

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MAY 22, 2007

MEMORIAL BUILDING

7:00 P.M.

The following are to be considered draft minutes only until approved by the Board at their next meeting.

PRESENT: Bob Anderson, John Chiarella, and Neal Huntoon.

Bob opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

New London Springfield Water Precinct: Ken Jacques, John MacKenna, and Attorney Greg Michaels were present to meet with the Board regarding an abatement request for New London/Springfield Water Precinct land. Springfield's Assessor, George Hildum was also present for the meeting. Ken Jacques stated the precinct asked for a meeting with the Selectmen and George to review taxation of the precinct through a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT). A PILOT was assessed to the precinct for 2006 tax year based on the assessed value of land in Springfield. George Hildum reviewed RSA 72:11, 72:11 A, and 72:23 relative to this issue. The regulations regarding a PILOT were brought to the Town's attention following the completion of the 2005 revaluation. George explained the Village District of Eastman receives a similar PILOT assessment. Attorney Michael's opinion of the RSA is that the Precinct is not subject to a PILOT due to the integration of the precinct and the two towns. He advised his clients to pay the PILOT and to apply for abatement. A letter to the Precinct in 1983 from the DRA regarding taxation of precinct property was reviewed. George stated he had reviewed the material with three people from the DRA and their opinion is the property should be subject to the PILOT but they were not willing to put their recommendation in writing. Ken Jacques described the area the assessment is based on.

Following discussion, John felt he would like to review statutes further. The Board agreed they should explore this with town counsel. The representatives from the precinct were agreeable to this. Attorney Michaels stated he may advise his clients to seek an opinion from the BTLA.

George recommended the Board seek counsel from Attorney Fulton from the Gardner Fulton Law Firm.

Police Department Donation: Neal moved to accept the \$5,000 donation from Mr. Rollinson to be deposited in a Police Department Treasurer's Fund to be used to update Police Department Equipment. The motion was seconded by John and unanimously approved.

Minutes: John moved to accept the May 8, 2007 minutes as written, seconded by John. Two members voted in favor, 1 abstained (Bob).

Recreation Department: John he has been told that someone may be interested in making a donation to the recreation park project. There is not an overall plan for completion of the entire project. John would like to see consideration for future planning.

John stated Archie Weathers was going to donate and install fencing in front of the basketball and skateboard areas. According to records the Town paid for fencing that was to be stored at NERS until it could be installed. John state he spoke once to the new owner of NERS and they have no knowledge of having any fencing stored for the Town. Copies of the payments have been forwarded to NERS.

In the meantime, the skateboard equipment is being finished. Zero Gravity has the equipment built and is waiting for the decking material. Once it is finished it will be picked up and assembled on the field. The Board has passed an ordinance and park rules which will need to be posted. In the meantime John is trying to get recommendations and pricing for fencing. The Board will further look into resolving the NERS fencing issues.

The Board discussed bike riding on the playing fields. John stated he would like to propose an area where young children can ride bikes as part of the long-term planning.

John there is an interest in reconstituting the recreation park building committee.

Park Fund Raising Committee: Trudy Heath met with the Board. She stated she met with Donna Tibbetts and Lisa Morcom. There is an interest in rejuvenating fund raising and recreation department efforts. A recreation meeting will be held on June 5th at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall for anyone interested in any recreation activities.

Website: John stated he spoke to Brandt about establishing some web site guidelines. He has sent some of the guidelines he came up with to Brandt. Brandt will work on developing guidelines and will review these with the Communications Committee. The Board would like to see the guidelines before they are posted.

Water Precinct: The Board discussed procedures for the upcoming meeting on May 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Updates: Portable toilets have been delivered at the beach and recreation field.

Debris clean-up from the winter storm is almost complete. A field inspector from FEMA will be here to meet with town officials on Wednesday, May 30.

Landscaping around town buildings and cemetery cleanup is being completed for the Memorial Day.

The Zoning Board granted the Special Exception request for Matarazzo.

The Board accepted, with regret, Richard Currier's resignation from the Conservation Commission. The Board would like to see him stay involved. His knowledge and expertise has been very beneficial.

The Board discussed the vacant cemetery trustee position. John will spoke to Frank.

The Board reviewed town information to be included in the Grantham Area Chamber of Commerce Directory. The Board appreciates the Chamber providing this to Springfield.

The Board discussed the notice from DES regarding the request for a public hearing relative to the Village District of Eastman's application Preliminary Large Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Application. The deadline to request a hearing during this preliminary process was missed. There will be another opportunity later in the planning process.

Correspondence:

The Board reviewed and approved:

Intents to Cut Timber

Timber Yield Tax Assessments

Cemetery Deeds

PA 29 Exemption Approvals.

Building Permit reviewed and denied for non-compliance with setback regulations.

Police Department: Memo from Tim regarding status of part-time police officers. The Board agreed the intent when hiring a full-time officer was to dissolve the part-time positions.

The Board discussed long-term planning for the recreation department building.

With no further business, Neal moved to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Roberts,
Administrative Assistant