

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MAY 11, 2009

MEMORIAL BUILDING

7:00 P.M.

The following are to be considered draft minutes only until approved by the Board at their next meeting.

Present: John Chiarella, Dave Tucker, and Don Hill

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

John Chiarella reported he had been contacted by John Trachy regarding an open well on the Brook Lot on Shad Hill found by Conservation Commission members during a site walk there.

John Chiarella discussed the subject of an easement for a trail to Royal Arch. He would like the Board to consider meeting with the landowners to discuss this.

Tom Duling, Code Enforcement Officer met with the Board. He made a site visit to the Panaroni property on May 9th. Hay bales are in place for erosion control, and the property owner has indicated he has someone who will help him install further siltation fence.

Tom stated he has received a building application for George Emery. Mr. Emery had met with the Planning Board regarding the construction of a new home on his property. He wished to keep the existing mobile home as a rental, and live in the new house. The Planning Board indicated that he did not have enough acreage to support two dwelling units on the parcel. Tom questioned whether Mr. Emery should be given a time limit to remove the existing mobile home. The septic plan does indicate the mobile home is to be removed. The Board did not place a time limit on the application as the property owner was told by the Planning Board that there could not be two dwelling units on the property.

Street Lighting:

Tamara Butcher met with the Board to review lighting options and financial programs offered by PSNH. John Chiarella moved to replace existing mercury vapor lights with high pressure sodium, full cut-off lighting, using the Smart Stat funding option provided through PSNH. The motions was seconded by Don and unanimously approved.

Highway Department:

Brad Butcher, Road Agent, met with the Board. Brad reported he has found a used International dump truck through S.G. Reed. He and Gene have looked at the truck and taken a test drive. SG Reed will go through the truck before delivery. The trade-in allowance for the old truck will allow for some additional options to be added. The Board voted unanimously to support Brad's decision regarding the replacement highway vehicle.

Furnaces:

Brad stated the four existing Modine heaters at the highway/fire garage are in need of replacement. The heat exchangers are rusted through due to water sitting on them from the venting system. Mason Wheeler has suggested building a chimney to eliminate the water problem. The Selectmen agreed this project was proposed at budget time and needs to be taken care of. A wood-chip burning furnace had been discussed, but the Board felt that there would not be money enough to get into that kind of replacement. Waste oil burners were discussed. Brad stated he does not have enough waste oil to make it worthwhile. Brad will begin looking into proposals for replacement. The Selectmen stated they would need to put together specifications regarding requirements for BTU's, fuel type, concerns with condensation, and venting.

John Chiarella would like to see if there is money in the federal stimulus bill that would assist in energy conservation to seal the bottoms of the garage doors to eliminate the amount of cold air that comes in through them.

The Board stated they would also like to meet with Mason to do a walk-through at the Town Hall building now that he has made the plumbing changes.

Custodial Services:

Brad reported that Clinton Rowell has begun custodial duties. Lisa Morcom has resigned her position. She is continuing her education. The Board wishes Lisa well.

Police Department:

Tim Julian, Police Chief, met with the Board. Dave Tucker contacted him regarding the Yield sign at the intersection of Four Corners and Bowman Road. Dave would like to submit a request for a Stop sign there. Tim stated the Department of Transportation requires a letter of request from the Board of Selectmen. The Board discussed options, and will suggest replacing the Yield with a Stop or making a three-way stop at the intersection. John Chiarella suggested the State should also take a look at the grade at the intersection for traffic and trucks turning the corner toward Route 4A.

Tim reported that Sergeant Michael Beaulieu has recently graduated from Supervisor's Training at Roger Williams in Rhode Island. The Selectmen extend their congratulations to Sergeant Beaulieu.

The Board agreed that the Police Department no longer needs to maintain the daily duty and cruiser logs.

Tim reported the court returned a decision in favor of the Town in the small claims action taken by Gateway Motors against the Town. The judge did not approve the claim to have Town legal fees paid by Gateway.

Recreation Field:

Tim discussed with the Board some parking issues at the basketball court. Signage and parking issues were discussed. John Chiarella would like to take a look at the list of what needs to be done and begin scheduling some of the projects.

Fire Department:

The Board approved the bid received for the old fire truck.

Minutes: The Minutes of April 27, 2009 were changed to correct the spelling of John Chiarella's name and then unanimously approved as amended.

The Selectmen's meeting schedule was discussed. In view of the observance of Memorial Day, the Selectmen will meet on Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00 p.m. Regular meetings will now be held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays instead of Tuesday evenings due to scheduling conflicts. The Board agreed to hold one meeting on Monday, July 6 to discuss Old Home Day only.

The Selectmen would like to schedule a daytime meeting for late September to meet with Department Heads as part of the annual review process.

Newport Area Food Pantry: The Selectmen unanimously approved a \$300.00 contribution to the Newport Area Food Pantry to help offset costs for providing food to area residents. The Board also gave approval for a food collection box to be set up in the Town Office Foyer.

Department Updates:

Dave stated he had requested that the Police Department keep police logs for a while as a way for the department to support the need for adding personnel. That has been done and he agrees it can be discontinued. John Chiarella stated he would like to see a day or two of the dispatch logs to correlate with the police logs.

Dave attended the recreation meeting. Old Home Day is approved for July 11th. The details of the event are in the planning process. The Selectmen would like a final presentation of the events and emergency contingencies.

John reported he attended a Conservation presentation in Andover last week.

The Selectmen approved a wage disbursement for Lisa Morcom for unused earned time off.

There will be an Emergency Operations Planning meeting on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

The Selectmen agreed to add the well on the Brook lot to the list of projects. Town liability was discussed. John Chiarella stated the Conservation Commission wanted it left for people to be able to look at the construction. The Selectmen agree the well probably should be filled. Filling it may be something Brad can do if it is easily accessible. John Chiarella thought perhaps the Selectmen and Conservation Commission should look at it to see if there is a way to modify the danger, and leave it aesthetically pleasing.

The Board reviewed the ongoing project list:

Some of the items that have been taken care of or are in process of being completed:, Participation with the National Flood Insurance Program and implementation of a Flood Ordinance; cemetery tree removal; fencing at the skate park; E911 renaming and renumbering of Main Street; annual audit management – implementation of revenue data entry, monthly reconciliation and internal controls; installation of new computers, networking and computer support system; updating of current use/ exemptions and credit files to comply with State requirements for 2010 statistical update; street lighting; Hazard Mitigation Plan, building alarms, implementation of reverse 911, purchase of new fire truck, purchase of new police cruiser, update of the Emergency Operations Plan, improvements to plumbing at the Town Hall.

Discussion regarding projects to consider: a 1. John would like to begin some research on access to Royal Arch. 2. E911 – the State should be here the middle of June to start data collection for the remainder of the Town. 3. John has agreed to spearhead a committee of people to complete the fencing at the recreation field, and to figure out how much money is available to proceed with parking issues, etc. 4. Coordination with the Planning Board to begin an inventory of existing home occupations and home businesses, 5. Personnel Policy updates.

Since the evening was getting late, the Selectmen then decided to each chose 2-3 actionable items to look at before the meeting on May 26th. From that list an action list will be compiled.

Correspondence:

The Selectmen approved the agreement for Code Red reverse 911

Request from other area Selectmen to reestablish Joint Board of Selectmen's meetings was approved.

Discussion regarding adding "private" signs to the private drive/road name signs established as part of E911 requirements. The Selectmen were not in favor of this as additional cost to the town. Property owners are welcome to put up their own signage.

In discussion with Janet, the Selectmen agreed not to pursue an intern through the UVLSRPC to assist in reorganization of property folders. Steps are being taken to handle this in-house.

Signatures:

Request from Tax Collector for refund of tax overpayment.

Building Permit approval.

Veteran's Exemption application approval.

Purchase orders approved.

14 Timber Tax Levies assessed and approved.

The Selectmen voted to adjourn at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Roberts,
Administrative Assistant