

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 21, 2009
6:30 pm Town Hall

Chr. O'Reilly called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Present: Chairman Jack O'Reilly, Selectman Stuart, Selectman Cosmas Iocovozzi (at 6:38pm), Administrative Assistant Beatrice Marconi, Assistant Fire Chief Dale Sylvia, Dave Sweeney, Chr Justin Richardson of the Conservation Commission (at 6:46), Rick and Doreen Stern (at 6:59pm).

Pledge of Allegiance

Chr. O'Reilly opened the public hearing on acceptance of gifts per RSA 31:95-e, II at 6:35pm. He announced that the public hearing would remain open for one hour.

Foam Fire Protection Trailer – A gift from Sprague Energy, its value was set at \$41,236.68. Asst. Chief Sylvia informed the Board that this trailer would be housed at Sprague however could be used where needed at any location requiring it. The Town will be responsible for its registration, insurance and upkeep. (estimated insurance \$350ish per year). Sprague will refurnish the foam when necessary whether used on their site or not. We may have to buy a nozzle. Selectman Iocovozzi asked about its expected longevity – Asst. Chief Sylvia stated that it will be housed inside a heated building – he expected it to last a good 20 years or more. Both the utility and forestry truck can tow. Holds 600 gals of foam.

All Hazards Trailer – A gift from the Fire Fighter's Association, its value was set at \$ 10,000.00. Asst. Chief Sylvia informed the Board that this trailer would be housed at our Fire Station lot and that it is being utilized for generators and needed items and is for transporting auxiliary equipment that cannot be transported on current fire trucks.

Minute Approval:

Selectman Stuart moved to accept the minutes of August 31, 2009 (public and non public) with Selectman Iocovozzi seconding. Motion passed 3-0 (roll call)

Command Vehicle Request– Fire Department

Assistant Fire Chief Dale Sylvia stated that at the last meeting they were discussing a ½ ton 2009 Tahoe. After a more extensive search, he was able to upgrade to a 2010 – ¾ ton Suburban. It is still under \$50,000, gas powered. Currently, the vehicle would not be Newington-marked. A low profile vehicle is preferred by many communities. It would have the lights, but no light bar. Chr. O'Reilly relayed to the Selectmen that Budget Committee Chairman Larry Wahl supported the purchase of a command vehicle. The Selectmen were all in agreement, however the means in which to purchase was debated between presenting a Warrant Article at Town Meeting, or funding it under Cap Out Lay or utilizing that Capital Reserve. Selectman Stuart & Iocovozzi felt a warrant article due to its cost was more clean. Chr. O'Reilly remembered the tone of March's meeting and stated he was uneasy on just how the town would vote; as last year, all but four warrant articles were shot down. As far as drivers, the Chief and Assistant Chief will be the primary drivers unless both are out and then the shift officer will drive it. Regarding it being driven home at night or not, Selectman Iocovozzi stated he felt this was an Engineer's call. He went on to say that the Fire Dept lacked man power and had too much iron. Selectman Stuart felt the need was there but the cost was quite high. Vehicle is \$40,000 and fit up is \$10,000. It must

be built. Asst Chief Sylvia stated that if the Board chooses to submit a warrant article and if it is shot down, the Fire Dept will still need a vehicle and he doubts the former cruiser will make it. The Selectmen then stated that there will be yet another retiring cruiser next year. Chr. O'Reilly suggested that the Asst. Chief go to the dealer and state that the Fire Dept's purchase of a command vehicle was contingent upon passage of the vote at town meeting, as done with the cruiser purchases in the past. It was decided that the Board table this until the next meeting to discuss method in which to fund.

KWA Conservation Easement-Shattuck Way

J. Richardson, Chairman of the Conservation Commission presented the Selectmen with the Easement Documents to approve and sign. The Conservation Commission signed to accept. *Selectman Iocovozzi moved to approve and sign the KWA easement with authorization of the Conservation Commission to accept. Selectman Stuart seconded. Motion passed 2-0. Chr. O'Reilly returned at 7:25pm and signed.*

Acceptance of Gifts – Public Hearing

After calling for further speakers, *Chairman O'Reilly then declares the public hearing on the acceptance of gifts closed at 7:37pm. Selectman Iocovozzi moved to accept both pieces of equipment. Selectman Stuart seconded. Motion passed 3-0.*

Fire Dept's Request to Utilize Cap Res for Certain Vehicle Maintenance

At the last meeting, the Fire Department submitted a request in the amount of \$5,162 from the Capital Reserve to supplement their vehicle maintenance due to unanticipated expenses. Chr. O'Reilly felt that this request should be dealt with as the year comes closer to an end. He was confident that the Board would consider certain costs but wanted to wait and see what transpires so that perhaps the Cap Res may not need to be touched. Table for now.

Conservation Easement – Fox Point

Chr. Justin Richardson of the Conservation Commission stated that this action was a follow up from a discussion from the past to protect Fox Point. This action would create another layer making it more difficult to subdivide or develop and aids in preserving its Newington Resident Recreational purpose. Selectman Stuart noted that the former forester had encouraged the Town to proceed in this manner with Peg Lamson and Nancy Cauvet supporting the action. Justin said a lawyer would be hired and either the RSA 41:40 process would be used or via a warrant article. Terms of what is or what is not allowed would be stipulated. The Conservation Commission would acquire for public recreation, conservation and agriculture however would not manage but would prohibit development beyond what is there or specified. It would have no effect on the pavilion, docks, boat ramp or rental unit. Only commercial, industrial and residential development would be restricted along with no chance of subdivision. Selectman Iocovozzi asked about the lobsterman who unloads his catch at the dock and since he is a commercial entity, would he be effected. Justin did not believe so. It's down the road that we should be looking at, he continues. Right now, we have three selectmen and basically an entire town wishing this be preserved as it stands perpetually. Will we always have this consciousness forever? *Selectman Stuart moved to ask Justin Richardson draft a conservation easement for the Selectmen to review. Selectman Iocovozzi seconded. Motion passed 3-0.* (the Conservation Fund may be utilized to pay for costs).

Personnel Policy Housekeeping

Chr. O'Reilly stated that both Chiefs have been invited to make suggestions to the Selectmen on the Personnel Policy for the October 5th meeting. Table until Oct 5.

Coleman Drive Drainage – Young Proposal

RG Young met with the Board previously about additional water flow problems he felt were created as a result of the Coleman Drive pavement project. He offered to do the work himself if the Selectmen approved his proposal. At the time, he also stated he is getting a survey done of his land. The Selectmen tabled action on Mr. Young's proposal until his survey has been reviewed by the Town and other drainage issues are analyzed.

Water Meter Transistor Installation at Fire Station

Selectman Iocovozzi was contacted by the Portsmouth Water Department to ask if they could install a test meter. Currently some of the upgraded meters are not transmitting properly. He also asked if the Selectmen would rather it be installed at the Meeting House. Neither Selectman Stuart nor Chairman O'Reilly minded however the Chair would prefer it not in the Historic District unless it is inside and not noticeable. Selectman Iocovozzi will contact Dave Allen.

Coalition Meeting October 9 – Concord

Whereas Chr. O'Reilly is unable to attend, Selectman Iocovozzi stated he could attend. 10:00 am LGC building in Concord.

Facility Use Request

Fire Department Training – Sept 29 – Town Hall – Moved to Approve. 3-0 Fee waived
Mt Hermon Meeting – Requested by Gail Pare – BOS needed more information – tabled til Oct 5.

Land Value Spread Sheet Request of Dave Sweeney

Mr. Sweeney asked the Board if Corcoran Associates could create a data base showing owner, location of property, land valuation, land area, then a calculation applied to total land value vs. area. Mr. Sweeney felt the land values were not equitable nor fair. Justin Richardson spoke of the assessing process whereas there was a primary value placed on 1.8 acres then the remaining land is assessed as residual and at a lesser rate. Selectman Iocovozzi felt the numbers would be distorted. Selectman Stuart stated that she felt the spreadsheet did not include all the information needed as not only did the calculations exclude factors such as crash zones, and current use but other data taken into consideration when setting values. Chr. O'Reilly said he wanted to get a cost estimate from Corcoran before committing to anything.

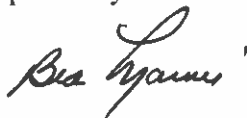
Selectman Stuart moved to look into the request. Selectman Iocovozzi seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Fox Point Clean Up

Mr. Sweeney told the Selectmen that he came into Town Hall to get a staff member to help the High School kids with the beach clean up. He felt it was a dangerous situation and wondered why we couldn't help. The Selectmen stated that the organization did not ask for help and that it was a group called Blue Oceans. Selectman Stuart commented on the hazardous items washed up on shore like needles, etc. J. Richardson echoed her thoughts.

Selectman Stuart moved to Adjourn at 8:25pm. Selectman Iocovozzi seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Next meeting will be October 5.

Respectively Submitted,



Beatrice Marconi
Administrative Assistant