

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Newington Town Hall
October 2, 2006

Preliminary

Present: Chairman Jack O'Reilly, Selectman Jan Stuart, Selectman Cosmas Iocovozzi, Administrative Assistant Beatrice Marconi, Ingo Roemer of Blue Latitudes, Jean Bowser, Mike Goot of Fosters Daily Democrat, Gail Klanchesser, Susan Daigle, Town Building Inspector Charlie Smart, Sandi Clark, Cliff Abbott, Tom Horihan, Maggie Cooke, Lisa Zhe of the Portsmouth Herald, Rick Stern, Eric Wientraub.

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

Selectman Stuart moved to approve the revised meeting minutes of August 18TH and the minutes of September 18th. **Selectman Iocovozzi seconded** the motion. So voted 3-0, **motion passed.**

Architectural Study – Meeting House

Charlie Smart gave an overview of the work that needs to be done on the Meeting House. There is a significant amount of rot in the building, extra support to the floor needs to be added and the roof needs work.. Charlie suggested that there be an architectural study done to help preserve the building as is and also not make any major changes that are not compliant with the historical architecture of the building. The architectural study would consist of Historical Advisors who will come in and give their professional advice on what should be done.

Selectman Iocovozzi moved to have a Kelly Davis of SDA come in and do a study on the building and make recommendations to preserve and repair at the cost of \$ 9,500 estimate. **Selectman Stuart** seconded the motion. So voted 3-0, **motion passed.**

Architecture Study - Carriage House

Chairman O'Reilly stated briefly that he feels that a new building should not be rushed into being built in place of the Mott House at Fox Point when the Carriage House could be considered to be renovated and should be studied. Selectman Iocovozzi also feels that a study should be initiated so that when it is time to ask for money for any type of structural changes, that the Town be prepared with facts. Selectman Stuart wanted to know all that was entailed for this study, which Kelly Davis of SDA has proposed in the amount of \$ 25,500. **Selectman Stuart moved to table until Oct 16th meeting with Selectman Iocovozzi seconding. Motion passed 3-0.**

Tennis Court Lighting Bids

Chairman O'Reilly reviewed the bids submitted. The Board discussed how much it would cost to complete the job as the range in bids were from \$ 10,737 to \$ 18,275 with the lower bids being incomplete. The Board decided to table this discussion and want the Recreation Committee to review the bid amounts and consider sponsoring a Warrant Article if they feel the need justified the cost.

Blue Lattitudes- Request to Serve Beer and Wine Outside

Chairman O'Reilly gave a brief synopsis of Blue Latitude's request for a license to sell beer and wine outside their restaurant. Blue Latitude's representative Ingo Roemer, asked what the Board of Selectmen's concerns were. Selectman Stuart stated that she has an issue with serving beer/wine in an area where patrons would have to pass through a residential section of town. Chairman O'Reilly stated that his concern was more towards people drinking on their boats. Chairman O'Reilly also added that he feels that the servers of the alcohol have more control over how much one person is

drinking. Ingo stated that they sell a very limited amount of beer per day. The State already approved the request of Blue Latitude's inside. The Board then went on to protest the State's time line in processing this request. The Town was supposed to have 15 days to submit their concerns to the State, however within two days of receiving the State's notification letter, their license was issued for inside. The Board will revisit the issue again next year when the Blue Latitudes applies for a new deck license. Ingo stated that he hopes that he didn't upset anyone. Selectman Stuart expressed her dissatisfaction with the liquor commission and the way that they handled this situation. Ms. Marconi was asked to write a letter for the Chairman to sign to the liquor commission.

Cemetery Rock Wall

Chairman O'Reilly spoke of the rock wall estimate presented in the amount of \$ 18,000 from Rick Searles. Cliff Abbott of the Cemetery Committee stated that estimate should be thrown away. Rick Stern, also a member of the Cemetery Committee will work with Cliff for resolve on the wall issue. Selectman Stuart asked if John Frink and Lenny Thomas were slated to help with the job. Cliff stated that they have very little time to devote to the project. Tom Hourihan addressed the issue, and feels that a rock wall project should be done by a professional.

88 Van Bids

Chairman O'Reilly read off the following van bids: Rick Sterns in the amount of \$755.00. Harry Sanborn in the amount of \$1000.00. **Selectman Stuart** made a motion to award the bid to Harry Sanborn in the amount of \$1000.00. **Selectman Iocovozzi seconded** the motion and open it to the discussion. Selectman Iocovozzi stated that he thought there would a minimum and he asked Rick Stern what the van booked at retail if repaired. Mr. Stern estimated \$ 2,500ish perhaps. The Board then voted on the motion 3-0, **motion passed**.

After School Care Petition

We, the undersigned residents of Newington, wish to express our opposition to changing the Newington Public School Enrichment/After Care Program from the YMCA to our local school. The YMCA Program has served our children's needs reliably for many years. In these times of declining enrollment at Newington Public School we are against adding another program which could potentially add to our overhead expense of the school. We feel the plan to add an employee to the Newington Rec. Dept, waive and fees for bldg use and utilize school personnel for administration of the program has the potential to increase the cost of an already expensive school system. We are in favor of continuing our excellent relationship with the Ports. YMCA Program. They employ an experienced full time, year round director with a BS degree and our children can interact with other seacoast children in many of the Y's structured activities.

The Newington School is trying to begin an after school/enrichment program. A petition opposing this idea was turned into the Board. Maggie Cooke addressed the issue. She stated that she felt the YMCA program is more structured. Mrs. Cooke added that she felt that having the parents volunteer and hiring someone would not be a good idea. There should be a teacher there to help assist with homework. Chairman O'Reilly stated that there was a meeting last month at which the school Principal asked to be on the agenda. Chairman O'Reilly added that at that meeting the Board of Selectmen did not back this issue nor did they turn it down. The Chairman went on to say that the Board felt that this should be handled by the school. Selectman Stuart stated that she felt the Superintendent's Office does not want to deal with it and that personally she is not in favor of it. Maggie went on to say that the school says that it won't cost the town or school any money, when in reality there are lights, extra insurance, etc.

Chairman O'Reilly stated that if the recreation committee really wants to involve themselves with this then they should put a plan together with the school and place costs in their budget and then it will be voted on it at the public hearing and then at the town meeting.

Maggie asked if the recreation committee could hire someone, Chairman O'Reilly answered - no they cannot due to the fact that they don't have the money for it this year.

Maggie re-stated that the YMCA is very qualified to handle the after school program. The staff there all hold some type of degree and are trained to work in environments like this.

Selectman Iocovozzi wanted to know why the school doesn't want to get involved. Chairman O'Reilly answered by saying that the principal and her secretary don't have time to be a scheduler or collect money.

The Board stated that they will talk more about this once if there is a plan from the Recreation Committee brought forward at budget time.

Police Department Salli Port and Sidewalk Bids

Ricci submitted a bid in the amount of \$9,447 for the salli port. They noted that if they are awarded both the salli port and the sidewalk projects, with would deduct \$800 from the total costs. Careno submitted a bid in the amount of \$16,916 for the salli port. As an option, Ricci suggested including a drainage trench at the cost of an additional \$ 1,870. **Selectman Stuart** moved to accept the bid of Ricci Construction in the amount of \$ 9,477. **Selectman Iocovozzi** seconded the motion. So voted 3-0, **motion passed. Selectman Stuart then moved to consult with our Building Inspector on the trench option and moved to approve the additional cost (less \$800 discount if awarded sidewalk project) and bring forth a PO to Board for signature. Selectman Iocovozzi seconded – and the motion passed 3-0.**

The Board of Selectmen discussed the removal and replacement of the side walk and whether or not to have concrete installed. Eric Weintraub of Altus Engineering stated that concrete would be best due to the fact that it wouldn't move vs. paving up to the entrance. Ricci Construction's bid for the Sidewalk Project was \$ 10,977 and Careno's bid was \$14,816. **Selectman Stuart moved to accept Ricci's bid of \$ 10,977 with Selectman Iocovozzi seconding. So moved 3-0.**

Brickyard Way

The estimates for the Brickyard drainage and road reconstruction came in at approx \$119,000.00 and \$129,000.00, (2 bids received). The Board had hoped that the price could be reduced by doing the project in pieces. Eric of Altus Engineering said that it would be close to impossible to piece the job unless you did a wearing coarse, but then it would be a mess. Selectman Iocovozzi feels as if this job should be put out for re bid in January as current funding availability makes it impossible for the Town to do this project this year. Chairman O'Reilly suggested the Board encumber all unspent paving funds for '06 and dedicate them to existing future jobs. It was decided that Altus Engineering bid the job out and to forward us a new estimate for engineering which will include this new task. Eric was asked to have Duncan Mellor contact us to update the Board on the progress of Fox Point permitting and engineering.

Town Hall Request

Celiac Sprue requested the use of the town hall on November 16 and the Town Church requested the use of the town hall to be able to set up for their fair from the 15th of Nov on til the 18.

Selectman Stuart moved to approve both uses. **Selectman Iocovozzi** seconded the motion. So voted 3-0, **motion passed with fees waived.**

The town facility fee schedule was tabled for further consideration.

Sandi Clark submitted a request for the use of the Old Town Hall, along with her request she submitted her proof of insurance.

Ms. Clark requested to use Town Hall on January 15th, Old Town Hall on November 9th-19th for rehearsal and set up for a play. December 1st-5th, the 9th and the 10th, the 16th and the 17th, March 9th- the 18th (plus rehearsal and set up) April 1- 15th (plus rehearsal and set up), May 5th- 20th (plus rehearsal and set up) She also added that the rehearsal and set up would not interfere with the Brownie meetings.

After further discussion the Board decided that it may be best to try only one show for now (Driving Miss Daisy). The Board also decided to charge \$100.00 per day for the use of Old Town Hall. This would cover rehearsals and set up days as well as the show. **Selectman Stuart** moved to approve the use of the Old Town Hall for a fee of \$1200.00 for November 5th-19th. **Selectman Iocovozzi** seconded the motion. So voted 3-0 ***motion passed.***

Hunting at Fox Point

Selectman Stuart spoke against the mix of recreational and hunting at Fox Point. She added that this could be a huge liability due to the fact that many people use this as a family area for hiking and walking pets.

After further discussion it was decided to hold a public hearing on October 23rd.

There should be caution signs put out that warn people that there is bow hunting allowed currently on the premises to be hung on the 'no discharge of fire arms' signs.

Being that there was no further discussion before the Board, **Selectman Iocovozzi** moved to adjourn at 8:45pm. **Selectman Stuart** seconded the motion. So voted 3-0, ***motion passed.***

Respectfully Submitted,

Town Administrative Assistant
Beatrice Marconi