

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday March 19, 2012
6:30 pm Town Hall

Approved 4/2/12-Then Amended for approval April 30

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm

Present - Selectmen Jack O'Reilly, Rick Stern and Jan Stuart, Library Trustees Steve Bush, Lee Lamson, Melissa Prefontaine; Library Director Scott Campbell; Road Agent Len Thomas and Administrative Assistant Beatrice Marconi. Resident David Sweeney arrived at 7:00pm.

S. Stuart moved to recommend Jack O'Reilly as the new chair. Seconded by S. Stern. Roll call 3-0 motion passed.

Committee Assignment

Jan Stuart: HDC, Highway Safety

Jack O'Reilly: EM, Budget Committee

Rick Stern, Planning and overseeing Highway

S. Stuart expressed that all three selectmen should work with Highway. She will stay close to Highway issues.

Langdon Library – The Warrant Article passed at the Town Meeting to switch from three to five trustees. Library recommends that the Board of Selectmen make appointments for this year, and that three people go on the ballot for election next year. Recommended were Granville Knox and Nathan Fredette. At the next Selectmen's meeting, the Board will vote to appoint.

The Trustees feel that their policies, procedures, and by-laws are now in place. They learned a lot from the seminars they attended and continue to work on an internet policy. The Trustees are very aware of liability exposure, and are taking steps for protection.

Lee Lamson is the treasurer, but all three Trustees, as well as Scott Campbell may sign checks. S. Stuart feels that the Trustees have done an impressive job. A building consultant was hired, and has done a space survey. There is currently 1500 square feet of useable space on the first floor. There were 145 responses, and 70% of those survey respondents requested more space. M. Prefontaine explained the shifting of the front vestibule. The Trustees feel that they are lacking space for the services that the library provides, and noted that current interest rates and construction costs are low. King did the initial analysis of the library building. The Trustees plan on going door to door to ask residents what they feel we need in a library. They want the residents to be as much a part of the process as possible.

S. Bush feels that there should be an arrangement for direct communications with the Board of Selectmen. S. Campbell would like to invite the Board of Selectmen to a Library Trustees meeting. They normally meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The third Tuesday is the building analysis committee. Beginning April 4th, the library will be open until 7:00pm on Wednesdays.

The library trust fund total is approximately \$790,000. However, up until just recently they were only getting a portion of the interest earned however, they have met with the Trustees of the Trust Fund to maximize the interest use. They are working with legal counsel to look at steps that can be taken to release some of the funds to go toward construction/improvements. The Trustees will be setting up a foundation to accept donations.

New shelving will be coming in. The Trustees will give the AA the names for appointments. Next year's budget will include the money for expenditure that they received in interest.

Bucket Truck – Consignment has a broader base for advertising the bucket truck. S. Stern feels we should ask in the \$20,000 range. The company will price at their discretion, however the town would like approximately \$15,500. S. Stern will provide further information, then the Board will make a motion.

Plow Donation: Road Agent Thomas mentioned that Bren Watson would like to donate V- plow that was used in the 80's. The Town Garage is in the historical district. The plow would be stenciled 'Town of Newington'. The plow is 8 or 9 feet. It would be setting on something to prevent it from sinking. L. Thomas will speak to HDC and make a proposal for placement. It will have the town seal on it. He will also follow up on the ordered sign for the building. S. Stuart asked if the plow needs repair. L. Thomas said that he will paint it. He will bring it out and examine it. If it is unsuitable, he will dispose of it at the transfer station. Paint color was discussed. They are normally bright orange.

Road Postings – L. Thomas will post our roads for a couple of weeks.

L. Thomas on vacation the week of April 7th. Picnic tables will be fixed while he is gone and the Highway staff will do spring cleanup and mulching.

S. Stuart mentioned some hunting signs down on Fox Point, which L. Thomas will re-hang until the end of May turkey hunting. Reinhold will be in charge in Len's absence.

Trouble Trees – D. Sweeney mentioned "trouble" trees near the police station. S. Stuart suggested that the tree issues be directed to Road Agent Thomas. At 40 Little Bay Road there is a dead tree near the power lines. Asplendah is driving around looking for problems per Len. L. Thomas will try to bring this tree to their attention.

Election Procedure – D. Sweeney mentioned concerns with the election procedure. The Board of Selectmen asked him to direct these concerns to the moderator.

Bicycle Ordinance – Discussion at town meeting asked for more signs regarding single file riding. Chr. O'Reilly suggested that if D. Sweeney has issues with our bicycle ordinance, they should be brought up with the Police Commissioners. D. Sweeney spoke of concerns he had with bicycles riding on the right being unable to see oncoming traffic.

Cigarette Bucket - Chr. O'Reilly asked D. Sweeney if he moved the cigarette bucket. He answered yes. S. Stuart suggested Mr. Sweeney put it back. Dave noted that smoke is sucked into the auditorium when the door in the kitchen is propped open.

Frizzell Property – D. Sweeney mentioned that the Frizzell property is in violation of the breakdown of categories of classification that fall under current use. Chairman O'Reilly told Dave that we have assessing contractors that have gone over the applications numerous times but will once again have them review the categories.

Hislop and Saba Properties – S. Stern mentioned the Hislop and Saba properties settled in mitigation with DOT, bringing S. Stuart up to date. The town will own the Saba property, and the Conservation Commission will have an easement.

Road Repairs – S. Stuart felt that the patch work on Fox Point Road near Beane Ln was a mess. Former Selectman Iocovozzi was going to speak with the City of Portsmouth, and they will come back.

Municipal Treasurer Compensation: *S. Stern moved to pay the Municipal Treasurer \$2,214 plus the C.O.L.A. Adjustment for 2012 for Sewer Operations work as this was the amount the Sewer Commissioners paid to their former Treasurer. S. Stuart seconded. Motion passed 2-0-1 with Chr. O'Reilly abstaining.*

Chr. J.O'Reilly moved to go into nonpublic at 7:37pm. Seconded by S. Stern – Roll Call motion passed 3-0 Under RSA 91-A:3,II personnel and legal

S. Stuart moved to come out of non public at 7:54pm. Seconded by S. Stern – Roll Call motion passed 3-0. Motion to seal indefinitely came from S. Stern, seconded by S. Stuart – Roll Call motion passed 3-0.

S. Stuart moved to adjourn at 7:55 and with that, the meeting was closed.

Respectfully Submitted, *Beatrice Marconi* Administrative Assistant