

Place: Raymond High School Media Center
Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Harold Wood, Chairman, John Barnes, Frank Bishop, Greg Bemis and Tim Auclair. Also present: Town Manager Richard Bates.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing: To accept Grants and Donations

Public Hearing Opened at 7:00 p.m.

Anonymous Donation of \$450.00 to the police and dispatch “Sanctuary Fund”

Public Hearing Closed at 7:01 p.m.

MOTION: John Barnes made a motion to accept the anonymous donation of \$450.00 to the police and dispatch “Sanctuary fund”. Frank Bishop seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Public Hearing Opened at 7:02 p.m.

Anonymous Donation of \$450.00 to the Fire Department “Sanctuary Fund”

Public Hearing Closed at 7:03 p.m.

MOTION: John Barnes made a motion to accept the anonymous donation of \$450.00 to the fire department “Sanctuary fund”. Greg Bemis seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Public Hearing Opened at 7:03 p.m.

Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$13,240.00 for Fire Dept.

Helmets

Public Hearing Closed at 7:04 p.m.

MOTION: John Barnes made a motion to accept the Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$13,240.00 for Fire Dept. Helmets Tim Auclair seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Public Hearing Opened at 7:04 p.m.

State Highway Block Grant in the amount of \$196,476.00

Public Hearing Closed at 7:05 p.m.

MOTION: John Barnes made a motion to accept the State Highway Block Grant in the amount of \$196,476.00. Frank Bishop seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Public Hearing Opened at 7:05 p.m.

Raymond Masonic Lodge grant in the amount of \$150.00 for the DARE program***Public Hearing Closed at 7:06 p.m.***

MOTION: John Barnes made a motion to accept the Raymond Masonic Lodge grant in the amount of \$150.00 for the DARE program. Tim Auclair seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Cemetery Rule Changes

Chairman Wood announced that the Public hearing for changes to Cemetery Rules has been rescheduled for February 26 and March 5.

New Business:**Re-conveyance of Tax Deeded Properties**

- **Map 38 Lot 4-33, 55 Barberry Lane**
- **Map 12 Lot 1-108, 7 Patricia Ave.**

Town Manager Bates stated that at this time both parties that the Board of Selectmen met with on January 29th have agreed to pay and the legal fees have been calculated at \$146.25 each and \$52.39 to file the deed. These have been paid and town counsel will prepare the deed. A motion is needed to protect the town and the deeds will not be filed until all appropriate paperwork has been filed and checks cleared.

MOTION: John Barnes made a motion that in accordance with previously adopted policy, I move that the Board re-convey the following tax deeded properties: Tax Map 38, Lot 4-33, 55 Barberry Lane and Tax Map 12, Lot 1-108, 7 Patricia Ave. to the former owners of record: for the repayment of all the back taxes, interest, costs and fees, as provided in NH RSA 80:89, II and 80:90,I, but, in accordance with the policy adopted at the board of Selectmen's meeting on January 29, 2007, that the Board of Selectmen waive the statutory penalty, in the amount of 15% of the assessed value of the property, required by NH RSA 80:90,I(f), for the following reasons:

1. The property is residential
2. The property is owner-occupied
3. The property has not previously been tax deeded from the same property owner
4. The property is not subject to any notices of zoning, code or other property violation
5. The former owner is repurchasing before the properties have been offered to the general public for sale.

Tim Auclair seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Unfinished Business:

Status of court stipulation for Route 27, Map 32-2, Lot 2

Town Manager Bates stated that as the Board will remember that the Town won its case against K. Patterson on Route 27. According to the court stipulation, they had until the first of February to remove all of the construction equipment from the site and until June 1st to pay our legal and court fees. The weather has deteriorated and the ground froze making it impossible to remove one piece without damaging it significantly. The problem is that they moved much of the equipment from Route 27 to Twins Road that we had previous court action on so they are in violation on that site.

Town Manager Bates stated that Town Counsel believes that while we have the right to remove the remaining equipment and collect a \$100 per day fine that the Patterson's will likely appeal and likely win if we assess the fine as they have made efforts to comply and weather is a hindrance.

MOTION: John Barnes made a motion that the Board of Selectmen abate the fine with the following conditions:

1. They pay the legal fees as required by the stipulation.
2. They remove the equipment left on the site prior to June 1st, the date the legal fee payment is due.
3. That no additional equipment is brought to the route 27 site.
4. They bring the Twins road property into compliance by the close of business, February 12, 2007.
5. Payment of the \$2,000.00 for the purchase of Town Owned land on Twins Road.
6. Failure to comply with any of the stipulations will result in the assessment of all fees and penalties retroactively to February 1, 2007 as per the court order.

Frank Bishop seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Deliberative Session Discussion

The Board discussed the fact that a motion to cut the operating budget by \$135,000 is going to cause a reduction in services.

Chairman Wood stated that the Board of Selectmen need to take a vote to recommend or not recommend the operating budget number as amended.

MOTION: Tim Auclair made a motion to NOT RECOMMEND the operating budget number as amended. Greg Bemis seconded. Vote on the MOTION: John Barnes, Frank Bishop and Greg Bemis voted against the motion. Tim Auclair and Dick Wood voted in favor of the motion. MOTION FAILED.

Greg Bemis stated that there needs to be more discussion on this before making a decision.

John Barnes stated that he voted against the motion because the people voted on Saturday to lower the operating budget.

Chairman Wood stated that it is not the number that will keep the town operating at the same level of service. People came to public hearings and expressed that they did not want services cut.

Tim Auclair stated that the Board worked very hard to present a budget that was reasonable and still provide the level of service expected.

Mr. Bemis asked if they could vote again. Mr. Barnes stated he would not object to another vote.

MOTION: Tim Auclair made a motion to NOT RECOMMEND the operating budget number as amended. Greg Bemis seconded. Vote on the MOTION: John Barnes and Frank Bishop voted against the motion. Tim Auclair, Greg Bemis and Dick Wood voted in favor of the motion. MOTION PASSED. *A note of not recommended by the Board of Selectmen will be placed on the ballot.*

Other Business

Selectmen discussed the interview process that will take place for hiring a Town Manager. The interviews are scheduled to take place on February 16th and 17th.

Town Manager Report

He has been working with developers in hopes of generating interest in not only Exit 4 but the entire community.

Several citizens, Joyce Wood, Frank Bourque and Robert Carlberg, have expressed interest in becoming a part of the Wetlands Mitigation Committee set up by the Board of Selectmen.

Adjournment

MOTION: Frank Bishop made a motion to adjourn. John Barnes seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bette Patterson
Recording Secretary