

**Board of Selectmen Minutes**  
**Monday, March 19, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Nowak Room of the Town Offices, 10 Front Street, Exeter.

**Swearing In Of Elected Officers**

Town Clerk Linda Hartson was present and swore in the slate of newly elected officers from the March 13<sup>th</sup> Town Election. Present for the swearing in were Bob Eastman and Julie Gilman, Selectmen; Joanna Pellerin, Trustee of Robinson Fund; Charles Tucker, School District Moderator; John Henson, Betsy Crespi, Library Trustees; Lara Bricker, Trustee of Swasey Parkway.

**Board of Selectmen Reorganization**

The Board of Selectmen reorganization followed. Selectman Campbell nominated Selectman Eastman for Chair, seconded by Selectman Ingram. Motion passed unanimously. Selectman Campbell then nominated Selectman Pace for vice-chair, Selectman Ingram seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Selectman Pace then nominated Selectman Campbell for Clerk, seconded by Chairman Eastman. Motion passed unanimously.

The list of Board representatives to various committees was discussed with results as follows: Selectman Gilman to Planning Board alternate Selectmen's representative. Selectman Gilman to Historic District Commission representative, Selectman Pace alternate. Selectman Gilman Recreation Advisory Board. Selectman Eastman Economic Development Committee with Selectman Campbell as alternate. Selectman Eastman water/sewer advisory representative with Selectman Gilman alternate. Selectman Pace Cable TV Advisory Committee. Selectman Gilman Heritage Commission. Selectman Ingram Safety Committee. Selectman Pace Benefits Review Committee. Selectman Ingram Exeter River Study Committee. Selectman Pace Emergency Management Committee. Selectman Gilman to Zoning Ordinance Review Committee.

Chairman Eastman then introduced the new Board as reconstituted.

**March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Minutes**

The minutes of March 12<sup>th</sup> were presented for approval. Selectman Pace moved to waive the reading of the minutes and approve as presented, seconded by Selectman Ingram. Motion passed 4-0 with Selectman Gilman abstaining.

**Bid Award: Fire Attack and Water Supply Hose**

The Town Manager recommended the award of bid for the fire attack and water supply hose to C&S Smithfield of Rhode Island. They were the lowest responsible bidder on the project. Selectman Campbell moved the Board of Selectmen approve the award of bid for the Fire attack and water supply hose to C&S Specialty of Smithfield, Rhode Island in the amount of \$8,125. Selectman Ingram seconded the motion, which was then passed unanimously.

### **Appointments: Recreation Advisory Board**

Selectman Campbell moved to appoint Dawn MacArthur to the Recreation Advisory Board, seconded by Selectman Pace. Motion passed unanimously.

The Exeter Meadows Homeowners group was present. The Town Manager recommended the Board take the balance of the design contract, the amount of \$5,300, from the sewer reserves. This would keep the project moving along. Selectman Ingram moved, seconded by Selectman Campbell, to take \$5,300 from the sewer reserves for the purpose of funding the design contract with Underwood Engineers on the Meadows Lift Station project. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Town Manager's Report**

There will be a Board meeting next week, March 26<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to those who assisted with the election. Spring bulky pick up is scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup> through April 6<sup>th</sup>. Our new stickers are also on sale, at \$10 per item, for disposal of CRTs, TVs and radios. Need Selectmen's rep to assist Vets Council, 2 meetings April 12<sup>th</sup> and May 24<sup>th</sup>, both at 7:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center. It was a busy past weekend with the John McCain visit to the Town Hall, the Squamscott Community Commons seminar, the swim meet at the PEA pool, and snow. The Town has hired a new Police Officer – Colleen Driscoll from Salisbury, NH. Donna Schlachman is having a "Save the Date and Participate" on senior transportation, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the Housing Authority at 277 Water Street. We are still waiting for an update on the Fairpoint buyout of Verizon assets – a lunch is scheduled next week that I will attend. The Town Manager went to a performance measurement seminar in Concord last Friday; good topic that acknowledged many of the challenges we are facing; it was data driven. Hopefully there will be relevant statistics.

### **Permits**

The following permits were read by the Town Manager.

1. Request by Susan Williams of the Veterans Council to hold a Memorial Day Parade on May 28, 2007;
2. Request by the Rotary Club to use the bandstand and block off parking spaces adjacent to the bandstand for their 4<sup>th</sup> annual geranium sale to be held May 18, 2007 to benefit hospice house, permit time from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.;
3. Request by New Outlook to use the Town Hall main floor with the stage on April 21, 2007 for a rock show for local bands from 4 p.m. until 11 p.m.;
4. Request by the Chamber of Commerce to use the Wheelwright Room and Nowak Room, March 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> for interviews for Chamber of Commerce Executive Director; from 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.;
5. Request by the Chamber of Commerce to use the Nowak Room from 8:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> for workshop for the kitchen tour;
6. Request from Scott Bogle of the RPC to use the bandstand on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. for "Bike to Work/Walk to Work Day" with a free commuter breakfast served;
7. Request from DECA to use the bandstand on April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 10-3 and 9-11 for a Krispy Kreme fundraiser; with the same request to block off parking spaces next to the bandstand;

8. Request by the Chamber of Commerce to hang a banner across Water Street to advertise the Small Business Showcase at the Talbot Gym May 16<sup>th</sup>; date requested for the banner is April 9<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>;
9. Request from John Dionne for route approval for the Reach the Beach Relay, September 15, 2007;
10. Request by the RPC to hang a banner across Water Street from May 7<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> to advertise "Bike to Work/Walk to Work" day on May 18<sup>th</sup>.
11. Request from Michael Ficara of Shoe Slung Films to close Water Street from the Great Bridge to Vincent's String Bridge Café to shoot a film overnight, 7 p.m. until 6 a.m., with traffic details provided and through access to Franklin Street.

Selectman Campbell motioned to approve the permits as presented, seconded by Selectman Ingram. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Selectmen Committee Reports**

Selectman Pace attended the Arts Committee meeting, there is a lot happening. Also Cable Television Advisory has been working on an access policy. There will be seismic changes forthcoming in Channel 22. Selectman Pace thanked former Selectman Binette for all his years of service to the Town.

Selectman Ingram had no report.

Selectman Campbell had no report however he wished to update the Board on the Courthouse situation. The bill recently introduced by Senator Fuller Clark was amended to reflect just money and not the 101/85 site that had been in the bill. There is no money for a courthouse in the Governor's budget. There may be some leftover design money in the Administrative Services budget. Chairman Eastman allowed those in the audience with interest to speak. Mike Clarizio of Walter's Way opposes the 101/85 location. It is not a commercial zone and close to the Oaklands Town Forest. It needs town water/sewer which it does not have, you would need a large cistern. It is cost prohibitive to extend water/sewer to the site. It is a dangerous intersection. I have written a letter to DOT, thank you to the Town Manager and Police Chief for their recognition and support on the problem. Land donation on this project is a problem. There are properties on Continental Drive and Portsmouth Avenue to look at. The state has not been specific on size and scope of the building. Selectman Ingram said the state has three structures, small, medium and large. There is a plan, the problem has been trying to get the public administrators at the state to do something. We need a courthouse, and people should write their legislators. We have been working on this for well over a year. We have consensus with the other District Towns but cannot get the state to move. It is not only an issue for police departments but for everyday people that have to incur the expense of driving to the court. Mr. Clarizio reiterated he wants a better site. Selectman Campbell went to Dover, the State is looking for a site to support 20,000 square feet. The Town Manager said the state has two policies that are problematic. The first is requiring Towns to donate property. This is a problem for seacoast communities where land is so valuable. Also, the state has ruled out retrofitting another facility. Both of these policies have the effect of limiting options. Claudia Morse of 32 Newfields Road said there needs

to be a coalition down here. We should speak with Concord. Mike Lambert cautioned everyone moving forward. It's a tough intersection. Linda Reed of 24 Newfields Road said 20,000 square feet is not acceptable. It seems out of place. We want to keep open land in that area.

Selectman Eastman then gave his report and thanked Selectman Binette for his years of service to the Town. He made Exeter a better place to live. Selectman Gilman also thanked former Selectman Binette and she has a lot of respect for Paul.

**Public Comment**

Mike Lambert was present and stated we need to get Verizon in here. His understanding is they are waiting for legislation to pass. State Representative John Henson was present. He has not seen the legislation on the courthouse; he has a thick binder of items to review. There is a meeting at the Exeter Public Library tomorrow night. Exeter, Stratham and North Hampton representatives will be there. It is at 6:00 p.m.. Crossover occurs in a couple of weeks. Selectman Ingram asked Representative Henson to raise the court issue. The coalition is already complete; it is time for the state to take action. Selectman Pace spoke to the cable television issues. The federal legislation Verizon was looking for did not pass. This will be evident when new negotiations take place. Selectman Pace prefers Towns to be the negotiating authority with cable companies. Ben McLaughlin of 7 Walter's Way was present and said he respects Mike Clarizio and thanked the Selectmen for their attention to the issue.

There being no further public comment, Selectman Campbell moved to adjourn. Selectman Pace seconded the motion. The meeting stood adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Dean, Town Manager