



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

**PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:**

**DATE:** Monday, January 9, 2012

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** 6:32 pm

**SELECTMEN:**

Chairman, Daniel Poliquin - arrived 6:43 pm  
Selectman, Charles Blinn  
Selectman, John Sherman

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

**AGENDA:**

**MINUTES:**

*Motion by J. Sherman to approve the Minutes of December 30, 2011 with correction to "NOTE" paragraph: add: "D. Poliquin asked J. Sherman to run the meeting".*

*2nd by C. Blinn.*

*Vote: 3-0-0.*

*Motion carries.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Dick O'Shaughnessy, Executive Director of Greater Salem Care Givers thanked the Town of Plaistow for their support. He thanked Selectmen, Mr. Fitzgerald and Ms. Sadewicz for their moral and financial support. He discussed the background of the Greater Salem Care Givers: transportation provided for four towns including Plaistow; errands; visits; and rides to most medical appointments for dialysis to appointments in Boston, Derry and Exeter two or three times a week. Currently working with 18 people in Plaistow; expanding services; services done by volunteers; and reaching out to the people of Plaistow to see if they would like to be volunteers. People can drive when they want, where they want and whom they want. This is a very accommodating program. Most of the services are provided by people who do not live in Plaistow. He would like to get more people from Plaistow to provide this service which would enable them to get this service out to more people. He suggested people call 898-2850 for more information.

J. Sherman thanked the Salem Care Givers for their services they provide. He inquired if the volunteers were reimbursed for their mileage.

D. O'Shaughnessy noted volunteer are reimbursed 35 cents per mile if they wish.

J. Sherman noted the service information was listed in the Annual Town Report.

R. Gray suggested putting information on the Cable Channel message board. He inquired about the average use of Plaistow residents by the Salem Caregivers.

D. O'Shaughnessy noted last month they gave 322 rides to medical appointments, 33 rides for shopping and 10 rides for visits.

**SCHOOL BOARD WARRANT ARTICLES & BUDGET - Richard LaSalle - Superintendent of School District; and Pete Bealo, Lisa Withee, and Liz Costa of School Committee**

R. LaSalle discussed School Budget Public Hearing scheduled for this Thursday and School Budget of \$115,238 which is lower than last year.

*D. Poliquin arrived at 6:43 pm.*

R. LaSalle discussed Salaries down; Books up; Supplies up; Equipment up; Tuition down; Transportation down; Bond Interest down; and Capital Reserve Fund.

J. Sherman and R. LaSalle discussed loss of income from the state for retirement and employee insurance.

R. LaSalle read RSA 40:13, IX (b) Default Budget and discussed 2012-2013 Default Budget.

J. Sherman discussed Pollard property noting the Town of Plaistow had been looking at Town owned properties in Plaistow and to determine the best use for the properties. He noted the Pollard property had a huge back part of the property that was not being used and he inquired if they had ever done a study of the back property to see if it was useable.

R. LaSalle discussed evaluation of well location only (800 feet variance for the well) in his 7 year tenure.

P. Bealo inquired how many acres were being discussed.

S. Fitzgerald noted over 10.

R. Gray discussed Town's Master Plan Community Facilities; school dealings; history enrollment for Plaistow; decrease in enrollment for Plaistow; reduction in the population; future projections show decrease in students; projection per cost of student seem to be going up but population seems to be going down and he inquired what was driving the numbers. He inquired if it was the other towns.

R. LaSalle discussed predecessors; operating under elementary level going down; no decrease at middle or high school; secondary enrollment still increasing; adjusted teaching levels according to class size policy; employ at elementary level number of teachers needed at the school; savings; maintaining the same buildings and insurance rates; reducing teachers; and reduction of one teacher per 25 students in one grade.

R. Gray discussed personnel being the primary driver of the school budget and inquired if there were longer serving teachers.

R. LaSalle discussed younger staff; previous strike; and much larger number of teachers retiring.

R. LaSalle discussed Capital Improvement Plan; Timberlane Regional High School Warrant Articles; projects; facilities; negative aspects of facilities; possible upgrades to facilities; cost of project; tax impact; and bond debt.

*R. Gray turned meeting over to D. Poliquin at 8:02 pm.*

### **REPAIRING CEMETERY FENCE**

D. Poliquin noted he discussed the Cemetery fence with Sean and they would be holding a meeting with Dan Garlington and Fran Berube to further discuss the needed material for the fence.

J. Sherman noted he was okay with this.

### **NON PUBLIC - WELFARE LIEN NEGOTIATIONS**

*Motion by R. Gray to go into Non Public under RSA 91-A:3 II (d) Matters of Negotiation.  
2nd by J. Sherman.*

*Board members polled: D. Poliquin = yes; C. Blinn = yes; R. Gray = yes; J. Sherman = yes*

Board of Selectmen went into Non Public at 8:04 pm - Board of Selectmen returned at 8:40 pm.

### **UPDATE ON 2012 PROPOSED BUDGET & WARRANTS**

#### *Budget*

S. Fitzgerald discussed update to Water Distribution Budget - bottom line should have been \$70,877 not \$64,877.

*Motion by J. Sherman to change Water Distribution Budget per Sean's Town Manager Report dated 1/9/2012.*

*2nd by R. Gray.*

R. Gray requested computational error explanation.

S. Fitzgerald discussed arithmetic error - wrong cell used in spreadsheet.

*Vote: 4-0-0.*

*Motion carries.*

S. Fitzgerald discussed page 2 of his Town Manager Report - Default Budget. He gave explanation for increases and reductions.

J. Sherman discussed One Time Appropriations and inquired if the number should be a negative number. He thought it should be \$16,200 or less.

J. Gallant noted she would recheck the numbers immediately.

Board moved on to the Warrants.

#### *Warrants*

S. Fitzgerald discussed Warrants for Tax Collector and Town Clerk. He noted the change was for the additional table added to Warrant. He noted he needed the approval of the Board of Selectmen for the additional table added to the Tax Collector and Town Clerk Warrants and for the information of the Fund Balances that were added to other Warrants.

R. Gray discussed Fund Balances and noted they needed to be approved at Deliberative Session.

J. Sherman discussed Warrants being presented at the Budget Public Hearing on Wednesday.

***Motion by J. Sherman to recommend Article P-12-15: Raise for the Tax Collector as presented to the Board of Selectmen on January 9, 2012.***

***2nd by C. Blinn.***

***Vote: 4-0-0.***

***Motion carries***

***Motion by J. Sherman to recommend Article P-12-16: Raise for the Town Clerk as presented to the Board of Selectmen on January 9, 2012.***

***2nd by R. Gray.***

***Vote: 4-0-0.***

***Motion carries.***

Motion by R. Gray to approve Article P-12-03: Highway Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund Deposit with change to the Capital Reserve Fund Balance to \$91,695.45.

2nd by C. Blinn.

Board discussed whether a Motion or Consensus was needed.

R. Gray withdrew his Motion.

C. Blinn withdrew his 2nd.

Consensus of the Board of Selectmen was for the Town Manager to update the Capital Reserve Fund Balances on all Warrant Articles.

***Petition Warrant Articles***

R. Gray discussed new law passed by Legislature regarding Articles with or without monetary value requiring a numerical vote be put on Ballots.

J. Sherman discussed rephrasing of Articles if deemed not understandable.

R. Gray discussed Article changes only being done at Deliberative Session.

Board discussed submitted Petition Article (layover station).

D. Poliquin discussed wording for Ballot and noted at Deliberative Session the Article could be restructured.

R. Gray discussed Tuesday, January 10, 2012 being the last day for Petition Warrant Articles.

D. Poliquin discussed technicalities pertaining to submitted Article.

Board discussed voting on submitted Article.

***Motion by R. Gray to recommend the Petition Warrant Article as discussed this evening.***

***2nd by J. Sherman.***

J. Sherman discussed wording of Petition Warrant Article and the confusion as to the way it was written. Intent was listed as first paragraph and body of Article listed second.

D. Poliquin noted the Petition Article had to go forward at the present time as submitted.

J. Sherman noted the Board was meeting their obligation by putting the Petition Article forward.

R. Gray discussed numerical tally having to be put on the Petition Article as it is on all others.

J. Sherman discussed being very torn as to how to vote. He believed the Townspeople should have a say in the possible relocation of a layover station but the way the Petition Article was worded made it difficult to recommend. He noted he was going to vote no because of the way it is worded, however he does understand what the residents were trying to get to and he would like to see the Petition Article wording changed at Deliberative Session.

R. Gray agreed with John. He noted he was not voting to not recommend however he reserved the right to change his mind at Deliberative Session in case the Article gets changed.

J. Sherman was troubled with the Intent of the Article.

D. Poliquin noted the Article was very heavily one sided.

J. Sherman noted the vote is to recommend the Article.

C. Blinn noted the wording of the Article needed to be changed at Deliberative Session.

R. Gray discussed Petition Article having to go forward however the Intent of the Petition could not be changed. It could not be a double negative to strike against the Article.

***Vote: 0-4-0.***

***Motion does not carry.***

#### *Zoning Amendments*

S. Fitzgerald discussed Zoning Amendments.

J. Sherman noted the Article numbers would follow other Articles.

#### *Budget*

S. Fitzgerald reviewed findings by Janet regarding the Default Budget. A number was added to the incorrect column.

***Motion by R. Gray to approve the Default Budget in the amount of \$7,637,021.***

***2nd by J. Sherman.***

***Motion by R. Gray to recommend Article P-12-02: Operating Budget with the amount of \$7,597,481 with Default Budget being \$7,637,021.***

***2nd by J. Sherman.***

J. Sherman noted the Budget Committees was aware that the Board of Selectmen would be making this approval tonight and they are coming in early Wednesday night before the Budget Public Hearing to vote.

***Vote 4-0-0.***

***Motion carries.***

#### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

S. Fitzgerald discussed:

- Budget Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 11th at 6:00 pm.
- Deliberative Session scheduled for Saturday, February 4th.
- Public Hearing scheduled for Wednesday, January 11th at 6:30 pm.
- Planning Board met last week and went over: Site Plan for 15 Newton Road and Final Zoning Amendments.
- Looking to continue to work with NH DOT on the Route 125 Access Service Road.
- Meeting with Henry Torromeo and Senter Brothers.
- Plaistow First Meeting this Wednesday, January 11th.
- Planning Board and Conservation Committee received and voted to sell the three lots: Lot 38-20 (7 Massasoit Boulevard), Lot 9-11 (Old Stagecoach/Hadley Road) and Lot 59-8 (Autumn Circle Rear).

R. Gray discussed Planning Board meeting whereas the parcels were discussed.

J. Sherman suggested the Town Manager move forward with contacting the Department Heads regarding the three parcels.

R. Gray agreed.

S. Fitzgerald noted he would send out forms to evaluate the properties.

- Selectmen's FYI folder has an updated schedule for Channel 17.
- Channel 17 has been converted over to the "Municipal Boards and Commissions" channel. Channel 23 will offer more community programs and local origination.
- Annual Town Report is being worked on. Departments continue to finalize their reports.
- Plaistow Area Transit met at Atkinson Community Center on December 19th.
- Meeting with NH DOT officials to go over RFIs (Request For Information) is scheduled for January 10th. This meeting is the first phase of how we will do our due diligence.
- Discussions continue with Pennichuck and Underwood Engineers for public water.
- Incident at Library. Information emailed to the Board of Selectmen. Article in Union Leader regarding adult content accessed by Library patron. Policies put in place to make sure those incidents do not occur to protect patrons and employees.

D. Poliquin was concerned with who and why this was brought to the media's attention.

- Monday, January 16th and Wednesday, January 18th are tentative dates for follow-up of Beede discussion regarding conference calls that will be held intermittently. Board of Selectmen to be notified as soon as the dates are finalized.

Regional Selectmen meeting scheduled for February 16th at 7 pm in Chester.  
Tomorrow is Presidential Primary. The polls open at 7 am and close at 8 pm.

J. Sherman reminded Selectmen that they needed to be at the polls to sign the ballots.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

D. Poliquin discussed letter dated November 14 and received December 29 by the Town. He read the letter regarding the Beede Access Route which was signed by Jeanne Shaheen, Kelly Ayotte, and Frank Guinta.

J. Sherman discussed portion of letter that read "office stands ready to support Town of Plaistow" and noted the three congressional delegates are not supporting the town of Plaistow and he was not happy with the response of these congressional delegates.

S. Fitzgerald discussed his disappointment regarding the letter received.

R. Gray discussed traffic on Main Street and land swap on South Main Street. He inquired where the Town stood regarding closing off the access. He thought the heavy truck traffic could be controlled if that section of the road was closed off. He suggested contacting the City of Haverhill to discuss.

S Fitzgerald suggested the Highway Safety Committee speak to the Rockingham Planning Safety Commission and the Merrimack Safety Commission along with having them attend one of their meeting to see what the impact to closing the road would be.

D. Poliquin noted his concern was with Route 121A in Plaistow not with Haverhill.

S. Fitzgerald suggested to find out how the road effects public safety in Plaistow.

R. Gray noted his interest was with reducing truck traffic along Main Street.

J. Sherman discussed looking at alternate routes.

### **SIGNATURE FOLDER**

D. Poliquin noted the Signature Folder was going around however there was no Manifest.

### **SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

C. Blinn had nothing to report.

J. Sherman:

- Plaistow First meets this Wednesday at 3:30 at Town Hall. They are looking at acquisitions (properties of interest). Properties that abut Town owned properties.
- Town Report Committee met last week. Some report submissions are behind schedule. They are pursuing reports that have not come in. Leigh has a number of reports and is compiling reports for proof reading. The Committee is meeting at the Historical Society tomorrow for items to incorporate in the Town Report.
- Budget Committee met last week. They decided not to meet Tuesday night instead they will meet Wednesday night at 6:00 pm before the Public Hearing, which is Wednesday at 6:30 pm, to discuss changes/approvals that were done tonight by the Board of Selectmen. The Budget

Committee is in complete agreement with the Board of Selectmen regarding Budget and Warrant Articles. They are on the same page.

- Budget Public Hearing is Wednesday, January 11th at 6:30pm at Town Hall in the Great Room and will be broadcasted on Channel 17.

R. Gray:

- Planning Board meetings: Planning Board has had two public hearings. Tractor Supply is continued. December 21st meeting was on Town owned properties. There was a lengthy discussion on proposed changes on Zoning Articles. January 4th meeting was site application for 15 Newton Road. Person is running contractors yard out of his property and contractor yards are not allowed. He was sent to the ZBA to get a variance however the person who owned the property applied for a residential garage and was a running business out of the garage. Pictures were submitted by a neighbor regarding the on goings of the business at the premises. There was a discussion with Mr. DiPrimo who owns the building across from the new church on Corliss Hill. He wants to install apartments in the building and the Board suggested he go to see the Fire Chief before converting the rooms upstairs to living space. You are allowed one unit of living space in that zone. There was a discussion of the Master Plan's Community Facility Section and Housing Section. They are still being tweaked. Leigh came up with a proposal regarding a subcommittee of people that would work on implementing a type of strategy for due dates.
- Voting tomorrow.
- Will be available to sign boxes tomorrow after polls close.
- Will attend Town Report Advisory Committee meeting.
- Budget Public Hearing is Wednesday at 6:30 pm.
- School District Public Hearing is Thursday.
- The time to sign up for Public Offices is January 25th.

D. Poliquin:

- Meeting postponed until the 18th.
- Final Zoning Amendments posted to the Warrants.
- Suggested rewriting the wording for free standing signage.

## **NON PUBLIC**

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

***2nd by J. Sherman.***

***Board members polled: D. Poliquin = yes; C. Blinn = yes; R. Gray = yes; J. Sherman = yes***

Public Meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Audrey DeProspero