

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES OF 2-7-05 APPROVED

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Raymond High School Media Center by Chairman Jonathan Wood. Members present: Norman Weldy, Paul Brown, Dick Wood and Jack Barnes. Also present: Town Manager Rick Bates.

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

Public Forum

Emily Zimmerman, now Emily Quirk from the Rockingham News came forward. The Rockingham News wants to run something in their paper for Valentines Day and Ms. Zimmerman is asking for submissions from Raymond residents of their love stories. Email to her at rockinghamnews@seacoastonline.com. You may also call or fax the stories to her at 772-6000 X612.

Chairman J. Wood asked for any further comments from the public. Hearing none, the public forum was closed.

Public Hearing

Second public hearing on the Stop Sign on Bald Hill Road and Lane Road.

Chairman J. Wood read into the record the Ordinance (copy on file with the Town Clerk's office).

Chairman J. Wood asked for any comments from the Selectmen. Selectman Barnes questioned how long it would take to put up a stop sign and the date of the ordinance. The Board decided to date the ordinance February 14th in order to give the Public Works Department time to erect the Stop Sign.

Motion by Selectman Weldy to execute the By-Law for a stop sign at Bald Hill Road and Lane Road, seconded by Selectman D. Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Request from Gail Mills, Coordinator from the Raymond Coalition For Youth to use the common.

Ms. Mills came forward and gave a brief overview of what the Raymond Coalition for Youth is and what they are trying to accomplish. (A copy of her letter and the Raymond Coalition for Youth Fact Sheet is on file in the Town Clerk's office).

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES OF 2-7-05 APPROVED

Unfinished Business

Pine Acres Campground – Untaxed campers

Norm Pelletier, the Town of Raymond's Tax Assessor came forward to answer any questions regarding the Pine Acres Campground. Further discussion between Norm Pelletier and the Board of Selectmen was held on the issue of campers with porches built onto them. Mr. Pelletier was never notified when the porches were added on or when they are taken down. Chairman J. Wood stated that the Town was never notified either, they do not go through the proper channels and get a building permit from the Town. Mr. Pelletier stated that the people putting these porches on should go through the permit process, as these buildings are definitely taxable. It was decided that Mr. Tracey, the owner of Pine Acres Campground would be invited to the February 28th meeting to further discuss how this situation might be resolved.

Chairman J. Wood asked if there were any other questions for Mr. Pelletier while he is here? Hearing none, the Board thanked Mr. Pelletier for his time.

Town Scholarship

Ms. Puchacz sent the application form that the High School uses as a "generic form" for scholarships. It has been revised to add the items requested by the Board of Selectmen.

Town Manager Bates stated that using this form and having it go through the High School Guidance Department would ensure that all criteria needed to choose a recipient would be given.

Motion by Selectman Barnes to accept the application from the Raymond High School Guidance Department and participate in the School's program and utilize their form for choosing a recipient of the Town Scholarship, seconded by Selectman Weldy. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of Deliberative Session

Town Manager Bates discussed the issue of the posting of the default budget and stated that he received a legal opinion from Town Counsel. It is Town Counsel's opinion that the oversight would not invalidate the actions at Deliberative Session. Mr. Don Borrer of the DRA was contacted and he agreed with Attorney Battles legal opinion and would not challenge the vote.

Town Manager Bates stated that work has begun on the Voters Guide. The goal is to have it in residents' mailboxes by March 1st. The Guide will also include a sample ballot for residents to use.

A draft of the Voters Guide will be given to the Board of Selectmen for their meeting on Monday, February 14th.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES OF 2-7-05 APPROVED

Town Manager Bates stated that a copy of the final warrant, budget and default budget, along with a sample ballot would be put on the Town's web page.

A further discussion was held amongst the Board members and Town Manager with regard to the Voters Guide.

Mr. Stephen Naoum stepped forward to give his views on warrant articles and how the Board of Selectmen should get information to the voters on why the voters should vote for certain things. Things are not always clear enough as to where the Selectmen stand on certain issues. Mr. Naoum also suggested that the programs with the Town Manager be broadcast during a time when a majority of the public is available to watch, not at 3:00 a.m.

Selectman Barnes suggested the individual selectmen should write to the papers and express their views on what they are in favor of on the upcoming election.

Board of Selectmen Report

The Board of Selectmen gave their report.

Town Manager Report

The Town Manager gave his report.

Motion to adjourn by Selectman Brown, seconded by Selectman Weldy. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Cramer
Executive Secretary/
Selectmen's Secretary