

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 1, 2008

**Present: Selectmen Ives, Bowles, and Maxfield.**

**Also present: Fire Chief Jeff Burr, Road Agent David Rice, and Rick Broider from LYAA.**

**Chairman Ives called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.**

- I. Selectman Maxfield moved to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, June 24, 2008 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Motion carried.
  
- II. The Board met with Rick Broider of LYAA.
  - a. Mr. Broider discussed the Merrimack Valley School District property next to the Loudon Elementary School relative to turning it into two soccer fields, 55 additional parking spaces, well, irrigation, and lighting. He showed the Board proposed plans for the new fields. Mr. Broider stated that the School District has been very supportive for this project. He said that LYAA is going to put together a volunteer drive and put some of LYAA funds towards making this project happen. Mr. Broider went on to say that he plans to speak with all the abutters and go over the boundary lines, buffer area, etc., to be sure no one has any issues with this project. He advised the Board that they would have to apply for "an alteration of terrain permit", due to the fact that they would be clearing more than 100,000 square feet, DES requires that this permit be in place. Mr. Broider said that Nobis would be handling the permits and plans. He said Fred Regan and Mike Martin would be bringing this before the School Board for their approval. Discussion ensued regarding abutters, the need to come before the Planning Board due to the size, Sno-Shakers trails, and the Selectmen offering the use of the Community Building for possible meetings with abutters. Fred Regan discussed the plans that the School District had drawn up with regard to future growth. Discussion ensued regarding if there were steep slopes of 20% or more and if there were then the School District would need to come before the Zoning Board also. Selectman Maxfield asked about the property lines. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed plan. Mr. Broider stated that at this point the School District has provided plans that they had so there has been very little expense, but LYAA would be looking to work with sponsors and volunteers to keep the costs down. Mr. Broider discussed the desire to put in an artesian well for irrigation and possibly for a future concession stand. It was stated that the only areas that are going to be disturbed are the areas for the two soccer fields and the parking area. Mr. Regan stated that they want to keep as many trees for a buffer as possible. He went on to say that he felt the

company that maintains the School District Ball Fields would probably be willing to donate to the project as well. Mr. Regan said that the School District would take care of the lighting and would probably take care of the crossing over Old Concord Road and put in underground wiring. Mr. Regan stated that basically the School District would like to have this as a joint venture and that the fields would basically be used by the Loudon Elementary School and LYAA as the School District athletic fields are in the Penacook area and with the gas prices he does not see the School District planning to transport kids if they do not have to. Selectman Bowles said he would like to see LYAA get all the sponsorship and donations that they can get as the budget is going to be stretched with fuel prices, and this project was not planned for during budget time. Chairman Ives asked about the timeframe for this project. Mr. Regan said he felt that the desire was to begin as soon as possible, but the permits needed to be in place before they can grub. He said that the School District would not want to leave the project to sit once it is started. Mr. Regan said that the fields can be cut, seeded and utilized without the irrigation system, if needed. He said that the hope is to have it seeded by this fall. Selectman Maxfield said that his concern is that this is School District property, and aside from paying the taxes to the School District as voted, the Town typically does not get involved with funding of building projects for the School District. Discussion ensued regarding charitable contributions and clearing and stumping. Selectman Bowles asked if any revenue received from the clearing and stumping would be able to go back to his project, or would it have to go in to the School District general fund. Mr. Regan said the plan is for that to happen. Mr. Broider said that is what the Superintendent said would happen. Discussion ensued regarding leaving the new parking lot gravel with the exception of the apron at the end of the Elementary School parking area. Mr. Regan said that the entrance to the fields would be off of School Street. Selectman Bowles stated that this area would be good to use for snow storage if needed. Selectman Bowles suggested that they go and talk with Planning/Zoning Secretary Donna White so they can get on the agenda for discussion with the Planning Board. The Board agreed that this project should go before the Planning Board as soon as possible. Mr. Regan said that he will be sure that the School District covers the lighting and possibly some of the labor. The Board advised Mr. Broider that he should contact Office Manager Jean Lee when they are ready to schedule the abutter meeting and the Board would waive the fee.

- III. The Board met with Fire Chief Jeff Burr.
  - a. Chief Burr discussed encumbering money for fire pond projects. He discussed a fire pond west of Gilmanton Road on Ridge Road that is in need of work to get the pond accessible to fire equipment. Chief Burr discussed the desire of the property owner to access the pond through his driveway and issues that may arise from using this access. He said that the property owner does not want the poplar tree cut that would gain easier access for the

construction crews and fire equipment. Chief Burr will speak with the landowner again to discuss options for the repairs. The Board will forward a letter to the landowner if needed. The Board will discuss encumbering funds for this project with Office Manger Jean Lee.

- b. Chief Burr advised the Board that the generator at Station 2 has possibly been hit by lightening and is not working at full power. He stated that he has contacted the Local Government Center and filed a claim. Discussion ensued regarding the generator and its history. Chief Burr reviewed an estimate from Harry O Electric for approximately \$18,000.00. Discussion ensued.

IV. The Board met with Road Agent David Rice.

- a. Mr. Rice advised the Board that he had spoken with Al Minery who has agreed to stay at the same price as last year. Discussion ensued regarding areas that Mr. Minery would be brush cutting.
- b. Mr. Rice stated that the Highway Crew had been busy trying to pick up after the storm as there were many trees down and washouts.
- c. Mr. Rice said that the Highway Crew had been cutting brush and getting ready for paving. He stated that he had spoken with Pike regarding the contract and asphalt prices and is waiting for the final figures. Discussion ensued regarding price hold for last year's work and that the price hold was not a guarantee for this year's work.
- d. Mr. Rice stated there are still some issues with drainage on Berry Road. Discussion ensued.
- e. Mr. Rice said the Highway Crew had been working on culverts.
- f. Chairman Ives asked if Mr. Rice had checked out the storage trailer offered to the town. Mr. Rice said that he did look at the trailer, but at this time they do not need any additional trailers at the Transfer Station. The Board will forward their appreciation to the Cumming's family, but will decline the offer.
- g. Mr. Rice reminded the Board that he would be on vacation next week. He said that the Highway Crew would be working on Upper City Road next week. Mr. Rice will contact Alan Barton as they will need another truck driver for a while.
- h. Discussion ensued regarding ways that all departments could conserve and help with the rising fuel costs for the ensuing year such as not having equipment idling for long periods of time, planning trips to conserve, lowering the temperatures of buildings in the winter. The Board agreed that the Highway Department has done a lot to cut the idling time. Chairman Ives said the Fire Department will do what they can to conserve and he will talk with Chief Fiske and suggest running radar spots instead of all of the traveling around to conserve.

V. The Board began their review of weekly correspondence.

- a. The Board received copies of a bid from JJ Carpets to replace the carpet in the lobby and upstairs middle room at the Town Office Building and also for the Community Building.
- b. The Board received copies of a quote from Fifield Building Restoration for work at the Town Hall as well as copies of a quote from Target NE for review. Selectman Bowles said that there is an issue with the fire escape on the side of the building where it needs to be secured. He discussed the issue of the clap boards on the exterior rotting because of the water splashing from runoff. Discussion ensued regarding the quotes. Selectman Bowles said he felt the foundation needs to be addressed and the issue with the fire escape also should be addressed. The Board will follow up with the historical documents relative to the Town Hall Building and what can and cannot be done to the building to be sure that the work is done to preserve the historic value of the building. Discussion ensued. Selectman Bowles discussed Steve Fifield's concerns regarding jacking the building up due to the issue that when the cupola was put back up it was put in plumb and if the building is jacked, it will knock the cupola out of alignment. Discussion ensued regarding funding and budget information. Selectman Bowles said that the Church is ready to get the work done and are prepared to pay their half of the bills. Discussion ensued regarding doing the work in stages and that the foundation would be the priority, election inspections, work that had been completed, issues with the handicapped ramp, and items that the Board wanted to address out of the encumbered funds.
- c. The Board received copies of the Fire Department billing to NHMS for the Sprint Cup Race in the amount of \$42,422.75.
- d. The Board received copies of the Berry Road drainage monitoring report from the Louis Berger Group for review.
- e. The Board received copies of a letter and meeting minutes of the VOA advisory board.
- f. The Board received correspondence and a training schedule regarding upcoming elections from the Secretary of State's Office. Discussion ensued. The Selectmen agreed that they would be attending one of the training sessions.
- g. The Board received copies of a letter and attachments from Rhetta and Jim Weaver on the Energy Committee meeting they attended on behalf of the Town. The Board thanked Mr. and Mrs. Weaver for attending the meeting.
- h. The Board received copies of a notice of July 1 rate increases from PSNH.
- i. The Board received copies of the June Zoning Board Meeting Minutes for review.
- j. The Board received past due ambulance bills for review. Selectman Bowles moved to forward past due ambulance account #40067 in the amount of \$535.60, account #26319 in the amount of \$561.10, account #39712 in the amount of \$544.10 to collection, and account #38235 in the amount of \$25.49 not to go to collections. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor.

- k. The Board received copies of an e-mail from Tony Marcotte regarding Staniels Road. The e-mail states CVAD will not do any work to the road itself until after discontinuance status is approved at town meeting in March. Discussion ensued regarding who would be filing the petition for discontinuance.
  - l. The Board received notice of the Comprehensive Shoreline Protection Act workshop in August.
  - m. The Board received Scholarship thank you notes for review.
  - n. The Board received copies of a notice sent to Michael Milligan regarding asbestos removal.
  - o. The Board received copies of the Legislative Policy Bulletin from NHMA.
  - p. The Board received copies of the June 12, 2008 NHMS Traffic Conference minutes and attachments for review.
- VI. Chairman Ives stated that he had Office Manager Jean Lee follow up on references for Absolute Painting and all of the references contacted had only good things to say. Chairman Ives went on to say that Absolute Painting had the lowest bid which was \$5,489.59 and the next lowest bid was \$10,960.00. Discussion ensued regarding budget figures, cemetery mowing and maintenance figures, and issues with encumbering funds. The Board reviewed the information within the bid and discussed the timeframe for completion. Chip Cochran asked if there was anything put in place to ensure that if the work is not completed, or not done to standards, the Town could recoup some of the cost. Chairman Ives said the references checked out and that with the location of the project there will be enough people keeping an eye on things. The Board stated that the payment schedule is based on the amount of completion and the final payment is not made until the Selectmen are happy with the work. Discussion ensued regarding the granite posts. Selectman Maxfield moved to accept the contract with Absolute Painting and Remodeling, LLC, of 14 Millard Lane, Londonderry, NH to repair and paint the Village Cemetery Fence as per the quoted specifications in the amount of \$5,489.59. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Motion carried.
- VII. Chairman Ives stated that the Board wanted to meet with all the Department Heads to discuss the encumbrances and ways to conserve fuel and cut costs for the budget. Selectman Bowles said the Selectmen need to get the ball moving on planning for the possible funding shortages in this new budget before it comes to the point where it is too late to do anything about it. He said it would be a week or so before the final bills are paid from the 07-08 Budget.
- VIII. John Plummer was recognized from the audience and asked if there were any funds available for repairs to the Town Pound. Selectman Bowles said that project is in the planning stages, and they are having someone check out the project for input. Selectman Maxfield stated that the Selectmen have discussed putting in a Warrant Article for the next Town Meeting for this purpose. Chip Cochran asked if this subject had come up at Town Meeting or part of a Selectmen's Meeting. The Board said they felt it was at a Selectmen's Meeting and it had been discussed on more

than one occasion. Discussion ensued regarding the condition of the property and its historical value.

Selectman Bowles moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

THE LOUDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Steven R. Ives, Chairman

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Dustin J. Bowles, Selectman

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Roger A. Maxfield, Selectman