

Newington Board of Selectmen Meeting

April 18, 2005
Newington Town Hall
6:30 p.m.

Accepted 5/2/05

In attendance: Chairman Cosmas Iocovozzi, Selectman Jan Stuart, Selectman Jack O'Reilly, Building Inspector Charles Smart, Treasurer George Fletcher, Deputy Treasurer Laura Coleman, Recreation Committee member Jack Anderson, Paul Martel from Bank of New Hampshire and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Gillespie

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Iocovozzi at 6:39 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Miscellaneous

Paul Martel from the Bank of New Hampshire spoke to the Board regarding options for the financing of the Frink Conservation Easement purchase and bond options for the renovations of the Old Town Hall. Mr. Martel explained the borrowing procedure to the Board. There will be no prepayment penalty on these loans. Mr. Martel said that he will get a rate approved for the Frink purchase, have the paperwork done up and mail it to the Board for signatures. After the signatures are obtained it should take only three to five working days to complete the transaction. Chairman Iocovozzi said that it would be best to proceed with the Conservation Easement purchase as soon as possible. It was decided that the \$177,500 that is needed will be borrowed for a term of three (3) years. There was further discussion on bond rates and interest options.

Mr. Martel also told the Board that Banknorth has been bought by Toronto Dominion Bank. He assured the Board that there will be no negative repercussions from this change.

Chairman Iocovozzi read a letter from Mike Morrison regarding mosquito control. Control of stagnant water bodies will begin April 18th and spraying will begin late May, early June. Chairman Iocovozzi asked that this be posted and a copy be given to the Conservation Commission.

Resident Dennis Acton spoke to the Board regarding some improvements he would like to make to the Fox Point house. Mr. Acton said that there is a John Deere lawnmower owned by the Town that needs to be repaired. He asked if he could use the mower. Mowing is at least 50% of the summer maintenance. Mr. Acton is willing to purchase any extra equipment needed. He spoke with Road Agent Thomas and was told that there would be no issue with Mr. Acton using the mower. Chairman Iocovozzi said that the Town will pay the expense of repairs as long as the Road Agent has access to the mower whenever he needs it. Mr. Acton agreed.

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Mr. Acton asked the Board if at his expense, he could replace two screen doors on the house. The Selectmen agreed this was acceptable. Mr. Acton also asked if he could fix the patio bricks in the backyard and possibly put up a temporary enclosure (a screened in 12 x 12 tent structure). The Selectmen agreed that this was acceptable as well.

Recreation Committee member Jack Anderson spoke to the Board regarding the school playground. The playground committee has worked with many groups and chose the most reliable and dependable group to build the new playground. The cost is \$45,500 or 6% less if they use the US Communities process (the state bid process). The plan of the Recreation Committee is to use the US Communities organization. The old playground is to be dismantled June 24th and the new one will be installed July 11th. These are tentative dates. The Board is okay with using the State bid process. Mr. Anderson asked if the Highway crew could help with playground work on the 24th of June; more specifically, if Road Agent Thomas could bring the backhoe and help with disposal of the old playground. Mr. Anderson said that he will speak with Road Agent Thomas about this. The Board approved Road Agent Thomas helping out.

Craig Musselman from CMA Engineers presented the Board with a proposal for the Old Town Hall project. Mr. Musselman stated that the architectural study the Town had done by Austin Architect was very good. He added that Austin's firm did a good, "board brush" approach. The concept Austin came up with is very workable, with some minor changes. There are two ways to proceed. The first is a Conventional Design Bid Build process. This process entails retaining an architect for plan preparations. The second process is called Design-Build. With a Design/Build process, request for proposals from contractor/ architect-engineer teams will be prepared. The benefits of this process are that it's quicker and the contractor and design team work together to work out the costs. Selectman O'Reilly asked if being a national historic building makes a difference. Mr. Musselman said no. The visual nature of the building would be preserved but as for materials, there aren't any stipulations. Building Inspector Charles Smart added that there is no federal money being used and so there will be no issue in selecting the material. The goal is to keep the outside appearance preserved while choosing materials. The cost of this process would be approximately \$22,000.

Justin Richardson spoke to the Board regarding Senate Bill 104. This bill limits pollution control tax exemptions under RSA 72:12-a. Mr. Richardson recommended that the Selectmen write to the Senate Representatives encouraging them to accept this bill. Mr. Richardson volunteered to draft a letter for the Selectmen which will then be put on letterhead and signed. Selectman O'Reilly suggested that next month the Senate Representatives meet with the Town of Newington in a public forum event. This bill could be discussed at this time.

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A memo from Wil Corcoran with miscellaneous assessment information was read. The pole license agreement was reviewed by the Board. Chairman Iocovozzi recommended that the letters be sent out to the appropriate public utilities.

Selectman Stuart made a motion to accept the minutes of March 29, 2005 and April 4, 2005. Seconded by Chairman Iocovozzi. Vote 2-0.

The Treasurer's report for March 2005 was reviewed and accepted. The motion to accept was made by Selectman Stuart. Seconded by Selectman O'Reilly. Vote 3-0.

There was discussion about meeting policy changes. Selectman O'Reilly made suggestions to add some other policy changes before adopting. The Board agreed.

Public Comment

Peter MacDonald, Recreation Committee member, asked the Board about several issues. Mr. MacDonald asked about the progress on replacing the tennis courts. Chairman Iocovozzi said that the Board has a proposal from the engineering firm and will go from there. The tennis courts will not be moved from its current location. Mr. MacDonald also asked about the bridge and the backstops at the school. Chairman Iocovozzi said that both are budgeted for this year. Mr. Frizzell asked about the renovations on the ball fields. Chairman Iocovozzi said proposals and bids should be brought in first, just like the backstop. He reminded the public that the Town will be receiving a dredge and fill permit and this will take care of some of the ball field problem. There was further discussion.

Resident Helen Maldini asked why the tennis courts can no longer be used. Chairman Iocovozzi said that at Town meeting there were concerns about the liability of these tennis courts and to open them back up requires the review of an engineer.

Signatures and Approvals

The letter of engagement from Vachon & Clukay regarding the year end audit of 2004 was approved and signed.

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Selectman O'Reilly made the motion to approve the following appointments;

Justin Richardson	Conservation Commission
George Fletcher	Conservation Commission
Margaret Lamson	Conservation Commission
Laura Coleman	Deputy Treasurer

Seconded by Selectman Stuart. Vote 3-0.

Town Hall Use

A Town Hall Use form from the D.A.V. for a July 10th event was approved and signed.
The fee was waived.

Non-Public; Personnel according to RSA 71

Adjourn Non-Public 8:29 p.m. No votes were taken.

There being no further business before the Board of Selectmen;

Meeting Adjourned 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Gillespie
Administrative Assistant