

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

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

Chairman Weldy opened the public forum and invited public comment.

Public Forum:

Paul Brown came up and gave his opinion on his perspective of the Boards, Committees, etc. and their views. Mr. Brown feels the Board of Selectmen needs to assert themselves as the governing board in the Town of Raymond. The Selectmen are the bosses and in order to get all the Boards and Committees to work together in concert to move us all forward this must be done.

Bob Carlberg came forward and voiced his concerns about four members of the conservation commission attending the Board of Selectmen meeting last week. It should have been posted as a meeting or one member should have left. Mr. Carlberg also stated that there was an impromptu meeting in the hallway with Mr. Buckingham and a couple of members of the conservation committee. A clear discussion that was intended, in Mr. Carlberg's opinion, to influence Mr. Buckingham to change his way of thinking of the Raymond Business Park. Mr. Carlberg feels that many rules were broken that evening and he feels the Board of Selectmen should look into this further, before any further legal trouble comes.

Bob Forsing came forward and stated that the white fence post signs that state "Preserving our Past, Preparing our Future". The first one that went up in front of the fire station states that, however, other signs that were put up after that state "Preserving our Past, Preparing For The Future", which is not correct. Mr. Forsing would like to have the signs corrected when they need to be replaced.

Peter Buckingham came forward and thanked the Town Manager and Selectmen for the selection of the new Finance Director.

Sherry Brox came up and asked how much has Mr. Buckingham's Warrant Article cost the Town in legal expenses and employee time to date? Town Manager Bates answered that legal fees to date are \$1,900. Town Manager Bates did not have an amount for employee time.

Chairman Weldy asked for any further comments, hearing none, he closed the public hearing.

Public Hearings:

Donation from Aggregate Industries in the amount of \$4,000 for the Volunteer Banquet.

Chairman Weldy opened the public hearing.

Town Manager Bates stated that there are still openings available. If you have volunteered as a coach, in the schools, etc. you are eligible to come.

Chairman Weldy asked if there were any comments from the public, hearing none, he closed the public hearing.

Motion by Selectman Bishop to accept the donation of \$4,000 from Aggregate, seconded by Selectman D. Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

Donation from Helene Wiggin in the amount of \$25.00 to Movie Night With Corporal Kelly.

Chairman Weldy opened the public hearing.

Town Manager Bates stated that this program is very popular with the Recreation Department and Police Department working together to offer programs for kids.

Chairman Weldy invited public comment, hearing none, the public hearing is closed.

Motion by Selectman Barnes to accept the \$25.00 donation and place it in the DARE Program and spend it for Movie Night With Corporal Kelly, seconded by Selectman D. Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

Donation from WCVB TV of surplus television equipment.

Kevin Woods reported that WCVB TV has donated some surplus television equipment and has asked the Board to accept this donation.

Chairman Weldy opened the public hearing and invited comments from the public, hearing none, he opened up comments from the Board. Selectman Barnes asked if he could get an estimate of what the equipment is worth? Town Manager Bates stated he would ask Mr. Woods and get back to him. Chairman Weldy then closed the public hearing.

Motion by Selectmen Bishop to accept the donations, seconded to Selectman Bemis. Motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Barnes reminded the Board that they needed to decide on where the donation from Dwight Barnes, Raymond McDonald's would be put. Town Manager Bates stated there are several options, one was for the Raymond Coalition for Youth and Sherry Brox suggested the Library Sign (which is down and in need of repair which will be at least \$4,000).

Selectman Barnes stated that with all the business that is done with children at McDonald's, he is sure Dwight would want to have it go towards the library sign.

Motion by Selectman Barnes to accept the donation from Dwight Barnes, Raymond McDonald's and have it put toward restoration and repair of the Dudley Tucker Library sign and have Town Manager Bates send a letter to Dwight, seconded by Selectman D. Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

Sherry Brox thanked the Board for their decision and thanked Dwight Barnes for his generosity.

Bid opening Shim and Overlay

Chairman Weldy stated that the Shim and Overlay bids will be opened now and gone over.

The bids were opened. Attached is a summary of the bids.

Chairman Weldy asked if there were any other comments on this matter. Hearing none, he moved on the next agenda item.

Unfinished Business:

Request for Special Town Meeting – Peter Buckingham – Discussion and Possible Action.

Town Manager Bates stated that he and Craig Wheeler have had lengthy discussions with Mr. Buckingham and one of the result was to send out RFP's, which puts the market as the driving force in what potentially would go up there. This seemed to accomplish the goals of most everyone. Town Manager Bates asked Craig Wheeler to come forward and present the results.

Craig Wheeler came forward and presented the results (See memo to the Selectmen from Craig Wheeler and Rick Bates dated 4/1/05 on file with the Town Clerk's Office).

Mr. Buckingham came forward and stated that there are still some things that need to be worked out, but everyone is working together and going forward.

Selectman Barnes stated that he would like Rick to talk about a rumor that has been going around that a developer has already purchased the land in question.

Town Manager Bates stated that he has no knowledge of where that rumor is coming from. The land in question is still owned by the Town of Raymond.

Motion by Selectman Barnes to accept Option No. 1 (RFP strategy) and that the Town moves forward on it and get started, seconded by Selectman D. Wood for discussion. Selectman D. Wood asked Mr. Wheeler to explain the process as it will be up to the Planning Board and Mr. Wheeler to put this RFP together.

Craig Wheeler came back up and stated that he would envision a rough draft outlining the intent, some sort of description of the property and what they hope to accomplish within the next month to a month and a half and bring it back to the Selectmen. It would entail going through the planning process, with the planning board and the conservation commission. Mr. Wheeler sees it going on, because of the work load in the planning department right now, it will not be done next week. Mr. Wheeler would work on it over the next 60 days and get something to the Selectmen by June or July and then have public process throughout the summer and finish it up in the fall.

Selectman D. Wood stated that if that is accomplished, Mr. Wheeler is doing very well. The process in Manchester is two to three years in the development stages.

Mr. Wheeler stated once the work is finished here the RFP process could take several months, which could bring us to the next town meeting.

Chairman Weldy stated there is a motion on the floor with a second and asked for all in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Manager Bates stated that the other options that Craig has put a lot of time and effort into could be used in zones in other locations around town.

Mr. Buckingham came forward and thanked Craig Wheeler and Rick Bates for all of the work that has been done on this matter.

Bob came up and asked if there is still going to be a special town meeting? Chairman Weldy stated that this takes the place of a special town meeting. Bob asked that it be read into the record.

Motion by Selectman Barnes to accept option 1 in place of a special town meeting, seconded by Selectman D. Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Weldy stated that he has received an opinion from Town Counsel on the matter of the Selectmen recusing themselves from this matter. Town counsel has concluded that based on the facts presented, none of the Selectmen need to recuse themselves at this time from a vote on whether to warrant a special town meeting. In summary, the decision to warrant a special town meeting is a function of the legislative duties of the Selectmen and

given the facts presented, no showing exists that a conflict of interest exists either under the New Hampshire Common Law or under the Raymond Code of Ethics.

Transfer Station Contract – Discussion and Possible Action

Town Manager Bates stated the permit process is in the final stages of approval. There were just three questions that needed to be answered. One having to do with limiting the idling time of vehicles on the site, they had to come up with a plan of how that would happen. There is State legislation, State RSA that allows you to do that, so that will go into the operating plan. Also, how vehicles will be lined up in the event that it gets really busy in there and that will also be put into the plan. The third thing had to do with the location of the monitoring well, Well #4 was not located on the plan.

Selectman Barnes stated that a couple of those things that were implemented were from abutters speaking at the public hearing. How will the abutters be notified that their concerns were taken into consideration by the State? Town Manager Bates stated that he could send a letter to the abutters, although he felt most of the abutters were in attendance at the meeting. Chairman Weldy suggested that Town Manager Bates send a letter out to all of the abutters.

Selectman Bishop stated that he had a meeting with Town Manager Bates and Bestway one night and it was stated that the State was requiring Bestway to do those items. The representative from Bestway stated that a chain link fence was going to be put up with green slats in it, is that still going to happen? Town Manager Bates stated yes, and clarified that the person Selectman Bishop met with was the owner of Bestway. Town Manager Bates stated that they are shooting for a May 2nd start up date. Town Manager Bates stated that the contract is already signed, once we have the permit they can start. However, if the Board decides to alter or amend the contract in any way, it should be done tonight. Town Manager Bates stated that it is a five year contract with a review after one year. Chairman Weldy stated that if there is anything they find they want to amend the contract about, it can be done after the one year review. Town Manager Bates stated that one of the things the Board might want to do is to amend the contract regarding the start up and end time. The start up time is listed as 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Bestway has stated that there is no circumstance that they will be there past 5:00 p.m., even though the permit allows them to be there from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., they are not going to need to be there past 5:00 p.m. or be there at 6:00 a.m.

Chairman Weldy asked for a motion to change the hours of operation of Bestway's facility.

Motion by Selectman Barnes to amend the contract with Bestway to read 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., seconded by Selectman D. Wood with an amendment to section b) to read "no operation of any kind will be allowed after 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and before 7:00 a.m. on Monday. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Manager Bates wanted to clarify that the facility will be open to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. The facility is open at 7:00 a.m. to allow them time to get in and set up and remove any dumpsters that happen to be in there.

Further discussion and questions from residents regarding what would be accepted at the transfer facility and pollution laws.

Unfinished Business:

Raymond Economic Development Counsel Strategy – Discussion

Town Manager Bates stated that this counsel has met a few times and gave a proposal. That was just an outline of what they felt could be our strategy. Town Manager Bates recommended that the Work Session scheduled for April 11, be an All Board’s Meeting to begin the conversation of how we will move forward and for the Board to start to set up that Economic Development Counsel, which would be very useful for the Town.

Craig Wheeler came up and gave an overview of an economic development strategy. (See memo to Board of Selectmen dated March 28, 2005, on file with the Town Clerk’s Office).

It has been decided that the Work Session scheduled for April 11th will NOT be an All Board’s Meeting. It will just be a work session for the Board of Selectmen.

It was decided that the members of the Economic Development Council who recently met, to come to the Work Session with the Board of Selectmen.

Proclamation of National Library Week – April 10-16th – Action

There is a proclamation for the Board to sign for National Library Week for the week of April 10-16th.

Motion by Selectman D. Wood to sign the proclamation declaring April 10-16th as Raymond Library Week, seconded by Selectman Barnes. Motion passed unanimously.

Cemetery Advisory Board Appointments – Action

There has been a quorum problem with the Cemetery Advisory Board for quite some time. Given this lack of quorum, it is Town Manager Bates’ recommendation to waive the rules for Board and Committee Appointments under the exception provisions of the policy. (Copy on file with Town Clerk’s Office).

Motion by Selectman D. Wood to waive the three meeting rule because of quorum problems, seconded by Selectman Bemis. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman D. Wood that Gloria Carney be appointed as an alternate member of the Cemetery Advisory Board, seconded by Selectman Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman D. Wood to appoint Peter Harney as a Cemetery Advisory Board member, seconded by Selectman Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman D. Wood to appoint Linda Weldy as a Cemetery Advisory Board member, seconded by Selectman Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman D. Wood to appoint Assunta Ege as a Cemetery Advisory Board member, seconded by Selectman Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman D. Wood to appoint David Baker as a Cemetery Advisory Board member, seconded by Selectman Barnes. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman D. Wood to appoint Peter Buckingham as a Cemetery Advisory Board member, seconded by Selectman Bemis. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman D. Wood to appoint Peter Harney as a Cemetery Advisory Board member, seconded by Selectman Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

Disposition of old wrought iron cemetery fence – Action

The old cemetery fencing that was taken down several years ago was intended to be re-used within the cemetery for “dressing up” corners. It has not been completed as yet due to work loads in the Public Works Department. The Historic Society has requested the fence be installed around the depot. There is 144 linear square feet of fence available. It is estimated that the Historic Society would need about 100 linear square feet. Dennis McCarthy has requested direction from the Board of Selectmen as to where this fence should be used.

Chairman Weldy, as the Selectmen’s representative to the Cemetery Advisory Board felt that the fence was to be used back in the cemetery on the corners to dress up and beautify the cemetery itself. The Cemetery Advisory Board still feels it should be used in the Cemetery, where it belongs.

A discussion followed regarding the fence and where it should be used.

Town Manager Bates suggested that this matter be tabled until all parties can be met with and a discussion of how the fence was going to be used, etc. has taken place.

The Board of Selectmen gave their report.

The Town Manager gave his report.

Minutes:

The minutes of 3-7-05; 3-14-05 and 3-21-05 were reviewed.

Motion by Selectman D. Wood to approve the minutes of 3-7-05 as printed, seconded by Selectman Barnes. Motion passed 3 for and 2 abstaining.

Motion by Selectman Bishop to approve the minutes of 3-14-05 as printed, seconded by Selectman Bemis. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman D. Wood to approve the minutes of 3-21-05 as printed, seconded by Selectman Bemis. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Selectman Barnes, seconded by Selectman Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Cramer
Executive Secretary/Selectmen's Secretary