vote 3-0-0.

Motion carries.

R. Gray noted he supported the “No Thru Trucking”.

J. Sherman inquired as to what was considered trucking.

S. Savage noted gross weight of 12,000 pounds on road.

Motion by J. Sherman to direct the Town Manager to make Crane Crossing a “No Thru Trucking” road and to post the necessary signage.

2nd by R. Gray.

Vote 3-0-0.

Motion carries.

Review of Warrant Articles

S. Fitzgerald noted the changes were outlined in his Town Manager Report on page 3.

J. Sherman discussed no real content change; clarifying the wording; and most changes were replacing the word “project” with “funding”. He was in favor of these changes.

S. Fitzgerald discussed small language change and clarity would help Intent of the Warrant Articles.

Motion by J. Sherman to change the wording of the Warrant Articles per the contents of the Town Manager’s report as dated 12/13/10 and to also update all the Warrant Articles with appropriate fund balances as dated December 10, 2010.

R. Gray inquired about the change of Article C and Article H and the location of the changes.

J. Sherman pointed out the location of the amendments.

2nd by R. Gray.

Vote 3-0-0.

Motion carries.

J. Sherman discussed Articles L & M; and Intent to go back to original submission: “The Tax Collector has not had requested any increase in salary since 2008”. Wording to be changed for both Tax Collector and Town Clerk Warrant Articles.

Board discussed wording change and original submission by Town Clerk and Tax Collector.

S. Fitzgerald discussed contacting Town Attorney.

Motion by J. Sherman to change the wording of Article L & M to “The Tax Collector has not requested any increase in salary since 2008” and “The Town Clerk has not requested any increase in salary since 2008”.

2nd by C. Blinn.

R. Gray discussed waiting until the Board hears back from the Town Attorney. He felt the Warrant Article should appear as how the Tax Collector and Town Clerk wanted it to appear.

J. Sherman noted the Article was a Selectmen Warrant Article and the Selectmen could change it.

Vote 3-0-0.

Motion carries.

Review of 2010 Budget

S. Fitzgerald discussed Highways & Streets Budget; formula error; lines were correct; bottom line was incorrect; and tabulation error.

Motion by J. Sherman to approve the Highways & Streets Budget in the amount of \$557,090.

2nd R. Gray.

Vote 3-0-0.

Motion carries.

S. Fitzgerald discussed Elections & Registration Budget; Town Clerk and Moderator revisited budget; and changes made to Repairs & Supplies and Postage lines for a new bottom line of \$19,724.

Motion by R. Gray to approve new bottom line of \$19,724 for the Elections & Registration Budget.

2nd by J. Sherman.

Vote 3-0-0.

Motion carries.

S. Fitzgerald discussed reduction in the Personnel Administration Budget line 1-4155-40-695; Budget Committee's feelings of carrying too much in that line; and their vote to reduce that line by \$7,000 to \$5,000 from the original \$12,000. He noted he supported the reduction.

R. Gray discussed possible upcoming reduction request by the Board.

J. Sherman discussed being in favor of reducing it even more; in favor of reducing it back to the original \$500; \$5,000 being like a contingency in case someone retires; and not being sure if they have a budget that they should be budgeting contingencies for.

Motion by J. Sherman to reduce the Personnel Administration Budget to \$1,361,264 and Employee Relations line to \$500 which is the same as previous year.

2nd by R. Gray.

J. Sherman discussed not being sure if this was the year they should be budgeting for a contingency.

Vote 3-0-0.

Motion carries.

R. Gray accepted the change for the same reasons John pointed out. He discussed proposing a \$10,000 reduction in the Cultural line; the addition of \$10,000 for fireworks; and the possibility of putting it back in future years. He didn't think it should be the choice of the Town Manager to reduce things, he thought it should be the Board of Selectmen.

2nd by J. Sherman.

J. Sherman discussed making his decision on fireworks before he found out about the Old Home Day Fundraiser. He noted he was going to vote against the motion.

R. Gray suggested withdrawing the motion instead.

J. Sherman agreed and suggested the Old Home Day Committee come in and discuss other options.

R. Gray inquired if the budget had been updated with fuel numbers.

S. Fitzgerald noted it had not.

R. Gray suggested having them for next week.

S. Fitzgerald discussed Budget Committee's request of small changes: hourly rates/salary.

Update on Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Application

S. Fitzgerald discussed Friday's meeting in Concord with Tim Moore; presentation of 2010 CMAQ application; formally submitted; NH DOT's time frame for review; each town was given 15 minutes to go over their application; present project along with a number of DOT and municipality projects; mostly cities and larger towns present; copy of the presentation was in the Selectmen's FYI folder; ranked 6th by the State of NH for cost benefit; funds available every several years under the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality; funds if awarded have to be accepted in a Public Hearing; and funds would not be sufficient for entire project but enough to move the project along.

R. Gray inquired if there was a time frame.

S. Fitzgerald discussed no real time frame; Town was awarded funds previously which were not sufficient to get over the big impediments of the project; 20% requirement; Town matching CMAQ funds; not having sufficient funds available; track right age development; and decision in January.

J. Sherman discussed Route 125 expansion/widening at intersection of Main Street and Route 125 near Early Bird Café. They have cleared out wetlands. He inquired what kind of wetland mitigation did they have to go through and if anyone knew how much wetland were involved.

S. Fitzgerald discussed environmental assessment; seeking relief of wetland mitigation from DES; ARAs; and not sure of total amount of wetland but could look into.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

S. Fitzgerald discussed:

- Loss of Ruth Jenne and the interment commencement with the family held last Wednesday.
- Today's Beede meeting with Legislators. Selectmen Gray and Poliquin were present.
- Westville Road completion.
- Planning Board meeting next Wednesday regarding recent results of ZBA, Ron Brown's appeal and a lot line adjustment and subdivision plan by Roscoe Kidder for Main Street.
- Plaistow First Committee scheduled to meet next Wednesday, December 15.
- Dog Kennel is almost completed.
- Ice rink has been constructed at PARC. Fire Department has put 12,000 gallons of water on the rink so far.

J. Sherman discussed Pelham Pond Hockey Team he read about in the newspaper.

S. Fitzgerald discussed:

- Overview of Red Cross and their attendance at next week's BOS meeting.

- Boston Post Cane recipient will be present at next week's BOS meeting.
- Mayor Donnalee Lozeau will be attending January 10, 2011 BOS meeting.
- Upcoming meeting with Peter Imse

R. Gray and S. Fitzgerald discussed Wal Mart attorneys; information; and meeting.

R. Gray inquired when the Town Report Committee would be meeting.

S. Fitzgerald discussed meeting next week - tentative schedule for next Tuesday at 5:30.

OTHER BUSINESS:

No other business.

SIGNATURE FOLDER:

Signature Folder and Manifest were going around.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS:

J. Sherman discussed:

- Budget Committee met last week; made a few suggestions which BOS discussed tonight; BudCom has not yet voted on Warrant Articles; they are meeting tomorrow night and the following Tuesday but not the Tuesday after.
- School District Hearing Tuesday, January 11th.
- Town Public Hearing for the budget is Thursday, January 13 and snow date is Friday the 14th.
- Plaistow First Committee scheduled to meet on Wednesday.

R. Gray discussed:

- This past week he attended LGC training in Concord on Collective Bargaining with Buzzy and Dan. It was very useful.
- Attendance at meeting on Beede update with Legislatures.
- Plaistow First meeting this week.
- Planning Board meeting this Wednesday.

C. Blinn discussed:

- Cable Committee had first meeting; fully loaded; moved meeting date from Thursday to Wednesday; and he was unable to attend because it was his anniversary.
- Attendance at LGC with Bob and Dan, it was quite interesting.
- Conservation meeting this week.
- Contacting Tami regarding the fireworks and what her commitment is down the road.

S. Fitzgerald noted no Non Public was needed.

Public Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Audrey DeProspero