



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

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:

DATE: Monday, January 16, 2012

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:34 pm

SELECTMEN:

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

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

AGENDA:

MINUTES:

Motion by J. Sherman to approve the Minutes of January 9, 2011 with change to Page 2: (10th paragraph change "increase" to "decrease" and Page 5 (12th paragraph change "Motion carries" to "Motion Does Not Carry" and Page 8 (2nd Paragraph, 19th line - add "Budget" before "Public Hearing is Wednesday at 6:30 pm.").

2nd by R. Gray.

Vote: 4-0-1.

Abstain: M. Curran.

Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one present for Public Comment.

REVIEW OF 2012 PROPOSED BUDGET & WARRANT ARTICLES

Review of Special Warrant Articles:

Elderly Exemption & Disabled Exemption

D. Poliquin discussed Petition Warrant Articles. He read Elderly Exemption & Disabled Exemption Petitions. Submitted Articles were received prior to the deadline and names listed were checked by the Town Clerk, Maryellen Pelletier. She verified there were 50 registered voters listed.

Motion by J. Sherman to move the Petition Article (Elderly Exemption & Disabled Exemption) forward.

2nd by R. Gray.

Board discussed threshold limits of Articles.

M. Curran and S. Fitzgerald discussed meaning of Article.

R. Gray inquired what other towns were doing.

S. Fitzgerald noted he had not done an analysis of other towns.

R. Gray thought Plaistow was amongst one of the generous towns.

D. Poliquin inquired when the Board last addressed this issue.

J. Sherman thought seven or eight year ago.

M. Curran thought the Board previously approved to increase the dollar figure of the assessed value.

S. Fitzgerald discussed break down of age exemption.

R. Gray inquired if it was known how many people the change would effect.

S. Fitzgerald noted he did not.

R. Gray discussed social security max and favored the \$3,000 increase.

D. Poliquin suggested the wording needed to be adjusted at Deliberative Session.

J. Sherman noted the wording change was needed to make it obvious to the residents and agreed to adjust at Deliberative Session.

R. Gray discussed possible handful of residents falling into the increased category.

D. Poliquin suggested getting the numbers from Marybeth and having them available for the Deliberative Session.

J. Sherman discussed previous change of exemption years ago; analysis done; Town was in the top 10 percent of the state for giving this benefit; comparison is difficult because of the income and evaluation benefit; and previous numbers received from LGC website. He was in favor of this recommendation but noted it would shift some small tax burden from the elderly and disabled to the others tax payers.

Vote: 5-0-0.

Motion carries.

RAIL

D. Poliquin discussed Rail Petition Article and noted the Article did not receive the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen. He read the Petition Article. Michelle Curran was not present when the Board voted on this Article so the Board discussed voting again because she was present.

M. Curran noted she would vote to abstain because she was just coming into this Warrant Article.

Motion by J. Sherman to recommend Petition Warrant Article (Do you agree with the petition that you DO NOT want a layover station anywhere in Plaistow?)

2nd by C. Blinn.

J. Sherman noted he was voting against this Article. He noted his discussion would be the same as last time: the wording needed to be adjusted; the Intent allows only some people to express their opinion; he was going to vote to not recommend and they will hash it out at Deliberative Session.

R. Gray discussed changing the wording at Deliberative Session. He noted the wording could be changed moderately in small ways to make the Warrant legible by rephrasing something into a question but noted the overall question could not be changed.

S. Fitzgerald noted he called LGC regarding the options available to Selectmen to assure Warrant Articles could be dealt with fairly.

Vote: 0-4-1.

Abstain: M. Curran.

D. Poliquin noted the Petition Article would go forward but without the recommendation of the Board of the Selectmen.

M. Curran inquired if the Board would be voting on the Warrant Articles one more time.

J. Sherman noted they typically revote at Deliberative Session.

M. Curran noted some of the votes listed on the Warrant Articles did not reflect a full 5 vote by the Board of Selectmen.

D. Poliquin inquired if Michelle wished to address the votes at their current meeting.

M. Curran noted no, they could do it later.

Board discussed votes and noted they would address at a later date.

NON PUBLIC RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Matters of Reputation - Chief Savage

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

2nd by M. Curran.

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

Board went into Non Public at 7:08 pm - Board returned to Public Session at 8:21 pm.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

S. Fitzgerald:

- 2012 Budget Public Hearing held last week. Budget is a lean budget at \$7,597,481 which represents less than 1% increase from last year.
- Deliberative Session is Saturday, February 4th at 10am.
- School District held their Public Hearing this past Thursday. Their Deliberative Session is Thursday, February 9th.
- Met last week with Henry Torromeo to discuss Route 125 Access Service Road.
- Date set for EPA and Beede Group conference call for this Thursday, January 19th at 10 am.
- Attended meeting with NH DOT regarding the RFI (Request For Information) pertaining to the Plaistow/MBTA project.

- Looking into land next to the Plaistow Cemetery. Complaints have been received regarding blockage. The Town is looking into the original easement and to support a longer term solution as to how to keep the area clear.
- Welcomed a new business in Plaistow at 29 Garden Road - Bridgestone/Firestone.
- Today a house was taken down that had been previously destroyed in a fire. The property was located on Gunstock Road and Inspector Dorman was there to inspect the area. There is some debris still there but it will be removed during the week.
- Plaistow First Committee met last week.
- A new subdivision is underway - Karl's Circle located off of Witch Lane.
- The Annual Town Report Advisory Committee is working to complete the Annual Town Report. The Committee met last week and will be meeting again tomorrow night.
- The Town now offers residents the ability to purchase Overflow Stickers on line.
- Plaistow Cub Scout Pack 118 will be holding their 40th Blue and Gold Banquet on February 11th.
- Public Safety Complex Building Committee is scheduled to meet this Friday.
- Rockingham Planning has been awarded a grant to do a site assessments of parcels suspected of qualifying as Brownfield Sites.
- A future meeting is coming regarding the acquisition of the Fire Pond next to the Testa Site.
- Meeting scheduled for Wednesday with Utility Service Company regarding short and long term capital management planning for the water tower.
- Bond Impact Table is included in the Town Manager Report for the Timberlane Regional School District.
- Regional Board of Selectmen Meeting scheduled for February 16th in Chester.
- Election Day was very successful. Secretary of State had a representative come by. Under the RSA a member of the Board of Selectmen is required to be at the polls (preferably two members).

D. Poliquin inquired about the reason and purpose for Selectmen being at the polls.

J. Sherman noted he read the RSA which noted it was the duty of the Selectmen to be there however it did not give any specific as to what the Board of Selectmen were required to do. He was opposed to having two selectmen there because they could get political.

S. Fitzgerald discussed Board making a recommendation which he could forward on to the LGC requesting to amend the law for Board of Selectmen or their representatives to be present to do their due diligence and due process.

M. Curran favored his suggestion. She discussed no specific role being noted in the RSA.

J. Sherman was in favor of the request for legislative change but wanted to confirm that there was no duties listed anywhere else for Selectmen.

OTHER BUSINESS

Board discussed upcoming Regional Selectmen meeting and agenda.

M. Curran inquired if the Regional Selectmen meeting had an agenda yet. She discussed unfunded mandates and issues effecting the communities and suggested for the hosting community, Chester Board of Selectmen, to be contacted regarding the agenda.

J. Sherman discussed letter dated November 14th (received by the Town on December 29th); contents of the letter; Kelly Ayotte, Jeanne Shaheen and Frank Guinta's response: office stands ready to support the Town of Plaistow in their efforts to ensure the Beede site is cleaned up; belief that those three elected officials do not support the Town of Plaistow; their support towards ExxonMobil and Cumberland Farms (owned by Gulf Oil) in their continued efforts not to work with the Town of Plaistow; and the clarity for residents to know that those 3 elected officials are coming down on the side of the ExxonMobil and not the Town of Plaistow.

D. Poliquin discussed signups for any elected position in Town - January 25 thru February 3rd. He informed the residents that he would be running for another term and thanked all who showed their concern.

SIGNATURE FOLDER

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

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

J. Sherman:

- Budget Committee held the Budget Public Hearing on January 11th. Before the Public Hearing the Committee met to discuss Petition Warrant Articles that came in. The Budget Committee is in 100% agreement with the Board of Selectmen regarding Budgets and Warrant Articles.
- Plaistow First met last week. They continue to discuss acquiring properties of interest to the Town.
- Town Report Advisory Committee meets tomorrow night at 5:30 pm. They will go over the current draft of the Town Report as it is and talk about schedules.

R. Gray:

- Busy week with Election, Plaistow First and Town Report Committee.
- Looked at all pictures from the Town Report.
- Town Report Advisory Committee to meet tomorrow night.
- Planning Board is Wednesday evening.

C. Blinn:

- Old Home Day meeting last night at 6 pm. Old Home Day date set for June 30, 2012. Dan Bush is Chair of Committee and there were six other persons who attended the committee meeting. They reviewed their agenda which basically were their events for the day. There are three or four events that will be replaced with something else. Their next meeting is February 12th at 6 pm at Town Hall.
- Cable Committee meeting Wednesday.
- Conservation meeting Thursday.

M. Curran:

- Family Mediation this Wednesday. Spent the weekend with her Husband and two other people installing hydro floors in their building in Atkinson. They volunteered their time. They received a quote to install the flooring for \$5,000 but found the money raised and appropriated could be used for a much better cause so they volunteered their time to complete the flooring project. People donated supplies and time to complete.

D. Poliquin:

- Rec Commission meets Wednesday.
- Public Safety Complex Committee meeting is Friday morning.
- Thanked all involved with Elections. A great job was done by Moderator, Deputy Moderator, Supervisors of the Checklist, persons who volunteered their time to count the ballots, Town Clerk's Office, Police, and Dave Sargent and his Crew who set up and take down the required items. There were a lot of people put through in a relatively short period of time - great job.
- This week is a recycling week.
- Trash and Recycle is on a regular schedule, there is no delay.

Public Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Audrey DeProspero