



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

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:

DATE: Monday, February 6, 2012

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:47 pm

SELECTMEN:

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

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

AGENDA:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Charles Fowler approached the Board to discuss the Town Forrest. Jill Senter appeared before the Board the prior week and Chuck wanted to clear up some outstanding questions regarding the Town Forrest upkeep.

J. Sherman inquired who maintained the trails.

C. Fowler discussed Troop 18 clears the trails twice a year; December's Eagle project; concern for the parking lot; parking lot is being plowed however the area turns to ice and is not sanded; and fence post in parking lot was damaged (he plans on fixing). He inquired who was to maintain the parking lot, Troop 18 or the Town.

J. Sherman noted Troop 18 does a great job with the trails.

C. Fowler discussed Troop 18 cleaning the parking lot. He tries to go out once a month to pick up the parking lot himself. He was concerned with the parking lot and how it was left and was concerned with people getting stuck in the parking lot. He inquired who was responsible for maintaining the parking lot.

S. Fitzgerald noted this was the first time he had heard these concerns. He is going to put a meeting together with the Highway Supervisor and put together a program for maintenance that may involve members of the Conservation Commission and an annual maintenance program.

C. Fowler noted the Troop doesn't mind maintaining the trails but they could not maintain the parking lot because they did not have the equipment to do so. The forest is being used more and more and he wants people to be safe when they use the area.

D. Poliquin suggested looking at the trash situation immediately. He inquired as to what was done at the other park facilities - was staff emptying trash at the other facilities and if so could staff take care of this area as well.

S. Fitzgerald discussed having people carry things in and carry them out if we find people are littering he suggested people should contact the Town Manager

D. Poliquin noted the broken fence post needs to be taken care of. He questioned who should take care of (Highway Department or Building Maintenance). He noted this situation needs to be addressed.

C. Fowler discussed tree needing to be removed at Town Forrest which was struck by lightning.

J. Sherman inquired for specifics that the Troop does at the Town Forest.

C. Fowler discussed Boy Scouts redefine where the trails are; trim back trees so people can walk through; and adults use chain saws and cut back trees.

J. Sherman and C. Fowler discussed future Eagle Project: bridge to be built over the water.

S. Fitzgerald discussed angle of Town Forest sign and suggested turning perpendicular for better visibility.

Board thanked Chuck and for coming to their meeting and for the Troops' hard work.

APPOINTMENT:LIBRARY TRUSTEE ALTERNATE, KATHRYN MORIN-Catherine Willis

C. Willis discussed Trustees appointing Kathryn Morin as a Library Trustee Alternate; 5 Trustees and one Alternate presently; Kathryn's previous experience on the Board; and the Board having a second Alternate.

Motion by J. Sherman to appoint Kathryn Morin as an Alternate Library Trustee effective immediately. Her Appointment Form is in Signature Folder.

2nd by M. Curran.

Vote: 5-0-0.

Motion carries.

R. Gray discussed article in yesterday's paper: coop formed between Atkinson, Plaistow and Sandown. He noted the article indicated the Library was hiring a PR firm and requested information.

C. Willis discussed Directors of the three libraries wanting to have a logo to depict the Library Coop; Diane Arrato Gavrish met someone at PACE who said could help with this; small cost: \$300; press release went to newspaper; reporter wanted more information; story got a little crazy; no public relations person; and the Library is not hiring a public relations person.

Board welcomed Kathryn Morin.

BIRTHDAY CITATION - BILL HALLAHAN

Board of Selectmen presented Bill Hallahan with a 91st Birthday Citation.

D. Poliquin read the Citation.

OVERVIEW OF 2012 DELIBERATIVE SESSION

S. Fitzgerald discussed updated Town Warrant; successful Deliberative Session; conservative but practical budget; and presentation to the Town on March 13.

J. Sherman inquired if the Deliberative Session will be rebroadcasted.

S. Fitzgerald noted yes. It was being aired just before tonight's Board of Selectmen meeting.

D. Poliquin discussed Deliberative Session: relatively good turnout, not uncommon in previous years to only have 10 or 15 people. He suggested for residents to contact the Selectmen if they had any questions regarding the Warrant Articles.

J. Sherman discussed Board of Selectmen met after Deliberative Session to revote the Warrant Articles presented. They only had four votes on some Warrant Articles however they now reflect five votes. They approved the change of adding the \$4,675 to the Operating Budget and recommended the revised Warrant Article P-12-18 (Citizen's Petition for layover station). An option was added to indicate more information needed and the intent was shorten. Since the option of needing more information was added the Board felt they could recommend the Warrant Article wording. They've known all along that they needed more information to be able to make a recommendation to the residents. The Budget Committee revoted Warrant Article P-12-02 and unanimously agreed to add the \$4,675 to the Operating Budget.

R. Gray discussed recommendations made during Deliberative Session regarding Warrant Article P-12-02; location for station is zoned industrial; if the layover station goes away the location could still be used as a greater industrial use; a recycling center could be put there; and residents could have to deal with fumes and odors. He is sensitive to where industrial abuts residential and thought he should keep reminding people that the location is zoned industrial and the Town cannot stop any type of industrial business wanting to be put there.

D. Poliquin discussed petition put forward as recommended 5-0-0 by Selectmen. He discussed eliminated wording and giving a voice to Plaistow voters which was what the Board has always wanted to do.

M. Curran inquired if the Board could revote one of the Articles before it goes to print.

S. Fitzgerald noted he would have to check with LGC regarding the dates to see if they could.

J. Sherman noted if they could not then it would become null and void.

M. Curran discussed Warrant Article P-12-16 (Raise for the Town Clerk). She was one who voted against the Article but has talked over her reasoning with the Town Clerk and noted it was the position not the person she was voting on. Her issues were with the position not the person. She spoke to the Town Clerk and noted some of her concerns were not necessarily valid. She did not believe the Town Clerk was doing a bad job her concerns and issues were in house issues and could be dealt with differently. She recommended the Town Clerk's Warrant Article.

***Motion by M. Curran to approve Article P-12-16 Raise for the Town Clerk.
2nd by J. Sherman.***

J. Sherman noted this vote may not be able to take effect however the Town Manager was going to check into it.

M. Curran noted the intent was not to make the Town Clerk look bad. There were issues with hours of operation not with the person. She did not want people to think staff was doing a bad job, they were voting on the position not the staff.

R. Gray noted the vote was for the position not the person. If a person leaves and another comes in they could make the hours of operation change. The position gets paid the same amount of money no matter how many hours the person works.

M. Curran discussed acknowledging the amount of work the person does. She takes the minutes of the Deliberative Session and stays late to balance.

R. Gray noted he was sensitive of the needs of the person in the position. He noted the position was the lowest paid in the area. The recommendation was to put that Article forward.

Vote: 5-0-0.

Motion carries.

D. Poliquin noted if the vote could be changed it would be. Sean is notify the Board tomorrow.

DRAWING FOR BALLOT NAME ORDER - Maryellen Pelletier

M. Pelletier and S. Fitzgerald pulled order of names as they would appear on the Ballot.

Selectmen:

Joyce Ingerson
Ben Sadewicz
Michelle Curran
Dan Poliquin

Moderator:

Steve Ranlett
Robert Harb

Library Trustees:

Kathy Wright
Catherine Willis

2 Year Budget Committee:

Barry Weymouth
Anthony Riccio

2 Year Budget Committee

Ben Sadewicz
Gayle Hamel

Positions no one has signed up for:

2 - 3 Year Budget Committee
Auditors
Trustee of the Trust Funds
Conflict of Interest

J. Sherman suggested to change the posting on Channel 17 to mention those open positions that no one has signed up for.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

S. Fitzgerald discussed:

- Deliberative Session was on Saturday, February 4th. Total Budget \$7,602,156. Less than 1% increase over last year's budget.

- Elder Affairs meets tomorrow at 3:30 pm.
- Carli is using Town Hall for senior activities. Today they were knitting scarves for Veterans and
- next Monday they will be holding a blood pressure clinic.
- Beede Access Route. Mr. Russel is forwarding to Attorney Lewis the CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980).
- Plaistow First meeting on Wednesday at 3:30.
- Presentation regarding the Safety Complex will be sent to the Board next week.
- 18 foot right of way that abuts cemetery.
- Moving forward with Brownfield site.
- Planning Board met last week. They worked out significant issues with Tractor Supply store.
- Very productive and helpful discussion.
- Annual Town Report Committee met.
- Cub Scout Blue and Gold Banquet is scheduled for February 11 at St. Lukes.
- Meeting regarding Hazeltine.
- Regional selectmen meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 16 in Chester.
- Town meeting scheduled for March 13. Poles open at 7am. Presentation being prepared for cable show on the 20112 Budget and Warrant Articles.

M. Curran noted Sean's report mentioned a report that the Police Chief would give.

S. Fitzgerald noted he would print out and email to the Selectmen after this meeting. It was regarding space needs and strategy of the Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

J. Sherman noted he was going to request to make a motion on the parcel information that each Selectmen had in their folders but suggested to postpone until a later meeting. Sean is going to put a visual together to help people at home better understand where the parcels are located.

R. Gray discussed the painting of Town Hall that was behind the Board of Selectmen. He suggested hanging the picture on a wall in Town Hall.

S. Fitzgerald noted the picture has been on loan to the Town Hall but belongs to the Historical Society who is looking to retrieve their picture.

R. Gray suggested discussing the matter with the Historical Society and instead of sending back to find a better location somewhere in Town Hall.

M. Curran suggested hanging the picture near the older black and white version of Town Hall.

S. Fitzgerald noted he would contact the Historical Society regarding the painting.

R. Gray noted he just wants to move the picture from the ground.

D. Poliquin discussed letter from Rockingham Planning Commission (copy in FYI folder) regarding appointment status of members from the Town of Plaistow. He noted the Planning Board must nominate the representatives first and then the Board of Selectmen must appoint them. Current

representatives were Larry Gil and Marilyn Senter and he suggested for someone to contact them to find out if they are still interested in serving on the Board.

S. Fitzgerald noted Tim Moore was coming in tomorrow and he planned on discussing with him.

SIGNATURE FOLDER

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

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

C. Blinn noted he was sick last week so he was unable to attend any meetings.

J. Sherman:

- Budget Committee met right after Deliberative Session. They won't met until their reorganization meeting in early April.
- Town Report Committee met last week. Entering the phase where the Town Report gets turned over to Town Staff who gives drafts to printer and for them to accumulate the last reports from the Deliberative Session. Overall the Town Report is in good shape. He is concerned with size of the report but he has given it to Sean to manage. It is a really good Town Report with a lot of good information. He urged all to get a report when they are printed.

S. Fitzgerald discussed producing a report within Budget limits and looking to make the report more functional and useful to residents.

D. Poliquin noted it was amazing how much time and effort goes into producing this report.

- We are in good shape with the Town Report. People will be pleased with the results.
- Plaistow First meets on Wednesday. They are looking at property that abuts Town owned property
- to document them and note them as properties of interest, if it ever made sense to acquire a piece of property next to a piece of property that the Town owns.
- School District Deliberative Session is this Thursday at PAC.

M. Curran:

- Attended Deliberative Session; thanked Staff for getting everything ready and prepared for them; reminded people at home that the session is for information directly on the Warrant; loved the fact that they had a full house; and is looking forward to having future conversations of the Deliberative Session and Warrant Articles.
- At the first Elder Service Fair there was a parking issue at venue they were using. However she has heard they were possibly seeking alternative locations. She spoke to Carli regarding the use of the Fish and Game, made a few phone calls and both were invited to the Fish and Game Board meeting. She thanked them publically for their invite. The Fish and Game graciously gave two days for the Elder Affairs Committee to use their location for the Service Fair and Craft Fair. The Fish and Game donated their space and she thanked them for their generosity.

J. Sherman noted the Fish and Game was registered as a charitable organization and therefore they do not pay any property taxes on their property.

- No meeting this week.
- Next week is Family Mediation.
- Quick memo went out and it looks like no towns have contested their budgets, they are utilizing many of their resources.

R. Gray:

- Planning approved conditional use for Tractor Supply.
- Deliberative Session was on Saturday and went very well. No major issues.
- This coming week is Plaistow First on Wednesday.
- Last week the Town Report Advisory Committee met.

D. Poliquin:

- CEDS Steering Committee met this past week. He was on his way but got redirected. Discussions were in relation to Town of Exeter train station.
- Work Ready NH - program that gets young people ready to go into the work force. They involved businesses in the State of NH. There are currently no standards to assess if candidates were prepared. The program has a soft skill preset. It is a class room based simulation of the work force. Candidates are counted as they are working in a business. The program is run by a grant which will fund 500 applicants.
- Rec Commission meeting this Wednesday.

J. Sherman inquired if the Board was going to meet on the 20th (President's Day).

D. Poliquin noted they were not.

Public Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Audrey DeProspero