

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Raymond High School Media Center by Chairman Norman Weldy. Members present: Jack Barnes, Frank Bishop and Greg Bemis. Absent: Dick Wood. Also present: Town Manager Rick Bates.

Chairman Weldy polled the Board into nonpublic session under the provisions of RSA 91A:3:II(d). Jack Barnes – yes, Frank Bishop, yes, Greg Bemis – yes. Absent was Dick Wood.

Selectman Dick Wood entered nonpublic session after the Board went into nonpublic.

The Chair polled the Board to reenter public session, Jack Barnes – yes, Dick Wood – yes, Frank Bishop – yes, Greg Bemis – yes.

The Board reentered public session at 7:00 p.m.

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

Public Forum

Chairman Weldy opened the public forum and invited comments.

Tina Thomas came forward and made a correction to one of her comments regarding the Waste Management contract. Mrs. Thomas also asked who the Cemetery Trustees are for the Town of Raymond. Chairman Weldy stated he did not know. Mrs. Thomas stated that she has been having a hard time tracking down the Cemetery Trust Funds. Mrs. Thomas discussed further the problems she was facing and asked for clarification of these cemetery trust funds. Town Manager Bates stated that the cemetery trust funds have been in confusion for many, many years. He stated the new finance director, Grace Collette, is in the process of going through all of this kind of stuff. Town Manager Bates suggested that until she has gone through everything, this be put on hold. Selectman Barnes asked Chairman Weldy if he would like him to step up and work with Mrs. Thomas in talking to Terry Knowles up in Concord and seeing what Terry can give us for advice to get this straightened out. Chairman Weldy polled the Board and the Board agreed to allow this. Mrs. Thomas will get in touch with Grace to set up a time to meet. Grace will contact Selectman Barnes.

The Selectmen thanked Mrs. Thomas.

Chairman Weldy asked if there were any other people for public forum, hearing none, the public forum was closed.

Public Hearing – CDBG Feasibility Study Hilltop Cooperative

Chairman Weldy opened the public hearing and invited public comment.

Town Manager Bates introduced Terry Lorber, President and CEO of Provan & Lorber, Inc. the engineering company that did the report for the Hilltop Cooperative. Town Manager Bates

stated that what needs to be done now is to accept the report done by Provan & Lorber so that Hilltop Cooperative CDBG grant can go forward.

Mr. Lorber stated that Provan & Lorber were retained to do the feasibility study for the Hilltop Cooperative Park. The study was to take a look at everything within the park, the septic systems, the water system, roads and storm drainage. The report was summed up in an Executive Summary, (copy of an Executive Summary done by Provan & Lorber is on file with the Town Clerk). The improvements for the park total \$809,000.00. The improvements have already begun. Chairman Weldy asked if the wastewater issues of Parker Avenue were being addressed and Mr. Lorber stated that they were being worked on under the emergency grant right now. Mr. Lorber discussed the different aspects of the phases and where the money would come from for the projects. Town Manager Bates asked Mr. Lorber what he needed from the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Lorber stated acceptance of the report and final closeout of the feasibility portion.

Chairman Weldy asked if anyone had any questions or comments, hearing none, the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Selectman Wood that the Board of Selectmen accept the report entitled “Preliminary Engineering Report, Hill Top Cooperative, Inc., Raymond, New Hampshire” prepared by Provan & Lorber and allow them to closeout the feasibility study, seconded by Selectman Jack Barnes for discussion.

Selectman Bishop asked where the money that is not covered by a grant is coming from? Mr. Lorber stated that it will come from Community Housing Loan that Hilltop Cooperative will be responsible for.

Chairman Weldy polled the Board on the above motion. Selectman Barnes – yes, Selectman Wood – yes, Selectman Bishop – yes, Selectman Bemis – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing – Request to make Melody Lane a temporary exit for the middle school during construction

Melody Lane needs to be opened as a temporary exit for the middle school due to construction. Interim Superintendent David Sandmann has met with the residents to inform them of this.

Chairman Weldy opened the public hearing and invited public comment.

Copies of letters from Interim Superintendent David Sandmann are on file with the Town Clerk’s Office.

Selectman Jack Barnes wanted to make sure that the residents have been informed and do not have a problem with this. Town Manager Bates stated that that is why there is a public hearing today and the next item on the agenda is also a public hearing that will require a second public hearing on August 15th. If any residents have problems, they can attend the August 15th meeting.

Town Manager Bates also stated that Interim Superintendent David Sandmann will be at the August 15th meeting.

Caesar Meledandri, Principal of the Middle School was asked to come forward to give a little information regarding the changes. Mr. Meledandri stated that a letter to all parents of children in the middle school went out immediately after the meeting, stating that students that needed to be picked up, had to be picked up prior to 2:00 in the afternoon. School dismissal is at 2:35 and there are students that are walking, leaving at 3:00 so that the buses can get out and there aren't students riding bikes in front of buses, etc. It is a change and change is very difficult sometimes, however, Mr. Meledandri only received one telephone call from a parent in opposition to releasing the students who are walking at 2:55 p.m. Out of the 500 letters that went out, those odds are good. Town Manager Bates stated that the serious issue at the school is that the parents would come down to pick up their children, park in the parking lot, fill up the parking lot, so cars couldn't get in or out, buses couldn't get in, they would back up down the entrance road and across the entrance, it was gridlock. This eliminates that. Selectman Wood stated that Melody Lane does not have a stop sign at the end, one should be placed there. There is also a lot of low overhanging branches that will come into contact with the buses, they should be trimmed. There will be a police officer at the middle school for the end of the day for the first two weeks.

Chairman Weldy asked if there was any further questions or comments, hearing none, the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Selectman Wood to pursue the ordinance to use Melody Lane temporarily, seconded by Selectman Bemis. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing – First Reading Traffic Reconfiguration Ordinance for Middle School Construction

Laurette Kennard came forward and stated that she had problems with the Parker Avenue CDBG grant. She stated that Knights Court should not be in Phase I. It should only be Parker Avenue. Selectman Wood stated that the vote the Selectmen took was to close out the feasibility study and to pursue a grant for the Phase I part of the park. Selectman Wood stated that the concerned residents all need to go to the offices at the park and state that you need to talk about this, that is your right as part owner of that park.

Chairman Weldy opened the public hearing and invited comments. The ordinance was read (a copy of the ordinance is on file with the Town Clerk's Office).

Chairman Weldy asked for further comments, hearing none the public hearing is closed and this will be brought back for second and final reading on August 15, 2005.

Motion by Selectman Bishop to bring this ordinance reading back on August 15, 2005 for second and final hearing, seconded by Selectman Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing – Glen Ridge Road, second and final reading

Chairman Weldy opened the public hearing and asked for comments. The first reading was June 20th. This is the second and final reading for the road acceptance.

The Road Acceptance was read (A copy is on file with the Town Clerk's Office).

Motion by Selectman Wood to accept the Road Acceptance of Glen Ridge Road as a Class V road, seconded by Selectman Bemis. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Authorization of Commitment Letter from Citizens Bank

Town Manager Bates stated that Grace Collette, Finance Director is here to go over this and answer any questions that the Board may have. The Board needs to sign this.

Grace explained that what is being requested from the Board is authorization of the terms of the loan, that is the amount that was authorized at the March 2004 Town Meeting by the people \$300,000 and this is a ten year loan at 4.1%. We received four bids, very good and very different, each had good points and bad points and this was what was considered to be in the best interest of the Town. This is for a new fire truck, air handling system for the Highway Garage, 4x4 vehicle for the Police Department and 10 SCBA units for the Fire Department. The remainder of the money would be paid for by capital reserve accounts which the Town has saved up for over the years.

Motion by Selectman Wood to have the Board of Selectmen sign the commitment letter with Citizens Bank for a loan in the amount of \$300,000 at 4.1% for the items that were approved in Article #15 on the March 2004 ballot, seconded by Selectman Barnes. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Works Projects Update

Dennis McCarthy is on hand to answer any questions regarding trash removal and PAYT.

Dennis gave the calculation of how he came up with the \$2.00 fee for bags. Dennis reminded everyone that these calculations were all done prior to any history of how the program worked, in fact it was before we even had contracts for what different items would cost. Basically the disposal costs assuming we had 3,000 tons of rubbish and 1100 tons of recyclables and we assumed the cost of the trash would be \$75 per ton because our contract was expiring. Since then our cost has been pegged at \$72 per ton and we assumed a 25% recycling rate. Came up with disposal costs of \$241,500. Collection costs we anticipated new contract for the curbside collection would be \$280,000 and anticipated the additional curbside recycling collection cost to be approximately \$200,000, for a total of \$480,000. Our actual cost is around \$440,000. Recycling bins, estimate purchase of 4,000 bins at an estimated cost of \$5 per bin for a total of \$20,000. We did purchase 5,000 bins, but we were also able to secure a 50% grant and we were

also able to get a 10% reduction by using a local company so we saved a little bit of money there and then purchase of bags estimated a purchase of 416,000 bags, based upon 4000 residential units each using two bags per week for 52 weeks per year at .20 per bag. That total came to \$83,200. Adding up all those costs gave us a total anticipated program cost of \$824,700.00. Then they divided that cost by the number of bags that we anticipated would be used within a year, which was 416,000 bags and came out with a cost of \$1.98 per bag which was rounded up to \$2.00 per bag.

Dennis stated that the recycling rate for the month of July was 31%, not 25%, so the Town is actually a little above where it was anticipated.

Dennis answered questions from the Board of Selectmen regarding last year's cost for curbside.

Selectman Barnes asked what the costs might be if private haulers were allowed into Town? What would the costs be if we lower the cost of the bags? Dennis replied that at this point he could do a little with the numbers, however, he does not have a handle on the amount of bags being used per household and that will take another couple of months to get a good grip on it. Dennis recommended waiting longer before lowering the price of the bags, until more information is available from the program, both for the recycling rate, which also affects the cost of the bag and how many bags the average household is using.

Chairman Weldy asked Dennis what his thoughts were to use the money coming in from Bestway for the tonnage going through the transfer facility to offset the PAYT? Dennis stated it is an excellent idea. It is not a huge sum of money, we are getting \$2.00 per ton of any materials that goes over the scale. Selectman Barnes stated the Town received \$1,600 for the month of June. Their permit approval is for 150 tons a day. The most the Town could collect is \$300 a day. Dennis doesn't think it will be a huge amount of money, but it is a good way to allocate the funds coming in from the transfer facility. The Town's biggest savings isn't the \$2.00 per ton, it is the \$150,000 that the Town has taken off of the tax rate. The Town spent \$156,000 last year in hard cash, other people were being paid to rent us dumpsters and haul dumpsters and pay tipping fees to run that facility, which next year you will pay 0 for. In the long run you are saving \$156,000 right off the tax rate and then what revenue the Town receives could be dedicated back into the PAYT program to offset the cost of the bags. Or you can set the price of the bag to anything you want and the tax rate picks up the difference.

Chairman Weldy asked if there were any further questions for Dennis. There were none. The Board thanked Dennis for his time.

Chairman Weldy then stated he would like to address the Board on an important issue. The Board of Selectmen should commit to putting before the voters at the annual town meeting, an up or down vote on the PAYT program. Chairman Weldy moves that the Board work tonight to commit to putting the question on the annual town meeting, seconded by Selectman Barnes. The Board was then polled; Selectman Barnes – yes; Selectman Bemis – yes, Selectman Bishop – yes; Selectman Wood – yes, Chairman Weldy – yes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The Town Manager will work to develop a warrant article to put before the voters for them to choose whether they want to keep PAYT or do away with it and go back to the way it was before. Along with that it will have the tax impact information for the voters to make an informed decision.

Donation of \$100 prize that the Board of Selectmen won in the 4th of July Parade

The Board of Selectmen won first place in the 4th of July Parade and won \$100. The Board of Selectmen need to agree where to donate this money.

Motion by Selectman Barnes to donate this money to the Library Sign Fund so they can have the sign fixed, seconded by Selectman Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

Solid Waste Ordinance - Confirmatory Vote

It was brought to the Board of Selectmen's attention that the Solid Waste Ordinance that was posted did not include the following language:

“Article 1: To see whether the Town will vote to adopt the following solid waste ordinance:”

and did not include the Selectmen's attestation.

These additions were reviewed and discussed in cooperation with Kathy Hoelzel, Town Moderator, Town Counsel Rob Ciandella and Secretary of State William Gardner. Although none of these changes are legally required, and they do not change the substance of either the ordinance or the warrant, they were added and the Solid Waste Ordinance was re-posted on August 1st and placed in the newspaper again on August 4th.

Motion by Selectman Wood that the Board of Selectmen confirm the additions made to the proposed solid waste ordinance and warrant. The first addition was the inclusion of the following, non-substantive language into the warrant: Article one to see whether the Town will vote to adopt the following solid waste ordinance. The second addition was an additional attestation by the Selectmen to the warrant. Copies of the warrant with these changes were posted in the Town by Acting Town Manager Craig Wheeler last week and a copy of the warrant was also published in the Union Leader. Neither of these changes affected or changed the substance of the Ordinance as previously adopted by this Board. These ministerial changes were made to ensure that the focus of the deliberative session was on the substance of the ordinance itself.” Motion seconded by Selectmen Bemis. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Manager Bates stated that a couple of problems have occurred. The posting at the High School was removed once in the past week. It is now being checked everyday to make sure that it remains posted. Town Manager Bates also would like to thank Kathy Hoelzel for helping us to eliminate a potential hang-up at the meeting before it got to be too much of a hang-up.

Chairman Weldy stated that to remove a posting is a serious offense and the Selectmen have been in touch with the Secretary of State and it is quite a serious offense to be doing so. Selectman Bishop asked if there was a fine that goes along with it? Chairman Weldy stated yes there is, along with time in jail.

Raymond Business & Economic Development Council

The Raymond Business & Economic Development Council has made some changes to the Rules and Regulations, mostly just grammatical changes.

The changes that were made were discussed and it was decided to bring this back on August 15th with the changes made being highlighted.

The Board of Selectmen gave their report.

Selectman Bishop stated that the information provided to him from Chairman Weldy about the Moving Wall was passed on to the Commander of the VFW and there is considerable interest among the membership. If any of the residents are interested in having the Moving Wall come to Raymond, please let Selectman Bishop know. Selectman Wood stated the American Legion is meeting this week and that is one of the topics on their agenda also.

The Town Manager gave his report.

Minutes

The Minutes of July 11th and July 18th were reviewed.

Motion by Selectman Wood to approve the Minutes of July 11th as drafted, seconded by Selectman Barnes. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Bemis to approve the Minutes of July 18th as drafted, seconded by Selectman Wood. Motion passed unanimously.

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Cramer
Selectmen's Secretary