

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

**MINUTES of February 16, 2016**

**Board of Selectmen:** Donald J. Crate, Sr., Chairman; John W. Kluge  
**Absent/Excused:** Fred Cummings

**Administrative Staff:** Steven Schneider, Town Manager; Alisa Bonnette, Assistant Town Manager; Jim Taylor, Director of Public Works; Melissa Hutson, Town Librarian; Karol Hammer, Recording Secretary

**Others:** David Beaufait, James Bonner (video); Dan Kiley, Meredith Smith, Nancy Smith, Cindy Wells, and others.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the February 2 Board minutes and the February 3 Public Hearing on the 2016 Budget was tabled until the next meeting for lack of a Board attendee quorum.

**III. COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**IV. BOARD REPORTS**

None

**V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Solid Waste Collection:**

Mr. Schneider said that Casella has begun using just one truck – a ‘one-arm bandit’ for Enfield collections. Some residents have found stickers, instructing them to place their barrels on the opposite side of the street on collection days. This requirement is to accommodate use of the different truck, and the requests have been limited to narrower streets and some within the village.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**VII. BUSINESS****Public Use of Whitney Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor:**

Cindy Wells asked why the Town gives exclusive use of the third floor space to the Shaker Bridge Theatre (SBT), and won't allow others to use it.

Mr. Schneider said that the Town's agreement with SBT was modeled on the agreement Lebanon has with the Lebanon Opera House group. In Enfield's case, SBT has exclusive use of the space because there was not much demand for other things except elections.

However, he said, the theatre group is there from late summer through early spring; since they aren't active for most of the summer, they may be open to other things. Their annual lease will expire in September, and the Town has the option of changing it.

He also said that the SBT has the option of deciding whether events can be scheduled while they're in production.

Ms. Wells asked if the SBT pays rent, and was told that yes, the rent covers utilities.

Nancy Smith said the SBT attracts people to Enfield and provides cultural opportunities.

Ms. Wells asked for confirmation of whether the Town would be okay with additional uses if they were negotiated with the SBT. Mr. Schneider said it would depend on who was asking; if it was a Town function then it would be a different conversation than if the use were private.

Mr. Taylor note that most people prefer the Community Building. Mr. Wells said yes, but it's very hard to get; it's booked up a lot.

Mr. Schneider said he hadn't had others pushing to use the Whitney Hall space. It would be something for the Board to consider in negotiating the next lease.

Mr. Beaufait said there had been one-off events in the past; a movie, Shoe-String Players, and other things.

Mr. Kluge asked what kinds of use Ms. Wells had in mind. She said there could be Town recreation uses, a lecture series, poetry slams...different things.

Mr. Kluge asked if those things couldn't be done in the Community Building. Ms. Wells said that, on top of being very hard to book, the Community Building has bad acoustics, it doesn't have a stage, and it is smaller.

Mr. Schneider responded that the Community Building is not smaller than the Whitney Hall space.

Mr. Beaufait said the risers and chairs are owned by the SBT, and have to be moved out or set aside for other events. Town chairs are used for Town events.

Mrs. Smith suggested the Enfield Center Town House as a possible venue; it has a wonderful stage and better acoustics than the Community Building; though it can't be used right now.

Mr. Schneider said it would be worth a discussion with the SBT group to explore possibilities for after their current season. The more use up there, the better.

Mr. Kluge mentioned that there are plans to improve the Community Building acoustics.

Mr. Schneider agreed, saying that costs have been determined, but this year's focus is to get the temperature under control.

Melissa Hutson said the Library also would be interested in using the third floor space. There are times when the Library gets very crowded, and it would be wonderful to be able to send some upstairs. For example, when two groups are at the Library, a children's story time could go upstairs.

Mrs. Smith said it would be important to protect the Theatre. It is an asset to the Town that can't be underestimated. She hopes the Town won't put pressure on the Theatre.

Mr. Beaufait said discussion of light use would be warranted. The Town does own the building.

Mrs. Smith said the Theatre is a valuable resource. Mr. Beaufait replied that the hall is, too.

**Primary Voting:**

Mr. Beaufait said the voting went well, but the current setup for the SBT, with its risers, presented a problem of space availability. By turning the check-in tables around and placing them in the middle of the room, they made it work, but things did get tight during the busy times.

Mr. Kluge said that can't happen again. It was very tight.

Mr. Beaufait agreed that adjustments would need to be made; either the risers would have to be moved for voting days, or better lighting would need to be set up in the center of the room. Battery or solar lighting would be needed so that there wouldn't be cords to deal with.

Mr. Schneider asked whether SBT was using the theatre-in-the-round (the riser setup) as its new standard, and was told it seemed to be. Mrs. Smith said it was used for all productions this season.

Mr. Kluge said something needs to change for the next voting day because the tight space on Primary day was distressing.

Mr. Beaufait said the poll staff had done the best they could, but expressed concern about the November election, saying that March traffic is easy to handle compared to November.

Mr. Kiley added that there may be more voters than people are expecting for the Town Meeting voting day. There have been a lot of new registrations.

We're back over 2,500 voters, Mr. Beaufait said. He was confident that Town Meeting will be fine; it's always a cooperative effort.

**Town Meeting:**

Mr. Schneider presented the Warrant for Board signatures. He also announced that the Library Trustees had asked that Article 3 (the bond for the new Library project) be removed. Because the request came too late to remove the Article, there will have to be a vote at Town Meeting. He said there could be a motion to take no action on the Article.

Select Board motion and second assignments for the remainder of the Town Meeting would be given to them at Town Meeting to minimize confusion.

Mr. Schneider also asked the Board to consider their timing for presence at the polls on the March 8 voting day, to ensure coverage throughout the day. Mr. Kluge said he'd be available in the evening.

A potential issue with one of the candidates for office also being a ballot clerk for elections was resolved by Dr. Beaufait, who said that the ballot clerk could be a clerk, checking voters in and out at the polls, but that she could not count ballots.

**Shaker Recreation Field Use by the School District:**

Mr. Schneider said that the School District was asking to use the same field they did last year for softball. The arrangement worked well last year, with no conflicts with recreation department programs.

When there was overlap, it had been good for the younger kids to see the older students play.

He said the School District makes improvements to the field in order to bring it to high school standards.

The Board members agreed it would be a good thing to do again.

**Lakeview:**

Mr. Schneider reported that the Town Attorney was putting the finishing touches on the agreement between the Town and Lakeview, which was shaping up to be simple and short.

Lakeview will guarantee payment, and the Town will own the extension, and future connections will be billed by the Town.

The Lakeview project, through all its required inspections, revealed that there is a previously forgotten historic district in town – a large one that begins at the new bridge over Mascoma Lake and extends three (3) miles to the south. The Lakeview project work will be within that historic district.

Mrs. Smith shared the surprise of the Historic Commission, saying none of its members knew the district existed. It had been created in 1979, in response to a 1976 or 1977 application.

It is good news for Enfield to have a second, very large historic district, she said.

Because the Lakeview project will be within the historic district (even though it will only be in the Right of Way), the Heritage Commission now must sign off on the project.

Mr. Kluge asked if the 'new' district included LaSalette and the Shaker Museum properties.

Mr. Schneider said that it did, as it extended all the way down NH Route 4A to the Shaker Family Cemetery.

**Local River Management Advisory Committee Nomination (LRMAC) – Alf Elvestad**

Mr. Schneider presented the application from Alf Elvestad to be on the LRMAC. Mr. Elvestad is a long-time resident.

Mr. Kluge moved to nominate Mr. Elvestad to the Committee. Mr. Crate seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Administrative Items:**

None

**Other Business:**

Mr. Crate received a phone call from Peter Gray, who lives on Boys Camp Road, about dirt and water running across his lawn. Mr. Taylor advised that the DPW was aware of the problem and was looking into it.

Mr. Schneider announced that Mike Crate would be starting the following week as a new full-time officer for the Enfield Police Department. Officer Crate will be attending the Police Academy in August. He has been a part time officer in Enfield for years, so very little training will be involved.

Mr. Crate asked whether there still were two (2) more openings on the Town's police force. Mr. Schneider said that yes, there were, but strong candidates have applied.

Mr. Kluge made and Mr. Crate seconded the motion to adjourn at 6:36 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting: Monday, March 7, 2016, Whitney Hall Conference Room**

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Donald J. Crate, Sr., Chairman

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John W. Kluge

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B. Fred Cummings  
Enfield Board of Selectmen