

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

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

**Also present: Police Chief, Code Enforcement/Compliance Officer Bob Fiske.**

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

- I. Selectman Bowles moved to accept the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, July 22, 2008 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried.
- II. The Board met with Police Chief, Code Enforcement/Compliance Officer Bob Fiske.
  - a. Mr. Fiske discussed the letter he submitted to the Selectmen regarding the VOA Senior Housing and the abutter's complaints. Selectman Maxfield said he felt that while VOA says they have run out of money to complete the landscaping for the Loudon project, it was a requirement by the Planning Board. He said the organization has other facilities and feels that they are large enough that they should be able to find funds within their organization to complete the requirements for this project. Mr. Fiske said he agrees that they need to complete the requirements, but VOA would not budge on the issue of the cistern either. The Board discussed contacting Town Counsel regarding this issue. Mr. Fiske said he felt that VOA had completed the requirements of the Zoning Ordinances and Planning Regulations but not to the satisfaction of some of the abutters. Selectman Bowles said that he thought the road was not put in where it was originally intended. He said VOA cleared out more trees and brush on Craig Maxfield's side of the property than originally intended, with the agreement that they would shade that area out for the abutters by planting new trees or whatever it took to keep the light from affecting the neighbors. Chairman Ives discussed obtaining the Planning Board Meeting Minutes relative to the VOA requirements for landscaping and privacy screen and forward them to Town Counsel for his opinion. He said that Attorney Mayer may agree to send a letter to VOA regarding this issue.
  - b. Mr. Fiske discussed the issue where the Selectmen had considered sending a letter to NHMS regarding the signs at the race track. Chairman Ives stated that the Selectmen had not sent a letter yet and that one could be forwarded. Selectman Maxfield asked if there had been any issues with the changeable signs. Mr. Fiske said no, there had not been any issues. Discussion ensued regarding if the changeable signs would be utilized during the winter months. Mr. Fiske asked if there would be a problem with the changeable signs being utilized during the winter months. Selectman Bowles said no, but he did not think that the track would be keeping the signs on all year round. Selectman

Bowles stated that he felt there needed to be better communication between the Town and the race track. He said he wanted to see that there is always someone within the Town who knows what is going on with the race track so when there are concerns or questions, the answers are readily available. Selectman Bowles went on to say that when there are complaints or letters written to the newspapers, or newspaper articles get twisted around, it can look like the Town is being walked over by the Track and he does not feel that is the case. He said that he wants to have a better communication bridge so that the answers to the questions can be immediately answered. Mr. Fiske discussed the issues with the “temporary buildings” and requiring the Track to go before the Planning Board before he would issue any permits. Discussion ensued. Chairman Ives stated that a letter will be forwarded to NHMS regarding coming in to meet with the Zoning Board relative to signage. The Board agreed.

- c. Mr. Fiske asked the Board about the status of the permitting request to add sand to the Town Beach at Clough Pond. Selectman Maxfield stated he thought Engineer Judy Houston would have some information regarding this issue. Discussion ensued regarding the application. Chairman Ives will follow up on the status of the application.
- d. Mr. Fiske discussed the results of the water testing for swimming purposes at Clough Pond Beach. He advised the Board that the Recreation Committee has asked that the results of the water testing be published in the Loudon Ledger. Mr. Fiske asked the Board if they would agree that the results could be published in the Loudon Ledger. The Board agreed. Mr. Fiske clarified that the water testing done is for e-coli testing for swimming purposes, not for drinking purposes.
- e. Mr. Fiske discussed his concerns regarding the lack of sandbags being available during the recent rain storms. He said he had contacted the State Emergency Management Office and they stated they have sandbags available at a cost. Mr. Fiske said he spoke with Faith Stevens of the Loudon CERT Team and she has researched that the Town could get 1,000 sandbags for approximately \$300.00. Mr. Fiske asked the Board to approve the withdrawal of \$300.00 from the Emergency Management Budget for the purchase of the sandbags. The Board agreed that this purchase should be made.
- f. Mr. Fiske advised the Board that the lifeguard chair has been removed from the pond and chained to the fence at the Town Beach.
- g. Chairman Ives discussed the Special Detail Rates relative to the administrative costs associated with the increase in fuel costs. He reviewed administrative costs of some of the surrounding towns and discussed the suggestions of Auditor Paul Mercier. Selectman Bowles moved to increase the billable rate for Police Traffic and Special Duty Details from \$47.00 per hour to \$50.00 per hour due to the increase in fuel costs effective July 29, 2008. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried.
- h. Chairman Ives and Chief Fiske discussed safety concerns for property located on Route 129. Chief Fiske said his department is aware of the concerns and is monitoring the situation.

- III. The Board began their review of weekly correspondence.
- a. The Board received copies of the Loudon Old Home Day Book for review.
  - b. Selectman Maxfield discussed the Village Cemetery repair project and stated that approximately 50% of the top pieces have been replaced with new wood. He said several uprights have been put in and most of the granite posts have been straightened. Selectman Maxfield said that two granite posts had not been straightened and he had asked Jason of Absolute Painting to fix those posts, which they have. Selectman Maxfield stated that the change order that Jason has submitted is for additional wood, primer, and paint. He said that Bob Ordway has advised him that the Historical Society has stated that the name of this Cemetery is the Loudon Mills Cemetery. Selectman Maxfield said that the project looks great. Discussion ensued regarding the increase in costs over the contract and the additional wood and paint used. Selectman Maxfield moved to approve the change order as submitted from Jason Blount of Absolute Painting for the Village Cemetery repair due to the increase in wood fees of \$574.00 and the increase in primer and paint fees of \$195.00 for a total increase of \$769.00. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Motion carried.
  - c. The Board received copies of a memo from Office Manager Jean Lee for review and comment on the following issues:
    1. The Board agreed that thank you letters for the generous donations of time and materials to construct the J. O. Cate Van Garage will be sent to those involved.
    2. DES has contacted the Office to see if the Town of Loudon would be willing to accept construction debris from surrounding towns effected by last week's tornado and storms. The Board discussed the lack of space as well as the costs associated with the disposal of the materials. The Board stated that they did not feel the Town is in a position to accept outside materials at this time.
    3. The Board was advised that DRA Auditor Norm LaBlond has reviewed the assessing contract with Cross Country Appraisal Group and feels that the provision included in the contract regarding the "strata" is unnecessary and feels that the town should not have to pay for this service. The Board agreed to have Office Manager Jean Lee contact Jeff Earls regarding this issue.
  - d. The Board received copies of the payment from the Town of Chichester for annual ambulance subsidy in the amount of \$29,530.00.
  - e. The Board received copies of correspondence from Central NH Regional Planning Commission regarding the purchase of winter road salt. Discussion ensued regarding that this is due to the State of NH renegotiating their contract. Chairman Ives stated he felt someone should attend the meeting scheduled for August 18, 2008.
  - f. The Board received copies of a letter from DES regarding Ledges Golf Course for review.
  - g. The Board received copies of a letter sent to Dan Aversa regarding Wellington Lane.

- h. The Board received copies of a notice of violation from DES on property located on Berry Road for review.
- i. The Board received copies of a notice of violation from DES on property located on Old Shaker Road for review.
- j. The Board received copies of Homeland Security and Hazard Mitigation grant workshops from the Department of Safety for review.
- k. The Board received copies of the July Planning Board and Zoning Board Minutes for review.
- l. The Board received scholarship thank you notes for review.
- m. The Board discussed the Scholarship funds relative to the new account set up for the \$200,000.00 with the NH Deposit Investment Pool and the remaining funds from the NHIS Scholarship that was unclaimed from last year in the amount of \$6,324.95. Discussion ensued regarding placing the \$6,324.95 in the same account as the \$200,000.00. The Board agreed to combine the funds into one account by a majority decision.

IV. The Board recognized Barbara Cameron from the audience. Ms. Cameron discussed the thank you letters to those who donated and volunteered for the J. O. Cate Van Building. Discussion ensued regarding a list of volunteers and those who donated to the project as well as the possibility of the materials being tax deductible. Ms. Cameron said that the Cate Van Committee would be preparing a letter for the Board's review.

Selectman Maxfield moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

THE LOUDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Steven R. Ives, Selectman

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Dustin J. Bowles, Selectman

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Roger A. Maxfield, Selectman