

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF MEETING OF 8-16-04 APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on August 16, 2004 at the Town Office Building by Chairman Jonathan Wood. Members present: Norman Weldy, Paul Brown, Dick Wood and Jack Barnes. Also present: Town Manager Richard Bates.

Chairman Jonathan Wood led a salute to the flag and a moment of silence for departed citizens.

Chairman Jonathan Wood announced that the Raymond Historical Society is having their annual Blueberry Pancake Breakfast this Saturday, August 21, 2004 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Depot in beautiful downtown Raymond. Adults are \$4.00, Children are \$2.50.

Chairman Jonathan Wood announced that the public forum is now open. Those wishing to speak should come up to the microphone.

Frank Bishop gave an update on the Civil War Monument and requested that a member of the Board of Selectmen volunteer for a committee for this monument. Mr. Bishop recommended Selectman Barnes as he has had so much concern for all of the monuments. Selectman Barnes agreed to be on the committee. The committee will be getting a contract in place to get the monument restored. The Historical Society has some interest in reenacting the original unveiling. The committee is going to push to have the monument unveiled for Memorial Day 2005.

With no further public comment, the public forum is now closed.

Public Hearings

Acceptance of donation from Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation, a division of the NH Charitable Foundation.

Chairman J. Wood opened the public hearing. The Raymond Coalition for Youth received a \$20,000 grant from the Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation, Chief David Salois and Kelly Lehman, Assistant Recreation Director are on hand to explain the grant and the work over the past year.

Chief Salois thanked the Board of Selectmen for allowing them to come before the Board on such short notice. Chief Salois then gave a brief history of the Foundation. He would also like to thank Kelly Lehman, Assistant Recreation Director for her help. There are currently 22 organizations that make up the Coalition. Some of the more prominent members of the coalition are the Schools, the Recreation Department, the Police Department, Lamprey Health Care, Shop-N-Save (we all know they generously donated \$10,000 to the Coalition back in February), Big Brothers, Big Sisters, and Seacoast Mental Health. Ms. Lehman went on to state that the Coalition was brought together to get everyone sitting at the same table who wants to improve the quality of life starting with programming. The Coalition's main focus right now is drug and alcohol abuse. Chief Salois also spoke about some future goals of having a teen center here in Raymond.

They will be having a survey that will be handed out in the near future to see what the residents have to say on the issue. Selectman Barnes stated this is a great idea, but wanted clarification of what happens when the \$20,000 grant runs out? Next year when it comes to budget, does this person leave after the year or do they strictly stay on because of grants? Is that going to be a position that the Town is going to end up funding? Chief Salois responded that this position will not be funded by the Town in the future. It is the Coalition's goal specifically not to have that. The goal of the Coalition is to have this position funded strictly through grants. Unfortunately in order to do that, you really need to bring somebody on board that can do all of the research and homework in putting these grants together, more than what volunteers can do in putting the grants together. The Board of Directors of the Coalition will be starting the interview process very soon in hopes of having somebody online in October or November. Further discussion on the Boys and Girls Club coming to Raymond and the possibility of a fundraising effort to make this happen. It would be a Regional Boys and Girls Club available to the Towns that surround us or anybody in the region that they feel. Town Manager Bates restated the fact that the key to this working is in the name, the Coalition, it is a bunch of organizations working together with kids in different ways, bringing them all to the same table, so they can all look at what each other is doing and seeing how they can better serve and move forward.

Chairman J. Wood asked for comments from the public. With no further comments this public hearing is closed.

Motion by Selectman Barnes to accept the \$20,000 grant from the Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation, a division of the NH Charitable Foundation and send a press release to the newspapers. Chief Salois interjected that he had a press release and will take care of forwarding that tomorrow, along with further information regarding the Coalition. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Weldy. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing on Acceptance of Grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the Conservation License Plate Grant Review Committee for the Soldiers and Sailors Monument restoration.

Chairman J. Wood opens the public hearing and asks if there is any comment.

Frank Bishop stated that the grant actually comes from the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources and Preservation. It was the Moose License Plate Program that they received their funds for this type of grant.

Chairman J. Wood asked if there was any further input from the public. Hearing none, the public hearing is closed.

Frank Bishop would like to thank the Recreation Department for doing such a beautiful job on the grant application.

**Motion by Selectman Weldy to accept the grant, seconded by Selectman Barnes.
Motion passed unanimously.**

Public Hearing for the Land Purpose pursuant to the provisions of RSA 41-14a for a new water tower on Long Hill Road.

Chairman J. Wood opened the public hearing and asked if anyone would like to comment.

Selectman Brown recuses himself from the Board as he is an abutter.

Chairman J. Wood asked if the Chairman of the Planning Board, John Page, would like to speak. Mr. Page stated the only comment he had is that this is being paid for by the water users strictly. He didn't see anything where it would be an intrusion on anybody when the Planning Board went on the site walk. Basically, it is something that is needed.

Public Works Director, Dennis McCarthy stated that this is the culmination of three years worth of negotiations with this property owner for the purchase of a piece of land for the site of a new water storage tower. It is on Long Hill Road. Mr. McCarthy goes on to describe the water tower and what the purchase entails.

Chairman J. Wood asked that Mr. McCarthy explain the primary reason the water tower land is being purchased. Mr. McCarthy stated that right now we have sufficient water storage for domestic use, but we are deficient in fire flow capacity. The Town does not have enough water on hand to deal with any fires that they may have in the downtown or any of the larger businesses in town, so we need an additional 600,000 gallons of water and that is the purpose of this site. There were a number of sites that were looked at in town, but there were criteria that needed to be met and this site was the best. The height of this tower will be exactly the same height of the existing two towers. Further discussion about the abutters ensued.

Sumner and Shirley Dodge of Long Hill Road came up to speak. Their concern is the well that is on the Dodge property. It serves four property owners. Mr. Dodge was told that this well was the first artisan well in Town, it was driven approximately in 1916. Mr. Dodge is worried that during the blasting for the new tower, the seam or the source of the water may be sealed off and if that happens, what do they do, how do they protect themselves from that? Chairman J. Wood stated that when blasting occurs people are surveyed. Mr. McCarthy stated that he will make note of the concern. Chairman J. Wood asked if his well was within the 500 foot radius of the water tower site? Mr. McCarthy stated he did not believe it was. It might be right near the 500 foot radius or a little over. Chairman J. Wood asked the Dodges if they had problems when the blasting was done for Long Hill Road? The Dodges stated no, but it was further away from them than the tower site is. Mr. Dodge stated he went to Downeast Drilling and asked his opinion. The person he spoke to said he has seen it affect wells five miles away. Mr. Dodge is worried about the long-term effect. The Dodges requested that a test be done to find out how much water they get out of the well prior to the blasting. Mr. McCarthy

stated he did not think that the blasters will pay it. I think it is up to the Town at this point. Mr. Dodge stated that it would probably cost \$700 to \$1500. The Board of Selectmen will make the Planning Board aware as this comes in. The Dodges will be noticed when the site comes before the Planning Board because they are abutters, but also the people that are on this well will be noticed as well. Chairman J. Wood stated that this hearing is specifically for talking about the Town's purchasing the property itself for putting up the tower. Town Manager Bates asked the Dodges what would make them feel better about this situation. Mr. Dodge stated that having a pretest of water flow prior to the blasting and after the blasting, if they could be assured that they will have the same flow and quality of water from the well. Mr. Dodge then asked Mr. McCarthy questions that Mr. Cross had asked him to pass on to Mr. McCarthy.

Town Manager Bates wanted to clarify exactly what the Dodges' complaint was. Their complaint was their well in the future, losing their source of water. The Dodges indicated that that was correct.

Paul Brown came to speak as a nearby resident and recipient of the water from the well the Dodges' have been talking about. Mr. Brown voiced his opinion on this purchase.

Chairman J. Wood asked if there were any further comments from the public. Hearing none, this public hearing is closed. The second public hearing on this issue pursuant to RSA 41-14a will be held on August 30th.

Health Insurance Study Committee Report

Paul Brown stated that at the very last moment this evening, there was some question on the part of one or two of the committee members, so the committee decided to postpone this presentation and the committee will meet tomorrow morning and present it on August 30th.

Chairman J. Wood stated that the point of the Health Insurance Study Committee was to bring back a report, not necessarily for the Board to act on that report. The Committee will have the presentation on August 30th.

Joe Guthrie

Chairman J. Wood stated that he doesn't see Mr. Guthrie in the audience. Town Manager Bates stated that Mr. Guthrie was going to be here between 8:00 and 8:30 p.m. It was Town Manager Bates recommendation that they move on and come back to Mr. Guthrie.

Unfinished Business

Appointment of Tim Auclair to the CIP.

Motion by Selectman Weldy to appoint Tim Auclair to the CIP Committee, seconded by Selectman Brown. Motion passed unanimously.

Board of Selectmen Report

Jack Barnes – Attended a Recreation Advisory Board meeting. Tomorrow is the committee on recycling in Concord in Room 301 at 9:00 a.m. at the Legislative Office Building. Mr. Barnes also attended the union negotiations for the police and dispatch and attended the cookout at the fire station. The Town Manager attended the Right To Know Meeting in Concord with Mr. Barnes.

Paul Brown – Attended meetings with the Insurance Committee.

Norm Weldy – Attended a Raymond Coalition for Youth meeting. There will be a letter coming to the Town of Raymond to discuss exactly what is being requested by them. He also attended a Zoning Board of Adjustment. There were 7 cases, 1 denial, 1 continued and 5 accepted and were given permits. He attended union negotiations for the police and dispatch. Saturday Mr. Weldy attended the Fire Station cookout.

Jonathan Wood – Attended the All Boards Meeting and at that meeting it was suggested that the School Board, Budget Committee and Board of Selectmen all meet in a voting capacity to go over what might be expected next year so that budget decisions will not be made without having some idea of what revenue increases have affected the budget. This will be set up for the end of September, beginning of October. Planning Board met on Thursday. Mr. Wood also met with Raymond Arts and they have got a director and they have a play they are going to put on and it is called “Don’t Drink The Water”, it is a Woody Allen play. Tomorrow night is the Regional Selectmen’s meeting in Deerfield, it starts at 6:00 p.m. One other thing that came out of the All Boards Meeting was that we need a committee, like the Cable Committee, but one that works on web pages for the Town. We are looking for volunteers. One person has contacted Mr. Wood. Those wishing to volunteer please contact Rick Bates at Town Hall and they will be in touch with you.

Chairman J. Wood read into the record a letter from Town Manager Bates to Dennis McCarthy, Director of Public Works commending him and his department on the wonderful job they did with the trash pickup problem in the Blueberry Hill area. (See attached.)

Chairman J. Wood read into the record a letter from the Local Government Center regarding Volunteer Awards. (See attached.) The deadline for nominations is September 10th. Town Manager Bates has a recommendation, but he would like to discuss it in private because it is generally kept as a surprise until the end.

Town Managers Report

Michelle Clark will be attending a class at the Local Government Center on Wednesday morning on the changes to the new overtime law which have taken effect.

The old firehouse is scheduled to be painted as soon as possible, weather permitting. Wayne Welch has donated paint for the building itself and Al Torrisi from Jackson Lumber has generously donated materials to make repairs to the face of the building and he has donated money and materials to buy new clapboards and whatever other materials are needed to make the front of the building look half decent.

Jeb Bradley was in Town a couple of weeks ago to do a site walk of the old Tannery site. His office has contacted the EPA to express the importance. The Town has been contacted by them today and are sending them additional information so that they can put together a package and put it all in perspective. Apparently Jeb Bradley has pretty good contacts with Mr. Varney, who is a New Hampshire resident. Selectmen Barnes interjected that Mr. Varney used to be with the Department of Environmental Services. Town Manager Bates stated that we are in the process of trying to figure out where we are with the project because there is the petition. They are working on some alternatives.

Town Manager Bates met with Bill Netischen, a selectman from Nottingham, along with a member of his planning board on economic development.

The Wage and Salary Committee has been meeting. They are preparing a presentation for the Board on September 13th, of what they have found.

Town Manager Bates attended a Municipal Leadership class on Performance Evaluations, sponsored by the Local Government Center.

Cheryl Killam, the accessibility specialist from the State of New Hampshire was here to review our polling place deficiencies. She came down and was very helpful. It turns out that the places that we knew we were deficient on, we are deficient on, and many of the other things that we were cited on are incorrect. Town Manager Bates went over the particular issues. Ms. Killam helped us develop a plan and that went in the mail today along with a request for \$400 that is available in grant money to help us repaint the parking lot.

Craig and Town Manager Bates met with Sean O'Kane, new Commissioner for DRED this past week. They toured Raymond. Mr. O'Kane spent a few hours here. Town Manager Bates stated they are looking to have a business development forum tentatively scheduled for October 26th, starting with a tour of the Wal-Mart facility. Wal-Mart will provide dinner for the Board of Selectmen and the All Boards people, as it is sort of a reception, along with the people from the State and then they will go to the school and have a full business development forum. This is still up in the air about who is going to come.

Town Manager Bates also attended a NH Economic Developers Association Quarterly Meeting in Concord and also the Right to Know Committee.

Town Manager Bates stated that he will be on the last of his two weeks vacation beginning on the 23rd of August and Craig Wheeler will be Acting Town Manager.

Selectman Weldy would like to welcome his newest granddaughter, Leiliani into the world.

Motion by Selectman Brown to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Weldy. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Cramer
Executive Secretary