

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

Chairman Weldy opened the public forum and invited public comment.

Gail Columbus, 8 Meadow Court, came forward and stated her concerns with her contaminated well (e-coli contamination) and how she believes the Town is responsible for the failure. Since the reconstruction done on Lane Road she has been experiencing an increased flow of water on her property. She stated she reported this to the Town eight weeks ago. She believes the Town is responsible and is here tonight asking for help.

Chairman Weldy stated that this matter will be taken under advisement and will get back to Mrs. Columbus through the Town Manager. Town Manager Bates stated that the Town's legal counsel is working on this and that Mrs. Columbus should go through her attorney to the Town's attorney as it has been handed over to them for their recommendations. Mrs. Columbus demanded a date for when she will hear from Town Counsel. Town Manager Bates stated that he would be in contact with Town Counsel by the end of the week.

Peter Buckingham, 75 Nottingham Road, came forward with two questions for the Board. The first is a citizens petition for a warrant article and he is asking that an action be taken tonight. Mr. Buckingham is looking for the Board's endorsement.

Selectman Bishop interjected saying that this is public forum and there may be citizens waiting to speak. This is not the proper place to debate this issue at this point. Chairman Weldy agreed and asked the Board to disregard the conversation and answer yes or no if they will endorse this petition. Selectman Wood stated that he feels that this answer should wait for the public hearing before any decision is made. There will have to be a public hearing on this by the planning board. Selectman Barnes stated that this all started out with Peter asking the Board to get a straw vote, Selectman Barnes stated that he is willing to vote yes. He does not need to wait for the public hearing if it is a straw vote. Chairman Weldy polled the Board if they approve or disapprove of this citizens petition: Jack – Yes; Greg – Yes; Frank – Yes; Dick – He stated he doesn't want to say no or yes. He wants to hear what the citizens have to say about the change in the petition from last year to this year. Chairman Weldy stated that this is just a straw vote and is not binding. Selectman Wood stated that it is binding in the eyes of the folks that are listening right now. You are endorsing a change that he did not understand, so he is not going to vote. Chairman Weldy stated that at this point it is 4-0-1, with Selectman Wood abstaining.

The second question Mr. Buckingham had to ask was with his participation on the Conservation Commission, whether that was allowed or not. Chairman Weldy stated that they have not received a concrete answer yet. When they receive the answer, Mr. Buckingham will be notified. Mr. Buckingham thanked the Board of their time.

Dwight Glidden, 92 Nottingham Road, voiced his concerns with plowing during the last storm and why materials were laid down and then plowed away and the total amount of hours of overtime. Town Manager Bates asked Mr. Glidden for the road name, until he gets a road name, this matter can't be looked into. Mr. Glidden responded that it was done on Harriman Hill Road and also on the other side of town. Town Manager Bates stated that there are a lot of new drivers at this time and it is possible that the driver that was on that road at that time made a mistake. Until we can look into it further, we can't guess. Mr. Glidden would like this matter put on the agenda for the next Selectmen meeting with Town Manager Bates answers. Town Manager Bates stated that the next regular Selectmen meeting is scheduled for the 30<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Barnes suggested that Dennis McCarthy, the Director of Public Works be in attendance at that meeting to answer questions. Town Manager Bates stated that he would ask Dennis McCarthy to attend the meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Glidden thanked the Board for their time.

Don Smith, VFW and Dave Peno, American Legion came forward with a report on how much has been raised for the Sergeant Keith Gamble Family Fund, the amount is now just over \$2,000. They would both like to thank everyone in Town for their donations. Mr. Smith also would like to thank the Garrants for contributing money donated from their light display. Unfortunately, their light display was vandalized and will cost them about \$4,000 to replace. Their homeowner's insurance will only cover about half that cost. They then went back to the Garrants' home telling them to keep the \$350 collected and they wouldn't do it. The VFW then decided that they wanted to do a fundraiser for the Garrants. His out of pocket expense is going to be at least \$2,000. The VFW and the American Legion would like to hold a raffle to help repair the damages. Mr. Smith's sister donated a hand made quilt to be raffled off. They had the proper paperwork filled out and just needed the Selectmen's signatures in order to start the raffle. The Board then signed the raffle form for them.

Kevin Woods came forward and voiced his concerns with deliberative session and the issues coming forward. He suggested that the Board of Selectmen film a warrant article session to inform the residents prior to deliberative. The Board of Selectmen stated yes and it was scheduled for Monday, January 16, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. Kevin Woods stated that he would make arrangements to have the alarms shut off if he decided to use the media center.

Chairman Weldy closed the public forum at this point.

### **Lamprey River Cooperative**

Chairman Weldy opened the public hearing and invited public comment. Chairman Weldy stated that the Lamprey River Cooperative is requesting that the Town of Raymond apply for a \$500,000 public facilities community development block grant to enable the cooperative to connect with the Town's water system. This is Phase I of IV in programs of improvements. The total project costs for Phase I water supply is \$534,791.00. The Cooperative will provide the balance of \$34,791. The Board is requested to authorize the submittal of the CDBG grant application to the NH

Community Development Finance Authority and to authorize the Town Manager to sign all appropriate documents as part of the application. Gerry Coogan came forward and spoke about submitting this grant on behalf of the Lamprey River Cooperative. Mr. Coogan introduced John McNally, who is the President of the Cooperative, Terry Lorber, an engineer with Provan & Lorber who did an engineering report for the Cooperative. The Lamprey River Cooperative was known formerly as Bill & Ruth's Trailer Park. They became a cooperative a couple of years ago. Tonight they are looking for the Board's approval and submittal of this application. The primary objective of this grant is to benefit low to moderate income families. There are about 18 families in the park, 15 responded to the survey. Of the 15, 13 were designated to be low to moderate income families. Terry Lorber then came forward and gave his report on Phase I of the Lamprey River Cooperative project, connection to the Town's water supply system. At the end of his report the Board asked questions and Mr. Lorber provided answers. Mr. Coogan, at this point, asked if the public has any questions or comments on the CDBG program or this application. Chairman Weldy asked if there were any further questions or comments from the Board, hearing none, he asked for comments or questions from the public.

John McNally, the Lamprey River Cooperative's President came forward and stated that the Lamprey River Cooperative would be very appreciative if the Board of Selectmen would help support submittal of this facilities grant for them. Chairman Weldy thanked Mr. McNally.

Paul McCoy asked if the high school abuts this property in the back and asked if there was any way while the performing the water hookups from the grants that they could hook up the high school? Town Manager Bates stated that the school is above the safe gradient for getting water up that high. The elevation of the high school is above the safe gradient and that was one of the reasons water was not brought up there to begin with.

Gerry Coogan stated that if there are no further comments he would move on to the next item, which is the Housing and Community Development Plan. This is a document that has been before the Board of Selectmen in the past for other grant applications. It talks about the need for affordable housing, portable potable water supply, the need for commercial activity, non-polluting light industry, etc. Mr. Coogan asked the Board of Selectmen to please look this document over and sign it. Town Manager Bates stated that this document is adopted for every CDBG application. Mr. Coogan then asked if anyone had questions on this document. Chairman Weldy asked for comments or questions from the public. There were none. Mr. Coogan then brought his last item forward, the Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan. Again, this is just a formality for CDBG purposes. It was included in the last application and all the Board of Selectmen has to do is re-sign this form. Chairman Weldy asked for comments or questions from the public, hearing none, Chairman Weldy then closed the public hearing.

Mr. Coogan requested that the Board of Selectmen vote to authorize the Town Manager to execute the application for \$500,000 for Phase 1 water supply. Town Manager Bates then asked the Board to authorize him to sign the application for the \$500,000 for the Phase I water supply hookup.

**Motion by Selectman Wood that the Board of Selectmen authorize the submittal of the CDBG application to the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority and to authorize the Town Manager to sign all appropriate documents as part of the application, seconded by Selectman Bemis. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by Selectman Wood that the Board of Selectmen re-sign the Housing and Community Redevelopment Plan for this project, seconded by Selectman Barnes. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion by Selectman Wood that the Board of Selectmen re-sign the Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan for this project, seconded by Selectman Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Coogan thanked the Board of Selectmen for their time and cooperation.

### **Public Hearing to Accept the CDBG Feasibility Study Grant – Wastewater System**

The application to complete a multiphase engineering study to evaluate the feasibility of developing a municipal wastewater system has been funded as requested. Town Manager Bates stated that there was a warrant article for \$50,000 for the feasibility study. This completes the total of the \$50,000 to round out that total amount, so the first phase is completed with money from the Town, money from various donations from the developer and this finishes the package.

Chairman Weldy opened the public hearing and invited public comment or questions, hearing none, the public hearing was closed.

**Motion by Selectman Barnes to accept the grant in the amount of \$12,000 from CDBG for the feasibility study for wastewater treatment, seconded by Selectman Bishop. Motion passed unanimously.**

The Selectmen would like a letter sent to all five of the Governor's Council asking for their support on this grant.

### **Contract with AFSCME – Possible Approval of Contract**

Town Manager Bates stated that he was notified this morning that the members of that bargaining unit met on Friday afternoon and voted unanimously to approve the tentative agreement. Chairman Weldy stated he has the letter that has been forwarded to him from the Union. The terms of the agreement are as follows: It is a five year agreement as opposed to a one or a three year agreement so the Town then knows exactly what to budget for the next five years. One of the other key components was that the Town was looking to the bargaining unit to be working towards getting the insurance to a co-pay of the premium up over a period of time up to the 15%, so that was negotiated in so that it is a 3% escalating clause annually, up until 15% for the term of the agreement. The final

part of it is that it is a 4% annual increase for the term of the agreement for five years. Those are the main components of the agreement. This will kick in January 1<sup>st</sup> and thereafter it will be April. This will need to be approved by the voters in March.

**Motion by Selectman Wood that the Board of Selectmen approve the attached collecting bargaining agreement negotiated between the Town designated negotiating team and the AFSCME Council 93, Local 863 representing town employees within the bargaining unit designated under the PERLB Certification G-0013 and further authorize the Town Manager to take all actions, including the execute and deliver any and all documents necessary to effectuate the said collecting bargaining agreement subject to the necessary approval of town meeting, seconded by Selectman Bemis. Motion passed unanimously.**

At this point in the meeting Chairman Weldy introduced Emily Quirk, reporter for the Rockingham News, who is now back covering our town again.

**Draft Warrant Articles for Posting on January 30, 2006**

Town Manager Bates stated that this is the draft of the warrant articles. This is still a moving document. The Board of Selectmen has until the 30<sup>th</sup> of January to make any changes. Fundamentally, the numbers for any money articles have to be here, but it can be changed at any point in time up until the 30<sup>th</sup>. Town Manager Bates stated that any changes made after tonight will have to be made in conjunction with the Budget Committee. The number items are where they need to be at this point, it is just the wording of the warrant articles that need to be tweaked at this point, the tax impact information, or the order of them could change.

Town Manager Bates then went over the Warrant Articles. (A copy of the draft warrant articles are on file with the Town Clerk).

**Motion by Selectman Barnes to accept Warrant Article 15, 16, 17, and 18 and put them on the ballot as recommended by the Board of Selectmen with the knowledge that the Conservation Commission will give their thoughts on the land trust article, seconded by Selectman Wood. Motion passed unanimously.**

Article 19 was reviewed at this point.

It is the collecting bargaining unit. The first year is \$15,624.00, the tax impact would be \$.03.

**Motion by Selectman Wood that the Board of Selectmen recommend Warrant Article 19, the AFSCME Collecting Bargaining Contract be put on the ballot, seconded by Selectman Barnes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Article 20 was reviewed at this point.

Discussion was held as to whether or not this should be a part of Article 19. To put the wording into Article 19. The RSA will be quoted in there as well. It was decided that this would be put into Article 19.

Article 21 was reviewed at this point.

Town Manager Bates stated that Article 21 is the budget. This is still being worked on in an effort to bring the numbers down even further. There was discussion about the dumpsters at Riverview and this matter will be brought back when Dennis McCarthy is here to answer questions. A suggestion was made to do away with the dumpsters and have them put the green bags out on the curb, just like everyone else. Town Manager Bates will get an answer in the Board of Selectmen folders tomorrow.

Article 22 is the Town Fair Parade which has already been done.

Town Manager Bates asked the Board of Selectmen if they want the tax impact wording as part of the article? Selectman Barnes stated he feels it should be, it gives the taxpayers more information to make their decision with.

**Motion by Selectman Barnes to keep the tax impact wording as part of the warrant article, seconded by Selectman Wood. Motion passed unanimously.**

Article 23 is the Mosquito Control Warrant Article. Selectman Barnes stated that this is coming in front of the House of Representatives (Chairman Weldy's committee), they are currently working on it. There is a bill in front of Norm's committee for the State to do something about the mosquitos and hopefully Norm's committee will make sure that the surrounding state's will do something also. The House Bill Number is 1464 FN Local. If the Board of Selectmen decide to take this off as a warrant article, Town Manager Bates will notify Tim Louis as to why as he was the one that came before the Board requesting this. It was decided to keep this here in case we need to match funds from the State. A discussion was held on where the mosquitos breed, which is in stagnant water and it was suggested that some of the money should be spent to get rid of tires with water in it, etc.

**Motion by Selectman Wood that the Selectmen leave Article 23 on the warrant and put a recommended on it and let the voters decide, seconded by Selectman Barnes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Town Manager Bates stated that Article 24 the Board has already dealt with.

Town Manager Bates stated that the board has already dealt with Article 25, Article 26, Article 27, and Article 28 also.

Town Manager Bates stated that Article 29 had some wording changed to clarify exactly what the people would be voting for.

Town Manager Bates stated that the Board of Selectmen have already dealt with Article 30, Article 31, Article 32, Article 33, Article 34, and Article 35.

Town Manager Bates stated that the Board of Selectmen have already discussed Article 36 about possibly changing the town meeting date to April. Finance Director Collette stated that if the town meeting date were to be changed there would be several financial implications. When any major projects are done, they are usually sent out to bid in advance of the project. Projects are started in the spring traditionally. By putting off the date that we know whether we are going to have a project or not, that crams everything that we are going to be able to accomplish during the period of no frost in the town into a much tighter time frame, much harder for the department heads to get the work done. Also, if there were going to be raises given, this would cause people to not have there raise for another month and might cause some inconvenience. If they were computing raises, they would have to be retroactively be computed an extra month. It would make a difference in the cash flow of the town. There would be much greater difficulty operating for eight months of the year, only eight months knowing how many dollars we have. Operating for four months when you don't know how many dollars you have is flying blind and not in the best interest of the town. A further discussion on this was held between Finance Director Collette, the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager Bates.

Town Manager Bates will get some further information before the Selectmen decide on this Article.

Town Manager Bates stated that Article 37 is a petition warrant article to change back to the old town meeting form of government, to rescind the provisions of SB2. Selectman Barnes asked that at deliberative session to have Moderator Hoelzel read the names of everyone who signed each petitioned warrant article.

Town Manager Bates stated that Article 38 is the petition warrant article to rescind the Pay-As-You-Throw program.

Article 39 was reviewed and has to do away with the trash ordinance and have their own trash hauler. There is still two years on the contract with Waste Management and that contract will need to be honored and paid for until it is done.

Article 40 was reviewed.

The Deliberative Session will be held at the Raymond High School Cafeteria on February 4, 2006 at 8:00 a.m.

### **Correspondence**

Chairman Weldy went over some correspondence he received.

The Selectmen then gave their report.

The Town Manager gave his report.

**Motion by Selectman Bishop to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Wood. Motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Cramer  
Selectmen's Secretary/Recording Secretary