BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES

AUGUST 15, 2005

- 1. Non Public session under RSA 91-A began at 6:30PM.
- 2. <u>Convene the regular meeting</u>:

Chairman Ingram convened the regular meeting at 7:12PM following a non-public session to discuss a legal matter and noted the Board will be reconvening a non-public session following this meeting to continue that discuss as well as discuss a personnel matter.

3. <u>Introduce members of the Board of Selectmen</u>.

Chairman Ingram introduced those present: Joseph Pace, William Campbell, Robert Eastman, Paul Binette and Town Manager Russell Dean.

4. <u>Minutes – August 1, 2005</u>.

Mr. Pace moved to accept the minutes of the August 1, 2005 meeting as presented; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: 4-0, with Mr. Eastman abstaining.

5. <u>Bid award: Pipeline Inspection Equipment</u>.

Mr. Dean recommended awarding the bid to Cues of Orlando, Florida. Their bid was the lower of the two received and within the budget of \$34,250. *Mr. Pace moved to award the bid to Cues of Orlando, Florida for \$34,250 as recommended; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous*.

6. <u>Presentation: Carol Walker Aten, Squamscott Community Commons.</u>

Ms. Aten was present, along with Don Briselden (Facilities Chairman) and Donna Schlachmann (Chairman, and originator of the concept for the original 'Court St. Commons', established in 1998), to present preliminary plans to construct a 90,000+/- square foot community center, with the proposed site at the current High School Annex on Linden Street. The Center would be home to a full-service family YMCA and over 10 agencies providing programs and services in health, wellness, arts, culture, nutrition, childcare and recreation to the area. Squamscott Community Commons (SCC) will own, manage and maintain the Center building, develop and sustain the adjacent Little River Nature Preserve, and coordinate the tenants and their programs.

Research conducted in 2004-05 shows some of the community needs as:

- Additional youth & teen activities needed;
- Lack of family-oriented programs in the area;
- ➤ Generation gap: no facility in area where people of all ages can co-mingle;
- Need for affordable family-based fitness programs;
- > Need for expanded nutrition, food delivery and meal programs for seniors and families;
- Lack of sufficient & affordable infant, child and after-school care
- Additional services for seniors, including transportation, adult day services, care coordination & support;
- Lack of community meeting space for meetings, programs and events;

- Need for a community gathering place & central location for community calendars & resource info;
- Increased coordination and access needed for mental & physical health services for the no & low-insured.

Several sites have been considered, including Court Street (old nursing home), Continental Drive and Chestnut Street.

Preliminary surveys show that SCC will house over 165 full & part-time employees, over 200+ volunteers and serve more than 40,000 residents from across the county annually. A majority of the participating agencies also serve low or no income households in the community. Programs would include:

- ▶ Full sized indoor pool for year-round recreation & family fun
- After school & summer programs for school age youth
- Meeting space with kitchen facilities for community groups
- Offices for social service agencies serving the varied needs of all citizens
- Fitness facilities for youth, adults and senior citizens
- > Theatre, music, art & dance for youth & teens
- Programs and services for senior citizens
- > Parent & senior support & education for nutrition, literacy & wellness
- > Child care & family activities for children from birth to 5
- ➢ Gymnasium for youth & adult programming & recreation
- > Public access to the Little River and adjacent natural recreation area.

The following agencies have been involved with the planning process to meeting our community's needs:

- Community Food Pantry
- ECCA (Exeter Center for Creative Arts)
- Great Bay Kids Company
- Richie McFarland Children's Center (move from Stratham location)
- Rockingham Community Action (WIC, Food and Literacy programs)
- Rockingham Nutrition and Meals on Wheels
- Sad Café (currently in Plaistow)
- SeaCare Health Services
- Service Link
- Southern District YMCA/Camp Lincoln

<u>Don Briselden</u> provided a footprint of the existing building and the preliminary plans on its changes (i.e. drop-off zone would be toward the back of the building, rather than in the horseshoe in front, among many other changes). He believes the use of this building and area is a "nice fit".

Mr. Pace noted the Annex is a piece of the whole property involved in and other towns are also involved in the process, would SCC be purchasing this piece or looking for donation from school/town? Ms. Aten noted a presentation was made to the Co-op at a recent retreat, and a committee is working on how to make the sale to the SCC through a warrant article work, including preparing an estimate of costs. Mr. Pace clarified they were not asking to be given the property. Ms. Aten said they would love to take it but are certainly planning on purchasing.

Mr. Campbell asked what SCC would get from the proposed sale. Ms. Aten stated 10 acres, including building, wetlands, parking (hoping to share large lot to the rear of the property with the School District). They would remodel, reconstruct, etc., to an estimated 90,000 square feet. Financing would be through grants, Rockingham Land Trust, CDBG, etc.

Though some of the agencies to be housed at the SCC (paying rent, with SCC as the 'landlord'), the SCC would not ask the Town for financial support. The agencies would exist on their own merit.

7. Presentation: Pavement Management Program, Dept of Public Works.

Jay Perkins, Sr. (Highway Supt) and Chris Tereshko, Seasonal Engineering Technician were in attendance to present the results of the Pavement Management Program (RSMS) via a power-point. The program was initiated this summer to prioritize road maintenance over the next several years using established road condition criteria as a guideline for maintenance and repair.

They reported the program anticipates spending approximately \$330,000 per year for road maintenance (this amount is currently found in the budget under several accounts: \$90,000 contract paving; \$60,000 cold planing; \$170,000 paving special article voted in 2005). The program also changes paving strategy from years past, replacing shims & overlays in some areas with reclamation and soil stabilization as an alternative, providing a longer lasting road at a reduced cost – compared to full depth reconstruction.

Mr. Eastman asked if the program identifies main arteries vs. rural roads. Mr. Tereshko stated yes, and main arteries are on a 10-year plan, with rural at 15-20 years. Mr. Binette asked if, during the reclamation process, winter salt on the roads was factored in and would this make any changes to the pavement process. Mr. Perkins stated salt does minimal damage, with water causing the most, as do trucks. Some roads need work due to age, some due to poor construction.

Mr. Ingram asked if, during the Technical Review process with the Planning Board, the new roads meet our standards. Mr. Perkins stated DPW works very closely with the Review Committee as well as with the inspectors during the construction process. He also noted water & sewer is also directly involved in the process, along with Northern Utilities, E & H Electric, Verizon, etc.

8. Adopt new Selectmen's Policy: Flag lowering.

Chairman Ingram read the proposed Policy (#05-34, copy attached). *Mr. Pace moved to adopt the procedures stated in Policy 05-34 as presented; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous*.

9. <u>Town Manager's Report</u>:

Mr. Dean noted:

- The start of the reconstruction program in the High Street, Prospect/Auburn Streets area was slightly delayed but is underway and should continue through this next month.
- He attended a retirement party for Judy Kennedy, long-time employee at the Public Library, noting it was well attended and wished Ms. Kennedy well in her retirement.

10. Permits:

- The IOKA requested permission to block parking spaces in front the Theatre from August 19 through September 9th, 24 hours, for placement of a dumpster to removal of balcony seats. Insurance is in place.
- EHS Football Boosters requested permission for a 50-50 raffle at their home games beginning September 3 through November 30th;
- American Cancer Society requested permission for a one-day walk-a-thon on October 16th beginning and ending at the Exeter Hospital at 12:30PM;
- Disabled American Veterans requested permission to hold their Forget-Me-Not drive on August 19th by Dunkin Donuts and Gerry's Variety from 8AM to 4PM;
- PEA requested permission to block off Gilman Street on September 6 from 4:30-6:30PM for an Athletic Teams cookout and September 8 from 4:30-6:30PM for an All Student cookout, near the varsity baseball field. Traffic from organizations using their soccer fields will enter the fields from Chadwick Lane and park in their rear parking lot.
- Senator Gregg requested the use of the Town Hall on September 13th for office hours beginning at 10:30AM;
- EHS Band requested permission to use the steps of the Town Hall for a grill and sale of soda and snacks on December 3rd from 3-6PM.

Mr. Campbell moved to approve all permits as presented; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.

11. Selectmen's Committee Reports:

- Mr. Pace: Historic District meets this Thursday with 1 permit before them. Also, 1st Seahawks football practice was held this evening.
- Mr. Campbell: Water & Sewer Advisory Committee meets Tuesday in the Wheelwright Room.
- Mr. Ingram: None
- Mr. Eastman: Planning Board met Thursday to discuss the development off the Powder Mill Road with 23 units in Kingston (ROW into Exeter). Discussion was continued for 2 weeks.
- Mr. Binette: The Recreation Bus is out of service and, though upcoming trips are still on, people registered for those trips should contact the department for a status report.

12. Public Comments: None.

Mr. Eastman moved to resume in a non-public session per RSA 91-A to discuss a personnel matter; second by Mr. Pace. Roll Call: Mr. Pace – yes; Mr. Campbell – yes; Mr. Ingram – yes; Mr. Binette – yes; Mr. Eastman – yes. Time: 8:02PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Blenk, AA/HR Dir. Attach.