

Town of New Boston

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

January 4, 1999

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7PM by Chairman Strong.

PRESENT:

Harold Strong - Chairman
Lois Briere - Selectmen
Susna Clay - Selectmen
Burton Reynolds - Town Administrator

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

The fence has been reinstalled behind the brush pits and a new section added in back of the scrap metals area. The cost was 14K, much more than the 3K in the budget. The Selectmen had given approval for the fence to be put back but did not envision how much new was going to be needed (380 ft.) and the cost. Bonnie will obtain several quotes just to confirm the price charged by Blue Ribbon Fence was fair and competitive. The cost for the fence and another 3K to finish the brush pit will be placed on a warrant article for Town Meeting. All agreed placing the fence back and expanding it was required and a straightforward explanation of how everyone dropped the ball making sure it was within our budget would be accepted at Town Meeting if accompanied by an apology.

Bonnie was not present but the idea of designating Robert Phillips facility in Weare, called "All Clear Services", as our septage site, as required by State law, was considered. It would not require septic haulers to use his site but would give them the right to do so. It would be a shorter distance than Concord and might result in lower pumping rates for New Boston residents. Susan will see what she can find out about our ability to continue to use Concord's waste treatment plant. Problem is, they will not give us a contract so we could be cut off at any time. It was agreed we would ask the Solid Waste Committee to research this issue in more detail and then report back. Mr. Phillips quote for using his site was \$5,520/yr. Haulers would still have to pay a fee per trip.

MINUTES

Minutes of December 14, 1998 were approved with two amendments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1) Minutes of 12/28/98 were amended to include a sentence that the Board had requested Mr. Klardie to present proof to the Building Inspector of his contention the second building on his lot was used as a dwelling before zoning. Motion Susan Clay, 2nd Lois Briere, all approved.
- 2) Minutes of 1/4/99 were approved as written. Motion Lois Briere, 2nd Susan Clay, all approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Lyndeborough Road Bridge cannot go out to bid now as had been planned. Bob Berry at NHDOT noted this was the first time since 1994 that funds had all been encumbered so we have to wait closer to approval of the next fiscal years funds and that will be July. Bob hopes we can put it out in May. He has approved getting the bridge built. Not doing so would have caused a delay into next year. Bob feels the approach and abutment work are small and routine enough that we should be able to get someone to do this year despite the late bid date.
- 2) Burton asked the Selectmen why the skateboard park idea had died. The answer was that the lot they had in mind at the time was not found to be suitable. No one has pushed the idea since so it has remained on the back burner.
- 3) Bonnie had presented a letter asking that the cost of moving and enlarging the fence be paid from 1998 funds. This option had been considered initially and the Board decided to stick with the original decision to place on the warrant for '99 given that only \$3,000 had been appropriated but the cost for the fence work was \$14,000.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Warren Houghton was present and expressed some displeasure with a letter Burton had written to the Trustees after a recent meeting with our town auditor, Greg Colby. Burton went through the letter and each point was discussed.
- 2) Employee evaluations are in the process of being done. The Board was encouraged to begin their review of these and to decide how and when those for department heads would be done.
- 3) Has any thought been given to requiring department heads to obtain prior approval for expenditures over a certain amount?
- 4) Whether the town should have a set threshold for requiring bids was discussed.
- 5) The number and amount of abatements approved to date are well within what was expected and planned for in setting the tax rate. Taxpayers do have until March to file, however.
- 6) An agreement was signed with Northern Elastometric for shingle recycling.
- 7) The "milestones" page of the Town Report was given to Board members for their input.

8) The Conservation Commission is asking for 50% of Land Use Change Tax penalties be given to them instead of the present 10%. The Board encouraged them to do this via a petitioned warrant article and to make their case to the Board at a future meeting.

9) Should we have a second Hazardous Waste Day? Before deciding the Board felt Bonnie and Burton should discuss on site storage possibilities with Cliff Plourde.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Signing of:

Accounts Payable

Payroll

Misc.

A motion to adjourn at 11:35 PM was made by Lois Briere, 2nd Susan Clay, all approved.



Burton Reynolds
Town Administrator