

3. Reconvene meeting – 7:00PM

Following the adjournment of the non-public session beginning at 6:30PM, Chairman Lionel Ingram convened the Board in a regular session beginning at 7PM on the above date. Also present: William Campbell, Joseph Pace, Paul Binette, Robert Eastman and Town Manager Russell Dean.

4. Minutes:

***Mr. Binette moved to accept the minutes of the April 25<sup>th</sup> as submitted; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.***

5. Proclamation: Public Works Week.

Mr. Eastman, Clerk of the Board, read the attached proclamation for Public Works Week of May 15 through 21, 2005 in Exeter. Keith Noyes, DPW Director, thanked the Board for the acknowledgment noting a great group of men and women comprise the department and serve the community well. He suggested residents view “Everyday Heroes”, a short film to be played following each broadcast of the Selectmen’s meeting during May. It’s a national taping of the duties performed.

6. Proclamation: Seacoast Bike to Work Day:

Clerk Eastman read the attached proclamation for ‘Bike to Work Day’ on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, which encourages all citizens to celebrate by leaving vehicles at home and trying a healthy commute and to participate in Exeter’s 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Bike to Work Day Commuter breakfast at the Bandstand that morning.

7. Bid Openings: (Bid sheet attached)

***Pavement reclamation: Mr. Binette moved the bids be reviewed by the Town Manager and appropriate Department and report to the Board with their findings; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.***

***Cold Plane:*** Mr. Eastman questioned opening bids with only one received. Jay Perkins, Highway Supt., stated there are not enough square yards to make the bid attractive to bid for some vendors. Mr. Eastman said fine. ***Mr. Campbell moved the Town Manager and appropriate department review the bids and report to the Board with their findings; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.***

***Bituminous Concrete Paving:*** ***Mr. Binette moved the Town Manager and appropriate department review the bids and report to the Board with their findings; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.*** Mr. Eastman noted an estimated 25% increase in costs.

***Bituminous Concrete Sidewalk Paving:*** ***Mr. Binette moved the Town Manager and appropriate department review the bids and report to the Board with their findings; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.***

8. Bid Awards:

Police copier: Mr. Dean requested this be postponed till the meeting of the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Recreation Roof: Mr. Dean reminded the Board the voters approved \$28,000 (Art. 29) to repair the roof at Recreation. The low responsive bid is \$32,700 from Target, N.E. Due to the critical nature of this project, Mr. Dean, along with Mr. Noyes, are requesting the balance of the needed funds be transferred to the special article from the parking lot maintenance account in DPW. The remainder of that account will be used to resurface the Police/Fire Safety Complex lot.

Mr. Eastman questioned the low bid of \$26,650. Mr. Noyes stated he was told they withdrew their bid following the opening as they had not studied the bid package well enough and some factors were not known. Mr. Noyes did not know if Kevin Smart (Maint. Supt) received the withdrawal in writing. Mr. Binette suggested this be received.

There was some discussion on the higher bid vs. the estimate. Mr. Noyes reminded the Board that during Budget Committee discussion, Gerry Hamel (member and also in the trade) had received an estimate of \$28,000 and, though DPW expressed concerns over the lower estimate, the Committee recommended the lower amount to the Board, which they also supported. Mr. Binette noted Mr. Hamel did not bid the project and asked why the \$28,000 was approved when the Town has an engineer on staff that would know the estimates. Mr. Noyes again explained the scenario. Mr. Dean noted our engineer was not here and her job is not for 'structural'. Mr. Smart prepares the cost estimates.

Mr. Eastman asked whether the Board has authority to transfer the funds from the operating budget to a special warrant article. Mr. Dean stated they do, though they could not transfer funds FROM the warrant article to anything else. He noted the transfer makes the books 'cleaner' rather than over and under-expending different accounts. He also stated some vendors don't quote prices as some cannot be bonded for various projects and this may be the case here.

***Mr. Eastman moved to authorize the award of the Recreation Roof construction bid to Target New England in the amount of \$32,700; second by Mr. Binette. VOTE: Unanimous. Mr. Eastman moved the Board authorize the Board to transfer \$4,700 from the DPW parking lot maintenance account to Article 29 of the 2005 Town Warrant to fund the balance of this project; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.***

***Parking Lot Expansion:*** Mr. Dean recommended Bell and Flynn (Stratham) for \$24,500. In a memo from Mike Favreau (Parks/Rec. Director), he explains Durell Asphalt Paving Enterprises, the apparent low bidder at \$10,450, submitted an incomplete bid package with no sketch included, no company information listed. ***Mr. Eastman moved to authorize the award of the parking lot expansion to Bell & Flynn in the amount of \$24,500; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.***

9. Board Discussion – Chamber of Commerce Lease:

Mr. Dean noted Tracy McGrail, President of the Chamber, was unable to attend this evening but could attend on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Eastman asked Mr. Dean to check with businesses renting in the downtown area for the going rate of 830 sq. feet per month. Mr. Binette asked Mr. Dean to inquire

on how much has been spent on renovations over the past 30 years, as he remembers no request to do so before the Board (agreement calls for renovations “with the approval of the Board of Selectmen”), along with the cost of custodial services.

10. Board Appointments:

*Mr. Eastman moved the following changes to Boards and Committees in reference to both last week’s appointments and newly received resignations:*

- *Cynthia Childers withdrawn from Arts Committee appointment;*
- *Betsy MacDonald withdrawn from Recreation Advisory Committee (term till 4-30-06)*
- *Withdraw appointment of Mark Donovan to Recreation Advisory Committee as his second term expired and move Thomas Hanson from alternate to regular position with new term till 4-30-08);*
- *Appoint Betsy MacDonald to Council on Aging with a term till 4-30-08*
- *Accept James Gilmore’s resignation from the Exeter Housing Authority and appoint George Bragg to complete Mr. Gilmore’s unexpired term till 4-30-08.*

*Second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.*

11. Appointment: George St. Amour re Stoney Brook Lane parking.

Mr. St. Amour referred to his letter of April 29<sup>th</sup> (attached) concerning the condition of the roadway on the Stoney Brook Lane connector, requesting no parking signs along the access road. He noted complaints were received by residents of the area about 1 ½ years ago with semi-trailers parked and emergency vehicles having no room to pass. Mr. St Amour stated with St. Michael’s building a church there in 4-5 years, and probably using this access road, the condition will get worse. He also noted there is no street name sign posted (research will be done to determine the appropriate name and one will be posted).

Mr. Binette read a memo from Chief Kane noting no apparent need to post the signs at this time, based upon research of complaints and accident activity. Mr. Dean noted the Chief’s memo was to primarily reach out the neighbors that when an issue is noted to call the police. The situation could be reviewed in 6 months.

Chairman Ingram asked Mr. Dean to ask the Chief why not post and what the justification is for parking along the access road is – to accommodate two businesses who did not provide enough parking? He asked the Town Manager to work out the details. It was noted the Town plows the road.

12. Exemption request: New Outlook Teen Center:

No representative was present to discuss the exemption. They were contacted three times. *Mr. Pace moved to table the matter indefinitely; second by Mr. Eastman.* [No discussion and no vote necessary].

13. Property exemption request: Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Stephen Magee was present and Chairman Ingram read the letter the Church presented requesting continuation of the real estate exemption for the next year. Mr. Dean noted the tax exemption is an annual renewal.

Mr. Pace noted the Church did come before the Historic District Commission and they have been working throughout the year to research how to handle the parcel. It is a long process and it is not unreasonable to grant another year's exemption. **Mr. Campbell moved to grant the tax exemption for one more year; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.**

14. Appointment: Swasey Parkway Trustees – Grace Rogers.

Ms. Rogers and Jay Perkins, Trustees, brought the final design for viewing of the Swasey Parkway Pavilion as prepared by Rob Corson (architect). There have been slight changes with the handicapped ramping and no wrap-around porch. They plan to sell cobblestones (for engraving) for in front of the Pavilion as an additional fund raiser. The Seacoast School of Technology (SST) is interested in assisting with the labor of the Pavilion as their '05-'06 project, though their Trustees must approve the action prior to their start: we would provide the materials. As more volunteers and services are donated, the estimated overall cost decreases.

Chairman Ingram suggested they contact the Council on Aging, noting they have funds to donate.

Ms. Rogers reminded the Board of the Art Auction on the 21<sup>st</sup> and thanked Mr. Pace, Mr. Dean, Chief Kane and Bill Perkins for their offers of auctioneering. She also thanked Mr. Binette who has volunteered services that evening.

15. Appointment: Herb Moyer re Bill of Rights, Cable TV Committee. Postponed till June.

16. Request to add Swasey Parkway to tree pruning & removal program

Ms. Rogers and Mr. Perkins remained present to discuss their request (letter attached) to add the Parkway to the DPW annual tree pruning and removal program, with no substantial cost to the Town. It would be on an 'as needed basis'. Mr. Perkins noted the work could be done in-house, as most of their work now is unless too tall or around wires. It was noted there is currently no money in their fund for providing this service.

Mr. Perkins also stated they are working with the Academy with removing shrubs by the Boathouse, practicing turf management (PEA is undertaking the Parkway area in their annual program) and conducting the annual spring clean-up day.

Mr. Campbell would like to see a proposal prepared for other areas in the works for the Town to take over. Mr. Ingram suggested approving the removal of the 2 dead trees proposed this evening and the Town Manager work with the Trustees with preparing the program involving other departments. **Mr. Campbell moved to approve DPW removing the two dead trees from the Parkway; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.** Mr. Perkins stated the Trustees welcome any and all comments.

17. Approve Notes from sale of Conservation Bond: Don Brabant

[Prior to Mr. Brabant speaking, Mr. Pace stepped down from the discussion due to his employer being involved with the bid process and resulting bid results, though he does not work with the municipal section of the Bank, he did not wish for the appearance of any improprieties. Mr. Brabant noted he also works for Citizen's Bank – he too does not work in the municipal section.]

Donald Brabant, Town Treasurer explained his recent actions with soliciting bids for the \$3 million Conservation Bond (May 4, 2005 – results attached). He reviewed the options presented at the 2/28/05 meeting of the Board he attended.

***Mr. Campbell moved to approve the Notes for the Conservation Bond sale to Citizens Bank for a 10-year bond at a net interest cost of 3.9%; second by Mr. Binette. VOTE: 4-0.*** The Board proceeded to sign the notes presented by Mr. Brabant.

18. Town Manager's Report:

As part of the Consent Agenda, Chairman Ingram invited Steven Jones to the microphone to explain his 'gift of 3 trees'. Steven Jones, 23 Linden Street, read the letter submitted to the Board on May 4<sup>th</sup> (attached). Mr. Campbell stated he visited the site with Mr. Jones, Mr. Noyes and Mr. Perkins and all three sites are good. He noted a neighbor, Benjamin Condran, stated Linden Street used to be lined with Elms.

***Mr. Campbell moved to accept the gift of three trees from Mr. Steven Jones; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.***

Discussion followed concerning the 'consent agenda' concept. Mr. Dean explained the motion would be to accept the consent agenda in one motion however if an individual item was of concern, this could be discussed individually. It moves routine business quickly. Mr. Campbell felt it is good publicity to discuss the items, for those present and those watching at home.

Mr. Binette noted permits must go to the Board for approval (per RSA) at a public meeting. Mr. Pace stated the Board has been approving "by consent" the past few years with a single vote for all permits, unless there is an objection to one or two and they are then handled individually. He does not feel we have so many that they still can't be read individually. Consensus of the Board is to have the Town Manager include them under the Town Manager's items for discussion.

Permits: Exeter Veteran's Council requested permission for their annual Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 9AM forming at the Parkway. Also, use of the Wheelwright Room by Congressman Jeb Bradley's office to meet with constituents on May 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-10:30AM. ***Mr. Campbell moved to approve both permits; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.***

- Mr. Dean expressed his condolences to the family of Robert Roy, long-time Science teacher at the Exeter schools, noting he was his 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and one he looked up to. Mr. Pace noted he also had Mr. Roy in 8<sup>th</sup> grade science.
- The Town Offices/Town Hall Group, to discuss renovations, is scheduled to meet soon. Mr. Dean is seeking an employees' representative to the Committee.

19. Selectmen's Committee Reports:

Mr. Eastman: CIP meeting Tuesday morning; Planning Board Thursday evening.

Mr. Binette: Recreation/Parks meeting Tuesday. He reminded residents of the Parks Discovery Day on June 11<sup>th</sup>, noting wonderful events are planned.

Mr. Campbell: Attended the workforce ribbon cutting this morning at Watson Woods and the Town Manager spoke eloquently. EDC meets Tuesday morning; Conservation meets Tuesday night.  
Mr. Pace: Arts Committee and HDC will meet in the next two weeks. The Arts Committee is working with the Recreation Department and participating in the Parks Day at Town House Common.  
Mr. Ingram: Safety Committee Thursday.

20. Public Comments: None.

Next meeting is Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

***Mr. Eastman moved to adjourn; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.*** Time: 9:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Blenk  
Admin. Asst/H. R. Dir.

Attach