

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting

7 August 2007

Members present: R. Stephen Leighton, Chairman, and Lynn Sweet.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Among those attending were Judi Witcher, Stephanie Gray, Mary Dempsey, Duncan Chaplin and Cheryl Roy.

There was a short discussion regarding possibility of using a waiver/agreement for volunteers to sign when issued expensive grant funded equipment by the Fire and Rescue Squad, making them responsible for the piece of equipment and reimbursement if not returned should they leave the department or lose the item. Will research legality.

After review, a motion was made, seconded and voted to accept the minutes from the July 17th meeting of the Board.

Some members of the Facility Needs Committee attended to discuss progress on the plan for the Town Office building, as well as what actually is the "charge" of the Facility Needs Committee. Mr. Leighton noted that Mr. Berry is working on the septic design and was able to use information from borings done for previous plans. Mr. Fallon has provided a footprint for the building using the Municipal portion of the plan previously drawn by him, with some suggested changes and a reduction of 700 sq. feet on the footprint. Upon receipt of the septic design (anticipated mid-September) Board's intent is to use the footprint and septic design to help determine cost. Both architect and Board are still working with an anticipated cost of \$400,000. for the project. Once realistic figure is established, design can be adjusted if necessary. Possible ways to communicate and keep the public informed were discussed, as well as the need to get all department heads (i.e. Planning, Police, Fire and Rescue and others) involved. The background and "charge" of the committee were discussed. The committee evolved from a vote at the 2005 Town Meeting requiring that "the Selectmen meet with the School Board at least 4 times between this date and the next Town Meeting, to engage in joint facilities planning and report back to the voters at the next annual Town Meeting". Both the School District and the Town had separate building committees at the time, and this committee was created in an effort to have one committee oversee and keep the lines of communication open. The Board will provide a letter to the Facility Needs Committee advising that their "charge" is to facilitate, to oversee and make sure all agencies are talking together". Although they do not have authority to make the decisions, Mr. Leighton stressed the importance of their recommendations and review of what will be presented and the important role they will play in communicating the projects to the public. What is presented at School District Meeting is the decision of the School Board, and what is presented at Town Meeting is the decision of the Board of Selectmen. The importance of a time line was noted, along with developing an estimate for the cost of operating the

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facility (i.e. heat, elec., janitorial, etc.). Reference was made to the capital reserve fund created in 2004 to be used towards furnishings and equipment for the Town Office.

A question was raised regarding the use of the current use penalty tax, and could that be changed. It was noted that 100% of the revenue received from this tax was allocated to the conservation fund by a voted of the town in 2003. Board advised that it would have to be warned in a warrant article and could only be changed by a vote of the town.

A motion was made by Mr. Leighton to enter into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) to discuss personnel issues. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Sweet. Roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Leighton – Aye, Mrs. Sweet – Aye. The Board entered into nonpublic session at 7:30 P.M. At this time a motion was made by Mr. Leighton to come out of nonpublic session, and seconded by Mrs. Sweet. Roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Leighton – Aye, Mrs. Sweet – Aye. The Board came out of nonpublic session at 7:40 P.M. No votes were taken.

Mr. Leighton made a motion not to release the minutes of the nonpublic session. His motion was seconded by Mrs. Sweet. Roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Leighton – Aye, Mrs. Sweet – Aye.

After short discussion, Board agreed that it would be a good idea for any variances or special exceptions granted in the future, to have the ZBA to initial the corresponding plan upon which the variance was granted. This would help to eliminate gray areas and interpretation of what was actually approved.

A motion was made, seconded and voted to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 P.M.