

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

**MINUTES of August 18, 2008**

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

**Administrative Staff:** Steven Schneider, Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Executive Assistant; Ken Daniels, Director of Public Works; Richard A. Crate, Jr., Chief of Police

**Others:** Lynn Wheeler

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

**II. BUSINESS**

**Whitney Hall Painting:**

The Board selected colors for the exterior painting of Whitney Hall. Samples of the colors will be requested before the final decision is made.

**Traffic Studies for Laramie Subdivision:**

The Selectmen received copies of the traffic studies of the Laramie Subdivision.

The study says traffic volume from the subdivision won't affect overall volume. Mr. Kluge pointed out that it's not the volume or traffic the Selectmen are concerned about, but the turning pattern.

Mr. Schneider noted that getting out of the subdivision during peak hours wouldn't be easy.

Chief Crate cited the biggest issue as traffic coming home at night and making a left hand turn into the subdivision. A problem may occur when cars are stopped coming down the hill and traffic becomes backed up onto Drybridge Hill. The State will have to ramp up the winter maintenance of Route 4.

The Board discussed traffic levels and speeds. Due to the amount of traffic in the area speeds aren't that high. If traffic is stopped it backs up quite quickly for long distances.

Mr. Schneider pointed out that the study doesn't address if a traffic light would be needed. The intersection of Maple, Main and US Route 4 doesn't meet the standard for a peak hour traffic light.

Discussion ensued regarding pedestrian access to the village.

Mrs. Stewart acknowledged that this is a difficult issue. The Town needs house, but this has the potential to create traffic havoc.

**Bear Baiting Permit:**

The Board discussed a request for permission to bait bears on the Town-owned Bicknell Trail property on Grafton Pond Road. Mr. Schneider contacted the Land Trust and they were fine with it. The person making the request identified the location they wanted to bait; 300' from the trail. The permit, if granted, would be good for one season, which begins the first part of September until deer season and then back again until the end of the year.

Concerns centered around the luring of bear to a recreational area. Discussion was not for or against hunting, but about the proximity of the location to a frequently used hiking trail.

Ken Daniels pointed out that if there's an individual hunting bear they will never see one. The only choice, as a lone individual, is to bait them.

The Board tabled the issue pending the arrival of Mr. Crate. Barring a differing opinion from Mr. Crate the Board indicated that the request would likely be denied.

Upon his arrival, Mr. Crate indicated that he was not in favor of approving the requested permit for bear baiting, therefore the permit was denied.

Mrs. Stewart added that the Board might reconsider if the individual want to bait on some other Town-owned property that is not frequented by so many individuals.

**Lynn Wheeler ~ Candidate for Register of Deeds:**

Lynn Wheeler introduced herself to the Board of Selectmen as a candidate for the elected office of Grafton County Register of Deeds. She asked the Board members to consider her as a candidate.

**Strategic Planning:**

The following issues were identified as important issues to consider and address (in no particular order):

- Funding schools, impact on the level of taxation/tax rate pressures
- Growth of the region, traffic increases, transportation needs. Increased traffic will bring those things that traffic needs.
- Population increase
- Levels of services – emergency services - new emergency facility, more paid personnel in Fire, Police and Ambulance, water/sewer infrastructure – capacity for services area, extensions of system, new facilities for water/sewer.
- Environmental protection, stormwater treatment
- Sense of community
- Infrastructure upgrades – roads, bridges, telecommunication lines

- Main Street development – parking, commercial activity, mixed use, day-time and night-time uses
- Communication with residents
- Funding resources – potential in the next 5 years of change in method of taxation, possible impact of new State taxes, funding sources for Town services
- Recycling & solid waste – how funded?
- Lakes usage – buildings. Do we want a marina? No? Never?
- Natural resources impacts
- Economic development through tourism
- Loss of rural character. Defining rural character is the hard part.
- Recreation – expanding programming, utilize natural resources, partner with Lions and other non-profits
- State impacts on Town operations
- Commercial development – focus on grocery store, essential services, increased walking opportunities in the village area
- Alternative transportation, bike lanes

Levels of services will impact the tax rate. How is the role of Enfield in the Upper Valley changing? Enfield used to be a big manufacturing town.

The Selectmen will hold another strategic planning session at the second meeting in September.

**Other Business:**

Mr. Crate noticed weeds and grass growing at the curbing and between the sidewalk and the stonewall on Main Street near High Street.

Chief Crate pointed out a problem with a bush encroaching on the sidewalk near the Perillo residence.

Discussion ensued regarding hazards on roadways or sidewalks. The Town has to know an area is deficient and not have done anything to address the problem in order to be held liable for damages. There is a hazard on Main Street that's marked by a State cone.

Mr. Crate mentioned a problem with a clogged culvert that has caused flooding at a perimeter drain and seeped through the walls of a residence. Mr. Daniels replied that the paperwork has been filed with Concord and work cannot begin until the State approves it.

Mrs. Stewart noted that the flog pole light in front of Whitney Hall has been smashed and is not plugged in. A solar light is needed.

**Non-Public Session:**

Mr. Kluge moved to enter non-public session at 7:52 PM, RSA 91-A:3 II (a); Mr. Crate seconded. Roll call vote: Mr. Kluge – aye, Mr. Crate – aye, Mrs. Stewart – aye, motion carried.

Mr. Kluge moved to come out of non-public session at 8:00 PM; Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Crate moved to adjourn at 8:00 PM; Mr. Kluge seconded, motion carried.