



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

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:

DATE: Monday, March 12, 2012

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:36 pm

SELECTMEN:

Chairman, Daniel Poliquin - arrived 6:37 pm
Selectman, Charles Blinn
Selectman, John Sherman

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

AGENDA:

M. Curran started the meeting 6:36 pm.

D. Poliquin arrived at 6:37 pm.

M. Curran turned the meeting over to D. Poliquin at 6:27 pm.

MINUTES:

Motion by J. Sherman to approve the Minutes of March 5, 2012 with correction to page 10. (4th paragraph: add "Cone" after Helen; delete "as do most towns"; and add "She mentioned many towns are not GASB compliant.")

2nd by R. Gray.

Vote: 4-0-1.

Abstain: M. Curran.

Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Roy Jeffrey discussed with Selectmen music at Town Hall. Prior to meeting start there was a CD playing and music was introduced to Town Hall.

R. Jeffrey inquired if the Selectmen enjoyed the music that was playing and noted he would like to have music playing in Town Hall because it breaks the silence.

S. Fitzgerald discussed the music that was playing and noted there would be more.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX OVERVIEW

S. Fitzgerald noted due to a family commitment Chief Savage could not present the PowerPoint presentation. He gave each Selectmen a handout to review and discussed details of the PowerPoint handout; space needs challenges; number of concerns that result from an old facility; and concerns associated with prisoners and dealing with the community. He noted the Chief is available next week to step the Board through his presentation.

J. Sherman was surprised the PowerPoint Presentation handout did not include anything about the Fire Department and Emergency Management. He was unsure if it had been reviewed by the Public Safety Complex Committee.

D. Poliquin noted the specific handout had not been seen by the Committee however the information listed on the slides had been discussed by the Public Safety Complex Committee.

J. Sherman thought the presentation handout should go before the Committee for a vote.

D. Poliquin noted Public Safety Complex Committee is meeting Friday, March 30th at 9:30 am.

S. Fitzgerald noted Chief Savage would be present next week to go over the PowerPoint Presentation and answer any questions or suggestions the Board may have.

UPDATE ON ELDER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

S. Fitzgerald discussed meeting of Elder Affairs held on Tuesday, March 6th at 3:00pm at Town Hall. The committee met and held a lengthy discussion regarding transportation. Transportation is a concern for the seniors and elders in Plaistow. He discussed the Committee working hard to find assistance for transportation; strategies to expand transportation; CART coming before the Committee at their next meeting of April 3rd; federal and state programs and local nonprofit programs to assist with transportation programs; quality of life; and critical transportation issues.

M. Curran noted she was glad they were bringing the transportation subject forward and there are there many options available.

R. Gray noted the Town's Human Services Department has done a terrific job consolidating organizations and would like a recommendation from that department to see if CART was a necessary agency to bring back and fund.

S. Fitzgerald noted they were just collecting additional information at this point and prior to thinking of funding or defunding he suggested they should get an idea for what is available out there and what exists currently for the Town's residents. He discussed enhancing services; investigation; good agencies; and a lot of services out there are doing multiple things.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

S. Fitzgerald discussed:

- Annual Town Reports are in. It is a wonderful report with a lot of good information and they are available at Vic Geary, Town Hall, Safety Complex, Library and on line.
- Beede Abatement application. He would provide the Board with more information in Non Public. He noted they had a good conversation.
- Meeting with Doug Gutro, Jim Brown and Kate Renahan who is replacing Stacy Greenlinger. They met to discuss the Beede Project's Community Involvement Plan.

Board discussed opinions of EPA using cable studio for Community Information update.

R. Gray noted he would not able to attend the Beede meeting on Thursday however he was concerned with the tax issue. He discussed his opinion regarding mandate to pay for Town's legal portion; EPA has selectively noted what will and will not be covered; site remediation; and mandating what they want.

Sue Sherman (Cable Committee) approached Board and informed them that the Board could not heard. She suggested they move their microphones closer to them and speak directly into them.

UPDATE ON ELDER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - CART - TIM MOORE

T. Moore discussed working with Elder Affairs Committee and their transportation issue which revolved around two areas: Parking around Town Hall and transportation.

Parking around Town Hall

T. Moore discussed parking around Town Hall; handicap parking spaces pretty far from Town Hall; the need to have the handicap spaces closer to Town Hall; and working with Paul Surette to come up with a couple different proposals as to where they might be able to locate the handicap parking spaces. He noted when they decide on a location they will bring the information to the Highway Safety Committee for their opinion.

S. Fitzgerald noted handicap parking was discussed at their Staff meeting this week. He discussed handicap parking spaces in the horseshoe driveway of Town Hall; better curb cut need; working with NHDOT on the curb cut; current curb is a tripping hazard; establishing a few improvements for a safer entrance to Town Hall; not being able to put handicap parking spaces on Town Hall Green as suggested by the Committee because of the covenants on the park; protecting the area of the park; possibly using the horseshoe driveway; and Staff working with Elder Affairs Committee.

T. Moore discussed working with people from Plan NH; sketching out some areas; all working together; issue with curb being too high; and handicap parking area in front of Town Hall is fine however curb is too high. He thought the handicap parking could be done fairly quickly and easily.

Transportation

T. Moore discussed transportation; helping neighbors with shopping, doctor appointments and whatever their needs are; persons who help their neighbors are aging themselves and are not able to help; the need for rides has increased; the helpers do not have the ability to help any longer by offering those rides; an option for those in need is the service of CART; a number of years ago CART was available in Plaistow but the demand was not there to justify the cost; the upfront cost was high; two things have changed: everyone is older and the demand for those services have gone up; services CART provides has increased; CART has expanded their area of services; and Committee's request to have CART and RPC Commissioner come to the next Elder Affairs meeting on Tuesday April 3 at 3pm to explain details and information to the Committee. He noted after they receive information they will bring the information to the Board of Selectmen.

J. Sherman noted he would like to know what additional locations CART now goes to that they previously did not go to when the Town funded them and what new services they now provide that they did not previously. He would like this information so he can do a comparison of their services from then to now.

T. Moore discussed Sun Services in Derry; fixed route services are much less expensive to administer and operate; and if a person was within a 1/2 mile of the fixed route they could call ahead and they would deviate from the fixed route to pick up the person.

J. Sherman inquired if they offered the fixed route to Plaistow.

T. Moore noted they did not when they were with Plaistow.

J. Sherman inquired if they would now offer the fixed route to Plaistow.

T. Moore believed they would.

M. Curran hoped the Committee would be looking at other options as well. She wondered if it was something they could do in their own community and start up their own services. She discussed cost effectiveness; making sure Plaistow's needs are met; and a great service just a little out of their reach. She would like to see what other services are provided and what other services are available through other organizations.

T. Moore discussed cost to those who are doing the helping for those in need.

S. Fitzgerald discussed younger generation and family members supporting care for their loved ones; CART having support services; and a number of coordinated conversations that the Board could have to support transportation.

D. Poliquin inquired about other information that the Committee had been discussing.

J. Sherman noted Sue was Elder Affairs Committee Chair and was able to answer that question.

Sue Sherman noted Tim Moore had just joined the Committee and he was their resident expert on transportation. The Committee has been working on Old Home Day. They will have a table at Old Home Day and will have a float in the parade.

D. Poliquin inquired how big of flat bed would be needed by the Committee for the parade.

S. Sherman wasn't sure of the size but would like to further their discussion.

D. Poliquin noted he had a 16 foot flat bed that he would donate to them.

S. Sherman discussed data base has increased; she has a list of persons who volunteer their time but cost is an issue for the increasing gas prices; Committee will raffle off a rocking chair that a restaurant in Derry is donating to them; the Senior Service Fair is going to be at the Fish and Game; the Fish and Game has volunteered their building to the Committee; they have 30 names on the list for transportation options; they want to be able to gather as much information as they can; veteran services is also on their list for being invited; and the agencies were impressed that they had the first fair and are willing to come back again.

M. Curran inquired if one or two parking spaces could temporarily be assigned as handicap parking.

S. Fitzgerald noted the short answer was no but they could contact NHDOT to discuss.

T. Moore discussed project taking about one month to complete.

S. Fitzgerald discussed working with schematics and making it look great with functionality of parking right in front of the ramp.

J. Sherman agreed with having the handicap parking nearer to the front door. He liked the idea of improving what the Town currently has. He was very much in favor of doing something with the transportation option for the residents in Plaistow. He noted they did not fund CART a few years back because the usage just wasn't there but was in favor of providing transportation options. He

has recently learned firsthand about transportation issues because of a family issue he has been taking care of. He like the idea of coming up with a cost effective option.

D. Poliquin requested to deviate from the topic at hand and requested for Mrs. Sherman to come forth in front of the Board. He noted he had spoken to Mrs. Sherman before however he wanted to thank her on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and residents of Plaistow for her involvement with various committees and her Town involvement. He noted recycling has been great and numbers were up significantly. He thanked her for her programs that she has done on Cable and noted people have had great responses to her shows.

S. Fitzgerald noted the annual recycle day was in November.

J. Sherman referenced EPA and noted the Board had more work for Mrs. Sherman. The Board agreed in general with the EPA's request to have a 30 minute Cable show regarding Community Information and he wanted to know if she wanted to be involved with the cable show.

S. Sherman noted the Cable Committee wouldn't do a live feed, they would record and then edit.

S. Fitzgerald discussed side bar conversation because the issue will concern the school district.

S. Sherman noted she would ask her work if she could come and attend the Thursday meeting.

S. Fitzgerald noted Superintendent LaSalle would be present.

J. Sherman noted the first one should be informational for the public and then subsequent meetings could be question and answer.

S. Fitzgerald suggested for Sue Sherman to contact Doug Gutro to get a feel for what he had in mind and then for them to work together.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

S. Fitzgerald discussed:

- Meeting with Police Chief Savage and Brian Farrell, Candidate for Animal Control Officer position. A conditional offer has been presented to Brian.
- Town's Stormwater Task Force is meeting this Friday, March 16th.
- Plaistow's 4th Annual Arbor Day celebration has been scheduled for the last Friday in April (27th). A tree will be planted on the Town Hall Green in memory of Ruth Jenne and tentatively scheduled for May 1st a tree will be planted at Pollard School.
- Craig Green Chair of NHDOT's Consultant Selection Committee has informed the Town that the technical proposal have all been submitted for the Plaistow MBTA project. The Town has a role in the project but are non-voting members.
- Beede Technical meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, March 15th.
- Building Inspections Department very busy with: (a) Mr. Brown has been in to request a permit for the Falls at Gunstock. This project combined 9 lots of an approved 15 lot subdivision; (b) Cemetery easement has been looked at and they are looking into the complaints regarding cemetery access. Inspector Dorman has a meeting scheduled with the neighbor this week to address the concerns; (c) Completed the energy audit for the District Court. AEC was hired by the State to conduct the audit and they would like to meet with the

Town to discuss the results.; (d) Construction projects (updates): Tractor Supply, Kohl's Department Store; Free Dog Day Care and 2 Karl's Circle.

J. Sherman requested to review the recommendations of the audit.

S. Fitzgerald noted they had done a preliminary energy audit on Town buildings.

S. Fitzgerald and J. Sherman discussed the information in the Town Manager Report regarding recommendations performed by Peregrine Consultants on Town owned properties.

- Meals on Wheels is celebrating their 40th Anniversary and the Board is invited to join them.
- Highway Safety Committee meeting is scheduled to meet on March 23rd.
- Safety Complex Committee is scheduled for March 30th at Town Hall.
- Tomorrow is Town Meeting Election Day - polls open at 7am and close at 8pm.

OTHER BUSINESS

M. Curran discussed the mounds on the Beede sight are no longer covered. The recent winds have blown the tarps around and they need to be secured. She suggested that if Sean speaks to the Beede Group that he inform them of the situation.

S. Fitzgerald noted he would contact them.

J. Sherman discussed the article that was in Sunday's Eagle Tribune. There were a couple of quotes from Sean that he wanted to discuss. John gave Sean the cut out of the article. He discussed the article regarding development in Plaistow which depicted a conflict between people who want Plaistow to remain small versus those who want it to be a commercial.

S. Fitzgerald noted he was misquoted. They speak about how important economic development was however information was taken out of context. He discussed the need to secure quality of life.

J. Sherman noted this was the top story in the Sunday Eagle Tribune and Sean was quoted as saying that commercial was the most important development.

S. Fitzgerald discussed zoning differences; representing the highest development; defining the Route 125 corridor; not having Route 125 as a busy corridor; and wanting Route 125 to be welcoming, a place to walk and connecting it throughout the community. He noted his statements were framed as some small piece of the economic development quality.

J. Sherman discussed the other statement in the paper and inquired if Sean agreed with the other statement regarding without any commercial property Plaistow's tax rate would jump.

S. Fitzgerald discussed the information they had estimated and their simple analysis.

R. Gray discussed the article and noted he spoke to Cara also. He has been involved with the Town for 20 years in one way or another and she spelled his last named incorrectly. He noted an important topic in general to have was the small town feel and having businesses on Route 125 because it is important to townspeople to know this. He thought they should be having discussions regarding the future of the Town and what people see as the future of the Town. The big topics brought forth before the Board get blow back from residents. The presentation needed at a meeting

is to determine what would happen if they did not have commercial on Route 125. He thought Sean was correct. The commercial base and industrial base is an important part of the community if they didn't have them then their taxes would go up significantly.

D. Poliquin discussed surrounding communities without as much as Plaistow and noted their rates are dramatically higher than Plaistow.

J. Sherman agreed, the tax rate would probably go up if they didn't have commercial however he didn't believe it would go up as much as was quoted in the paper. He thought they should have a presentation to discuss. He wanted to make sure Sean was accurately quoted. He thought it was unfair and inaccurate regarding the printed information that Selectmen and the Town Manager have been doing everything they can to encourage new development. He noted that was untrue. Warren Gerety was quoted and Warren is the Chairman of the Economic Development Committee and he is not a Plaistow employee and he is entitled to express his opinion. He discussed the information listed regarding properties on Route 125 and taxes was also incorrect. He noted the information regarding the MBTA article was against the layover station not the MBTA station. Those that were quoted he wanted them to have a chance to inform the public if they were quoted correctly or not.

S. Fitzgerald noted unfortunate that paper depicts items as they see fit and the information was not well reflected in that article.

D. Poliquin inquired if Cara Hogan would like to speak and/or discuss the issue at hand.

C. Hogan chose not to speak on the matter.

J. Sherman referenced letter in the FYI Folder. He inquired if Board should discuss in Non Public.

D. Poliquin noted he had not reviewed it as of yet.

J. Sherman noted Dan could review and they could discuss at a later time.

D. Poliquin felt that if the Board wanted to discuss in Non Public and then in Public later that was fine, whichever way the Board chose he was okay with it.

SIGNATURE FOLDER

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

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

J. Sherman:

- Plaistow First meets Wednesday, March 14th at 3:30 on the second floor of Town Hall. They are not finished yet but are wrapping up assignments given to them by the Selectmen. They are talking about having a presentation for the Board of Selectmen.
- Budget Committee is not meeting yet however their organizational meeting is scheduled for the first Tuesday in April.
- A brief Town Report Advisory meeting will be held the first Tuesday in April at 5:30 pm.

R. Gray:

- Could not attend Planning Board's meeting last week. It also got cancelled.
- Suggested the Board hold a Re-Organization of committees at their next meeting.

- Will pick up Town Reports to take to the Election polls to hand out.

C. Blinn:

- Attended Conservation meeting on Thursday. Phil Auger was on the agenda to discuss the land parcels that they plan on condensing and making part of the Town Forest however he did not attend. They worked on the upcoming Arbor Day celebration.
- Attended Elder Affairs Committee. They discussed their upcoming Elder Affairs Service Fair, parking around Town Hall and lack of transportation.

M. Curran:

- Planning Board cancelled due to lack of quorum.
- Lot of great activities planned for school vacation week.
- Library activities went over great. Bradford Free Skate Day was terrific. There were over 100 people in attendance.
- Vic Geary will host St. Patrick's Day this Thursday.
- Cribbage at Plaistow Library tomorrow.
- Wednesday is Family Mediation.
- Tomorrow is Election Day.

D. Poliquin:

- No meetings last week.
- Voting is tomorrow. He will be at the polls.
- Rec Commission meeting is on Wednesday.

D. Poliquin apologized for being late and informed all that his 5 year old son has an aquarium and the fish had babies so he had to take care of that.

NON PUBLIC RSA 91-A:3, II (c) MATTERS of REPUTATION and (e) NEGOTIATIONS

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

2nd by M. Curran..

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

Public Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Audrey DeProspero