

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 22, 2009 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman David Canada, Selectman Bruno Federico, and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:35 PM.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Town Treasurer Kevin Peck reported he had \$912,929.06 in the general checking account along with \$800,000 invested.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Recreation: Tara Barker presented her monthly report starting with activities occurring at Stratham Hill Park. The new playground equipment will be arriving this week. She also noted that dog complaints have decreased since the beginning of the year possibly due to the increased publicity, Park Ranger Kim Wood's efforts to educate the public and basic word of mouth.

Ms. Barker noted that parking during baseball games has become problematic. People attending the baseball games have been parking on many areas way beyond the designated parking areas during the games. New signs will be installed shortly stating that there will be no parking beyond a certain point.

Ms. Barker reported that some of the new trail signs installed by the recent Eagle Scout Service Project have been damaged and/or vandalized. It was reported to the Police Department anonymously but without adequate description of the parties involved. The Police are following up on the report.

Summer Day Camp registrations have been slow. According to Ms. Barker, the full-day day camp has been reduced to a half day due to lack of interest but that has not significantly increased enrollment. She reported that many other towns are experiencing the very same decreases.

Ms. Barker reported on the Summer Concert Series, which will begin shortly. They will be doing six concerts this year at a cost that is less than last year's concert series, which only included four concerts.

Ms. Barker then reported on an irrigation problem that has occurred at Stevens Park. Only one of the zones is working which indicates that the controller is the most likely problem.

She has received a proposal from Aquatech to winterize the Town's water systems broken down as follows: winterizing Stratham Hill Park for \$650, Stevens Park for \$150, the Municipal Center's irrigation system for \$150, and the Police Station's irrigation system for \$87.50, for a total cost of all four locations of \$1,037.50. Mr. Canada moved to accept this proposal. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Barker then reported on the Stevens Park Construction Advisory Committee. She said that John Bell, Fred Hutton, Dave Short, and she were present. The electrical conduit will be laid first before the access road is installed. Once the road is constructed after the rain stops, fill for the field will be brought in. Mr. Canada asked about the progress on the softball field. Ms. Barker said the final grades in the northeast corner of the field need to be established and re-graded to the (?) grades, then the irrigation system will need to be installed and the infield skimmed. The last task to occur in the fall with this field will be to totally reseed it. Mr. Copeland reported that much of the Great Bay Community College is Babe Ruth field materials. The fencing could be reused at Stevens Park for the construction of the new field. Ms. Barker said she will contact the President of the Great Bay Community College to confirm that those materials belong to the Town, or if they belong to the College, that they do not object to the Town taking them.

Assessing: Andrea Lewy handed out her recommendations for abatements (please see attached). Mr. Canada moved to adopt Ms. Lewy's nine recommendations on these abatements. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy then reviewed her recommendations concerning applications for the Veteran's credit (also see attached). Mr. Canada moved to accept Ms. Lewy's recommendations concerning the applications for Veteran's tax credit. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy updated the Board on the status of the revaluation. Most of the fieldwork has been done. What remains to be done should be completed during the next two weeks. She is still evaluating sales in Town for sales comparisons. The final draft of the proposed values is hoped to be done by mid to end of July with notices going out then. She expected to have hearings during the middle of August and finalizing the values shortly thereafter.

Ms. Lewy reported on the mapping project, which is also almost done. She hopes to have the final drafts of the maps done before the end of the week. Members of the office are crosschecking a list of plans provided to the mappers to a list compiled of subdivision plans at the Registry of Deeds. This should be the last check of accuracy to ensure that all the subdivisions have been represented accurately on the new tax maps.

Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss several elderly exemption applications due to the financial information disclosed in the applications and also to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 9:37 PM, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the confidential financial information included in the elderly exemption applications and the personnel issues discussed. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Administration: Mr. Deschaine reported that the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning quotes are still coming and need further review.

Mr. Deschaine then reported that despite what was reported at last week's meeting, the IEU has officially voted not to accept the Town's counter offer for the sale of the Old Engine 2. The IEU

has obtained two other engines by donation and no longer needs or is interested in Stratham's engine. Mr. Canada stated he had several websites to list the fire engine on a consignment basis. These would all be non-exclusive listings. Mr. Canada would post on these lists if the Board approved to do so. Mr. Canada moved to post with Fintons for a 7% commission fee and Craigslist at an asking price of \$20,000. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Deschaine will also post the sale of the engine with the Local Government Center's site. Mr. Federico asked about govdeals.com's site. Mr. Canada said they would post on that site too if they do not require an exclusive listing.

Mr. Federico asked if Crow Construction has been forward quotes for all the subcontractors. Mr. Canada said that there have not been a lot of subcontractors used to date.

Mr. Federico asked about the water tests at the Highway Garage. He questioned who was going to do that test. It was the general understanding that Mr. Hutton would do so.

It was noted that there is a project meeting this coming Thursday at which time the Board would receive public input on hiring a new Planner and also discuss the Police Department's Standard Operating Procedures.

Mr. Canada asked if the holiday had been set for observing Independence Day since the Fourth of July occurs on Saturday. Mr. Deschaine stated that July 3, 2009 is the alternate date for the observance. He asked; however, if the Board intended to meet the following Monday as its part of the observance. Members of the Board of Selectman decided to meet as regularly scheduled.

Mr. Canada then moved to approve the minutes of May 6th as presented and May 11th as amended by his email comments earlier in the day. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine reported that Municipal Resources, Inc. is scheduled to meet with the Board next Monday, June 29, 2009.

Mr. Canada asked about developing an RFP for monitoring the landfill. Mr. Federico and Mr. Copeland agreed that it might be useful to do so. Mr. Deschaine mentioned that he presently does not have an RFP for those services and would have to draft a new one from scratch.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED THIS WEEK/MEETINGS TO REPORT ON:

There was a review of meetings scheduled in the coming week and meetings held during the past week.

The Rockingham Planning Commission is working with the Planning Board on updating the Transportation Master Plan. They should have a new draft ready in approximately two weeks and would consist of about an hour's discussion.

PARK PERMITS/MUNICIPAL CENTER RENTALS:

The following Park permits were reviewed and authorized by the Board:

Shelley Browne for use of the Municipal Center for a graduation on June 26, 2009. Mr. Copeland moved to waive the fee since Ms. Browne is married to a Fire Department member. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Andrea Morris, of Seacoast Dialysis, for use of the Front Pavilion at the Park on August 16, 2009. The Board approved that use.

Ray Tweetie of the Seacoast Board of Realtors was present to discuss two charity events to be held at Stratham Hill Park. One was a charity softball game and the other was a charity yard sale at which they will sell space to members of the Board of Realtors and their affiliates to sell items during the sale. Mr. Federico questioned if any of the sales will be commercial in nature. Mr. Tweetie explained since they are members and that they are not normally public vendors, they will be well regulated as members of the Board of Realtors. Mr. Copeland questioned the need for a hawkers and peddlers permit. Mr. Canada asked Mr. Deschaine about the need for the permit. Mr. Deschaine explained the details of the hawkers and peddlers ordinance and previous efforts to issue a master permit in the case of charity events. Mr. Tweetie explained that they have a clean-up committee to clean up after the event. The Board decided that there was no need to require a hawkers and peddlers permit as long as the list of participants is provided to the Police Department. Mr. Federico moved to waive the fee for the use for both events. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:25 PM, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss the negotiation of contract terms and a personnel issue. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 10:56 PM, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session, to seal the minutes due to the personnel matters and contract negotiations discussed, and to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reviewed By,

Norma Corrow
Recording Secretary

Paul Deschaine
Town Administrator