

**Town of New Boston**

**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

**January 22, 1996 & January 24, 1996**

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Selectman Goodin.

PRESENT: Darlene M. Goodin, Selectman  
Gordon A. Carlstrom, Selectman  
Todd I. Selig, Town Administrator

Selectman Carlstrom made a motion to accept the Selectmen's Meeting minutes from December 18, 1995 and January 2, 1996. Selectman Goodin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

At 7:30 p.m., Recreation Director Sandra Gallup, Robert Todd, Chuck Forsaith, Karen Hall, Mike Pavesi, and Nancy Clark came before the Board of Selectmen to discuss renovations to the New Boston Ball Field on Old Coach Road. The Friends of Recreation and Recreation Commission would like the Board of Selectmen to sponsor a warrant article for \$9,500.00 to fund proposed renovations which include turning the current single field into three ball fields and a soccer field, as well as drainage improvements and a water source for irrigation. The Army Core of Engineers is scheduled to assist the Town with drainage and earth movement activities. Robert Todd explained that an after-the-fact N.H. State Wetlands Board permit would also have to be obtained for the project as the Town never secured such a permit for the current ball field. Selectman Goodin explained that the Board could not make a commitment to place the \$9,500.00 request on the Town Warrant as budget deliberations were still ongoing. The request would be considered along with the other requested departmental warrant articles for 1996 Town Meeting.

Sandra Gallup explained that the Recreation Department had requested a \$1.00 increase per hour for the recreation secretary, as well as an additional 5 hours per week. The summer program staff is proposed to receive an across-the-board \$1.00 increase per hour for all counselors. Selectman Goodin explained that the Board had not yet had the opportunity to review wages/salary issues and therefore did not have questions about the proposed increases at that time.

Selectman Goodin asked Director Gallup why the Town was paying staff to run its various concession stands at Recreation Department sponsored events. Mike Pavesi explained that it was becoming harder to find reliable people to fully staff the concession stands at every game. The paid staff therefore ensured that at least one knowledgeable person was present to sell food during the entirety of games. In addition, the complexity of running the concession stand had increased due to the addition of various foods & beverages which make experienced and reliable personnel necessary.

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The Board of Selectmen amended an earlier decision to join the N.H. Motor Transport CDL Drug & Alcohol Testing Consortium, and decided instead to join the Lakes Region Consortium based out of the Lakes Region General Hospital in Laconia, NH.

The Board of Selectmen decided that the New Boston Police Department would join the N.H. Association of Police Chiefs. The Town will no longer, however, pay for Police Chief Jim McLaughlin to join the International Association of Police Chiefs costing \$100.00 per year.

The Board of Selectmen formally adopted a "no bad weather maintenance policy" for the Town's forests, conservation lands, and sidewalks.

The Board discussed the fact that New Boston school bus drivers were upset because they felt that the Superintendent's Office in Goffstown was not contacting the New Boston Road Agent to determine what local road conditions were like when deciding whether or not to delay or cancel school. The Selectmen felt that if Mr. Selig were to call Road Agent Murray first thing in the morning to remind him to contact the bus company concerning road conditions, the bus drivers' concerns might be adequately met. Mr. Selig said he would speak with both the Road Agent and the bus company about this idea.

The Board of Selectmen decided that it could not support the proposed Forestry Committee warrant article discussed on January 16, 1996, concerning Town Forests as neither the Selectmen nor the various Town committees which would also play a role in the management and use of the forests, have had the opportunity to adequately weigh the positive and negative effects of a Town Forest designation for the following parcels: Follansbee Lot (Map 2, Lot 144 -- 11 Acres); Lydia Dodge Lot (Map 7, Lot 70 -- 245 Acres); Johnson Lot (Map 3, Lot 44 -- 34 Acres); Siemeze Lot (Map 2, Lot 115 -- 85 Acres); Colby Lot (Map 2, Lot 118 -- 10 Acres). It was also the feeling of the Board of Selectmen that the Forestry Committee had not yet done enough planning to determine exactly what would be done with these Town Forests once they were so designated. The Board felt strongly that the idea should be thoroughly reviewed over the course of the next year by the Forestry Committee, Conservation Commission, and Recreation Commission. A more complete plan should then be presented to the Selectmen and considered for 1997 Town Meeting. The Selectmen have already decided that no further ball field expansion would be permitted on the above mentioned lots in 1996. In addition, the Selectmen only plan to hold one more selective cutting to help fund repairs inside the Town Hall.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held this Thursday, January 25, 1996, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room. Wages and benefits will be discussed.

The Board of Selectmen reviewed a report from Independent Assessor George Hildum concerning the 1995 Department of Revenue Administration's preliminary equalization survey results.

The Selectmen reviewed the Tax Collector Karen Craven's 1995 Tax Collector Report.

Town Administrator Selig informed the Board that Police Chief Jim McLaughlin had concerns about the manner in which holiday time was handled at the Police Department. The Board reaffirmed its earlier decision that holiday time would serve as actual hours worked in the calculation of overtime.

The Board again discussed appropriate usage and storage for the new Recreation Department van. It was decided that the van would be stored at the Highway Department when not in use as a Town vehicle. The Board felt that it was inappropriate for the Recreation Director to use the van as a personal vehicle around town. It was intended to be used only as transportation for recreation program participants, or for long distance trips to Manchester, Concord, etc. for supplies. Individual coaches would not be allowed to use the van as transportation for athletic events.

Various issues concerning the 1996 Town Budget were discussed by the Selectmen.

The Board reviewed payroll and accounts payable checks.

The Board reviewed and/or signed other miscellaneous correspondence and materials.

The Board adjourned the meeting to time certain for further deliberation on the New Boston 1996 Town Budget : Wednesday, January 24, 1996, at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Office.

### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1996**

Monday evening's meeting was reconvened by Chairman Pimenta for the purpose of discussing the 1996 Town Budget at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Michael S. Pimenta, Chairman  
Darlene M. Goodin, Selectman  
Gordon A. Carlstrom, Selectman  
Todd I. Selig, Town Administrator

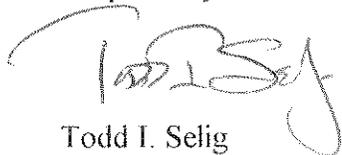
All facets of the 1996 Town Budget were discussed including wages, individual budgets, and an overview of the proposed warrant articles which have been requested by various departments.

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

*MS*

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd I. Selig". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

Todd I. Selig  
Town Administrator