

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

**MINUTES of November 20, 2000**

**Board of Selectmen:** Ilene P. Reed, Chairman; Keith Oppenneer  
Donald J. Crate, Sr.-absent due to business

**Administrative Staff:** Stephen B. Griffin, Assistant Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette,  
Secretary; Ken Daniels, Director of Public Works

**Others:** Bill Bittinger

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Oppenneer moved to approve the minutes of 6 November 2000; Mrs. Reed seconded; vote unanimous.

**BUSINESS**

**Sewer Extension Proposal/Anne's Place:**

Bill Bittinger is the Project Manager with a group of community organizations. These groups want to provide housing to allow individuals to regain their independence. Silvaray is planning a move to Newport in the next year or year and a half. This site is a suitable location for this type of housing. Plans are to renovate the existing 15-bed facility into 8 apartments and later to add another 6 apartments on the 4.9 acres for a total of 14 apartments with services for residents. This proposal will be presented to the Planning and Zoning Boards. Mr. Bittinger wondered if a sewer line extension might be appropriate.

Mr. Griffin noted that this project, in terms of funding, might need Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and need town sponsorship. A sewer extension would probably not qualify for CDBG funding, as it would serve too many residents that do not meet low to moderate-income requirements.

Mr. Oppenneer expressed concern about the property would be exempt from property tax yet house a number of families with children going to local schools. Mr. Bittinger assured the Board that the property would not be exempt from property tax. The residents, primarily adult women with children, will pay taxes through their payment to the landlord. With 14 apartments there

would be approximately 30 people living in the development with probably 2/3 of the children being of pre-school age. Twin Pines Housing Trust will be the owner. As a non-profit agency, it would be possible for them to request a waiver of property taxes, but they want to pay their fair share.

Mrs. Reed wondered if they had any experience with this kind of thing. Mr. Bittinger informed the Board of the project in Lebanon near the Carl Witherall Center.

The proposed project in Enfield would be for assisting people to get back on their feet. LISTEN will help. People will need to apply for housing there and must be income qualified. Some of the residents will work; some will take training courses to improve their chances of finding employment. This will not be a shelter but the next step after a shelter.

Mr. Griffin pointed out that at a shelter there is protection for the residents, how does this fit in? Mr. Bittinger replied that there would be a staff member working probably from mid-afternoon until early evening; he is not aware of any special needs.

Mr. Daniels explained that a gravity sewer line could be run from the hill west to Baltic Street. Another gravity line can run from the hill east to McConnell Road, down to the rail trail and parallel to the rail trail to Baltic Street. We believe we could then run a gravity line to the commercial properties further east on Route 4. No pump station would be required.

Mr. Oppeneer wondered if any public money would be available. Mr. Griffin said yes, Rural Development would loan up to 55% of the total cost at 5% interest, plus a 40% grant. The users, not the town, would pay for the project. Mr. Griffin recommended applying for a water pollution control grant in the amount of \$450,000. This pre-application would not commit the town.

Mrs. Reed asked if there are any wetlands on the property. Mr. Bittinger presented a rough plan of the project, prepared by T&M Associates, that identifies some wet land.

Some outside improvements were discussed, such as safer ways for pedestrians to get to local stores.

Mr. Oppeneer moved to authorize the pre-application for a State water pollution control grant in the amount of \$450,000; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

Mr. Bittinger asked for some indication of support for a CDBG application. The Board granted support for the project since school impacts, safety and sewer issues have been addressed.

### **Knox River Bridge:**

The State of NH has come back to the town and believes their maintenance crew can fix the Knox River Bridge for less than previously thought.

Mr. Daniels spoke with Bob Barry of NH Dept of Transportation and for just under \$100,000 total they think they can remove the chunk of concrete wall that is deteriorated and cast a patch in place. They can also cast in place a deck and install new decking. This repair should give us another 20 years. We are still in the process of a temporary fix. The town has salvage rights. The total cost out of the town's pocket is \$28,000-30,000. The fix will still take 6 weeks.

The long-term fix would take place during the next construction season, during the summer months. The Public Works Department needs the Selectmen's direction to proceed with the repair for the long-term fix. Prior proposals provided a 50-year fix. With the new proposal the town will get 40% longevity but at less than 30% of the cost.

Mr. Griffin asked if the town could get a sidewalk included in the repair. Mr. Daniels replied that a sidewalk would cost extra. Currently, there is a narrow bridge and for the amount of traffic, 20 feet rail to rail is sufficient.

The Board discussed a covered bridge, which they feel would be too tall, narrow and short, and railing options.

Mr. Oppeneer moved to direct the Department of Public Works to proceed with the fix at a cost of approximately \$100,000; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

**Transfer from Capital Reserve:**

The Water Department spent \$7,096.56 for the town's portion of a water main extension. Mr. Oppeneer moved to authorize the transfer of \$7,096.56 from the Municipal Water System Capital Reserve Fund to the Maintenance and Distribution System line; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

**Department of Public Works Facilities Report:**

Mr. Oppeneer believes the Budget Committee would be a strong support of the new DPW facility. The Budget Committee would like the Board of Selectmen to give the go-ahead for the project as one amount up front. Mr. Oppeneer would also like authorization to contact Mascoma Savings Bank regarding a municipal loan versus bonding.

Mr. Oppeneer moved to tell the Budget Committee that the Selectmen support the DPW facilities with construction of the entire facility as a single project and financing over a 10-year period; Mrs. Reed seconded; vote unanimous.

**Community Center Site Plan:**

Mrs. Reed moved to concur with the Community Center Site Plan Committee's concept; Mr. Oppeneer seconded, vote unanimous.

Ken Hill spoke with Mr. Griffin last week and he would like the town to do an engineered site plan and foundation plan. Mr. Griffin assured him this could happen, probably during the month of January.

**Library Parking:**

The Board received a letter from Larry Gardner regarding the condition of the parking in front of Whitney Hall and response sent by the Assistant Town Manager.

**Other Business:**

The Board of Selectmen approved the application for the Annual Installment of State Grant and Land Use Change Tax.

Mr. Oppeneer moved to approve a veteran's exemption as presented; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.

The Selectmen's meeting schedule for January 2001 will be Tuesday, January 9 and Monday, January 22.

### **CITIZENS FORUM**

No citizens were present.

### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

A notice to taxpayers regarding the delay in the tax bills was presented to the Board for approval. The Board concurred.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/CORRESPONDENCE**

Austin and Joyce Flint letter of 11/10/00, re: Knox River Bridge

Dave Tatham e-mail of 11/10/00, re: Knox River Bridge and Recycling. The Selectmen would like an analysis of the cost per resident for curbside rubbish collection under the current system versus a pay-as-you-throw program. Information to include in the analysis is the breakeven point for such a program, environmental impacts, extended landfill life and tax impact, and potential increases once the Lebanon Landfill can no longer accept solid waste from Enfield.

Pay-As-You-Throw fact sheet and information.

GASB 34: New financial reporting requirements.

Ken Daniels letter re: Logging operations on Tax Map 35 Lots 29, 36 & 37.

Sandra Eastman letter and response from ATM re: Riverside Dr. drainage.

West Central Behavioral Health letter of commendation to the Enfield Police Department and Lt. Scott Thompson

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Reed moved to adjourn at 7:02pm; Mr. Oppenheer seconded, vote unanimous.