

**Enfield Board of Selectmen
Whitney Hall
Enfield, New Hampshire**

MINUTES of June 16, 2008

Board of Selectmen: Rebecca S. Stewart, Chairman; Donald J. Crate, Sr.; John W. Kluge

Administrative Staff: Steven Schneider, Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Recording Secretary

Others: Paul Currier, Kurt Gotthardt, Jeff Snow, Dan Kiley

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kluge moved to approve the regular session minutes of June 2, 2008 as printed; Mrs. Stewart seconded, vote unanimous.

Mr. Kluge moved to approve the non-public session minutes of June 2, 2008 as printed; Mrs. Stewart seconded, vote unanimous.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

Howard Clark Commendation and Appreciation for Transfer Station:

The Board received a commendation for Andy MacDonald and Alfred Grace on their excellent management of the Transfer Station, with thanks also extended to Ken Daniels.

In addition to their excellent management of the site, they also collect Box Tops for Education and turn them over to the PTA to benefit the school. They also save egg cartons for reuse.

A copy of the commendation will be included in their personnel files.

Whaleback Mountain Christmas in July Battle of the Bands event

Whaleback Mountain has a concert each summer. The Selectmen were provided with a copy of a letter to Whaleback Mountain LLC outlining the Town's understanding of the event. They have coordinated with Phil Neily and the Police Department. It is hoped as they become more seasoned at this they can have more of them, making it a good destination point.

Mascoma Lake Association Spring 2008 Newsletter & By-Laws

The Mascoma Lake Association is a very active group. They have their own boat to do milfoil remediation. They're diligent about loon protection, especially the chicks, and do water testing.

Mrs. Stewart inquired about the non-motorized crafts sign for Shaker Bridge Landing. She was informed that it's on order.

Mr. Kluge noted that at one time there was a sign for parking at the Boat Launch for boat trailers only. The launch has been packed with cars and there's no room for trailers. Discussion ensued regarding the need for marking and plans for paving that have been stalled due to budget considerations. Quotes for paving were obtained, but the cost would be about \$20,000.

There is a person there, but that person is not a Town employee and is there to watch boats for vegetation.

IV. BOARD REPORTS**Planning Board:**

While Mr. Kluge was not able to attend he heard there were some interesting moments at the last Planning Board meeting regarding the river designation proposal. The vote was inconclusive and there were a lot of abstentions. The Planning Board is debating whether to provide a letter of support.

While the issue was sent over to the Planning Board it is ultimately the decision of the Board of Selectmen. The Conservation Commission has already voted to support the application for a study.

The Planning Board also heard a conceptual for the Laramie Farms development proposal. They've increased the project to 154 rental units in eight buildings: 78 2-bedroom units, 42 3-bedroom units and 34 1-bedroom units. They will be rented at market rates. The buildings will be similar to the one near the CCB in Lebanon.

Selectman Donald Crate arrived at the meeting at this time.

The access road into the development might be too long. The maximum allowable for a dead end road is 2000'. They are requesting 3000' to 3500'.

Dan Kiley also noted that there is an issue with the height of the proposed buildings. The Town doesn't have a ladder long enough to reach the top floor at the proposed height.

Capital Improvement Program Committee:

The CIP Committee is scheduled to meet on June 24 at 6:00 PM at the Department of Public Works.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**Water/Sewer Delinquencies:**

Letters were sent to Water/Sewer customers who were delinquent and met the criteria set by the Board of Selectmen of \$250 and/or 2 quarters past due. Some commitments for payments have been received.

Sale of Property:

No word has been received from George Faux regarding the Boys Camp Road property. It will be put back up for sale at the next auction.

Anne's Place:

Diane Heed, Human Services Director, contacted Anne's Place. Mr. Kluge noted that they have mowed the lawn.

Wheeler Sewer Connection:

Mr. Schneider spoke to the Wheeler's and they understand that the Town has waived only the sewer connection fee, not construction costs.

Verizon Tower:

Mr. Schneider has emailed Verizon's attorney regarding the planned tower. No response has been received.

FairPoint Equipment ~ High Street:

FairPoint will remove the stand and lower the cabinet as low as possible. They may have to do a small amount of excavation and a small retaining wall, so they can open the door.

Whitney Hall Painting:

The Board should have received an email from Mr. Schneider with a copy of the painting RFP (Request For Proposals). Mr. Schneider hopes to get the RFP out soon.

Budget Update:

Wendy Huntley sends copies of the budget reports in Adobe format by email to the Board of Selectmen and department heads. Some may have trouble opening the document due to its size, so Mr. Schneider provided hard copies to the Board. Mr. Schneider reviewed with the Board the remaining percentage of the budget overall, and brought attention to some lines that are nearly expended, specifically Highway Overtime and Highway Diesel Fuel. The difference will be made up by pavement maintenance. Of the \$170,000 budgeted for pavement maintenance, \$60,000 is now planned. The budget will be reviewed again this fall to see if additional paving projects can be undertaken. The roads will be safe for winter, but long-term heavy maintenance will be delayed.

Capital needs will not be sacrificed; savings will instead come from the operational side of the budget.

Interest revenues are down due to falling interest rates, but the Trustees of Trust Funds will do the best job possible for the Town.

Out of the Office:

Mr. Schneider will be out of the office at a conference Wednesday, Thursday and most of Friday. He will also be out of the office a few days next week.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**Kurt Gotthardt ~ Right-to-Know Law:**

Mr. Gotthardt requested a policy for Town boards pertaining to the sealing of minutes of non-public sessions and when that should occur. State law is moot on this point. After discussion, the Board determined that a vote to seal the minutes could only logically be made after the non-public session has been completed and a vote to come out of non-public session has been made. So, for the Board's perspective a vote to seal the minutes is always after the non-public session is completed or it's not a binding vote. It was recommended to Mr. Gotthardt that he contact the Enfield representative to propose clarification on the State level.

Dan Kiley ~ Laramie Farms Development:

Mr. Kiley alerted the Board that a hearing on the Laramie Farms development is coming up; they may want to be there. This is going to be the largest project Enfield has had.

The project will have a major impact on the TIF (Tax Increment Finance) District. All of the tax money, including the school portion, will go to the TIF fund, so the rest of the Town will pick up the school portion.

Mr. Schneider explained that the TIF District is not a forever designation. It is only the taxes realized from an increase in valuation that goes into the TIF fund. The money could then pay for a sewer extension.

Mr. Crate asked if there was water enough in the municipal system to supply them. He was informed that is an issue for the developers. The Town is looking for an additional water source on the south side of Mascoma Lake. The Town has an easement on Iskandar land at the end of Evenchance Road. Attempts have been made to access State land to look for water, but the State won't allow it. There is a possibility of negotiating with other landowners on the south side of Mascoma Lake. If there isn't enough water in the municipal system to supply the Laramie Farms development they may have to find their own water source.

Mr. Crate expressed his concerns over the State approved access to the development from US Route 4. He would have liked a public hearing to be held before the State approved the access, which is located across from the roller skating rink. He also is concerned about a possibility of accidents on Route 4. He would prefer access off Maple Street.

Mr. Crate pointed out that the development would put a burden on the Town's emergency services. Mr. Kiley added that they would need a pump station on the property.

The State has already approved access, but approval of the development is an issue for the Planning Board. The Planning Board could be considered during the review process.

The Board discussed the Town's options for control of development so it's done in a manner that addresses safety issues, water needs and other impacts on Town services.

As the last presentation to the Planning Board was simply a conceptual, the Selectmen still have time to do strategic planning.

The meeting was closed to public comments at 7:25 PM.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Mud Pond Road:

Police Chief Crate went out last week with Paul Currier to walk Mud Pond Road. The road is in worse shape than before due to smaller vehicles rather than large trucks. Steps will be taken to enforce weight limits. The weight limit signs are on order.

Jeff Snow pointed out that 4-wheelers and ATVs have caused problems, some by getting down into the brook.

Discussion ensued regarding steps that can be taken to protect Mud Pond Road. The snowmobile club is going to take steps to clear up the mud on the road, which Mr. Schneider believes will make the road less inviting. The club will work on this project when they have completed a project they are currently working on in Canaan.

The Board also discussed briefly the legality of riding ATV's over a certain distance on roadways.

To permanently gate it, the town could designate Mud Pond Road as a trail. This would require a vote of Town Meeting. Designating the road as a trail allows the Selectmen to place restrictions on its use that could protect it. The Board will consider this only if other steps don't work.

WCNH.net:

Mr. Schneider will be going to West Virginia and Tennessee to visit the two communities with fiber networks. He will leave Sunday, July 13 and return Tuesday, July 15.

Library:

The Board was provided pictures of the proposed site, history room and second floor looking down into the first floor. In the second floor interior picture, to the left would be the children's section and to the right would be the fiction section. The children's section was located where it was so it would be located in a space away from other patrons.

Mrs. Stewart questioned the cut out in the second floor overlooking the first floor. It was explained that this is so a single staff member can monitor both floors, if not by seeing what is going on, by hearing it. Mrs. Stewart added that the cutout reduces the usable square footage of the building. She also has a concern about heating.

Consideration was given in the building design where stacks would fit.

Mr. Schneider shared with the Board a survey of the Whitney Hall and surrounding lots.

Soil testing was done. There's organic material until you reach rock; nothing that would preclude putting the building in the proposed location. The stakes behind Whitney Hall are where the corners of the building would be. The trees on the bank would remain.

The current illustration pushes parking away from the existing building, but parking is not defined yet. The Board discussed parking layout and how it would affect visitors and winter parking lot maintenance.

Mr. Kiley shared information on the new Concord library, which is costing more in land acquisition than the total cost of the Enfield Library project.

The Board discussed the definition of a library and the needs of the community, including demographics besides children. Mr. Schneider stressed the need to have adaptability for the changing needs of the community, whatever those needs might be. It needs to be a functioning building in another 100 years.

Cable TV:

Today and tomorrow Comcast will be installing fiber from Shaker Hill to the Public Works Facility. The infrastructure will be done by the end of tomorrow. Administrative organization is on going. The Town will have liberal sharing of programming with CATV.

The Enfield channel will replace one of the two existing cable access channels. The Board of Directors established for governance of the Enfield channel will determine programming.

Mr. Gotthardt asked if a Town board could vote not to have their meeting taped. Mr. Gotthardt was informed that they are public meetings and therefore can be taped.

Mr. Crate left the meeting at this time due to business.

National Historic District Application

The Board received an email from the Preservation Company regarding the fieldwork performed for the National Historic District application. The Heritage Commission will perform some of the paperwork in order to save money.

There were some issues about the boundary, which may become somewhat smaller than expected, but will not become larger. An enlarged boundary would require a vote of Town Meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Donations to the Town:

Two donations were made to the Town, which exceed \$500 in value: a 10KW generator and tires for the Fire Department rescue truck. A public hearing must be held to accept these donations and was scheduled for the next Selectboard meeting.

Administrative Items:

The Board reviewed and approved the following documents: dog warrant for unlicensed dogs, board and committee appointments previously made.

IX. OTHER ITEMS

Next Meeting:

Monday, July 7, 2008, 6:00 PM, Whitney Hall Conference Room

Mr. Kiley asked if the Selectmen were going to hold a meeting at Enfield Center like they had in the past. Mrs. Stewart pointed out that the building is used for storage now.

Roadway Lines and Crosswalks:

Mrs. Stewart asked if the Town would be repainting lines crosswalks would be repainted. Mr. Schneider replied that the crosswalks on Main Street would probably be repainted only if the Town did it. The State would probably allow the Town to do it if they are consulted first.

Mrs. Stewart added that the lines on her road are all gone.

Anne's Place:

Mr. Kluge asked if Anne's Place was originally geared toward women. He was informed that it was, but they can't discriminate so it's now for abused persons.

CONFERENCE

I. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kluge moved to adjourn at 8:01 PM; Mrs. Stewart seconded, vote unanimous.