BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

1, 2. <u>Convene the meeting/Working Session</u>.

Chairman Ingram convened the Board at 6:30PM. It was moved downstairs so the Board of Selectmen could discuss the Board Reorganization.

3, 4. <u>Reconvene regular meeting – 7:00PM</u>.

Chairman Ingram reconvened the Board at 6:58PM in the Nowak Room of the Town Office and introduced other members of the Board. Also present: Robert Eastman, Paul Binette, William Campbell, Joseph Pace and Town Manager Russell Dean. Chairman Ingram noted that this will be his last time convening the meeting as Chairman and proceeded to introduce the new positions on the Board. The new Chairman will be Mr. Paul Binette, Mr. Bob Eastman is the new Vice Chair, and Mr. Joe Pace is the new Clerk.

Mr. Ingram said there were also changes to Selectmen's representation on various committees. Mr. Campbell will now be a representative on the Planning Board and an alternate for the Water & Sewer; Mr. Eastman will be a representative on the Water/Sewer Committee and an alternate for the Planning Board; and Chairman Binette will remain the representative for the Recreation Board and he will also be a representative for the EDC (Extra Development Committee). With that, Mr. Ingram and Chairman Binette switched seats and continued the meeting.

On behalf of the Board, Chairman Binette thanked the previous Chair, Mr. Ingram, for a fantastic year. Mr. Ingram worked very hard and had a lot of things to deal with, but he did a great job and Chairman Binette thanked him. Chairman Binette also welcomed Mr. Pace back for another year, as this was his first meeting since his reelection.

5. <u>Minutes: March 20th, 2006.</u>

Mr. Eastman moved to waive the reading of the minutes of March 20th, 2006 and accept the minutes as presented; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.

7. <u>Request to place Right Turn Only Sign at entrance to Dunkin Donuts.</u>

Mr. Binette asked Mr. Dean to give the highlights surrounding this issue.

Mr. Dean said that there was a request by the Department of Public Works to put a right-turn only sign at the entrance to Dunkin Donuts. The egress onto Portsmouth Ave, the main entrance to Dunkin Donuts, causes a lot of traffic problems with people turning left. Mr. Dean spoke with the police, and they have had numerous accidents and complaints due to this intersection.

Mr. Campbell asked if Dunkin Donuts has been consulted, as they may have other ideas. Mr. Dean said they have not. Mr. Campbell felt it was a good idea to get them involved, as it is difficult to legislate something without including the company being legislated.

Mr. Eastman did not feel the egress was the issue. He felt the problem was when the drive-thru window gets backed up, it extends onto Portsmouth Ave. Mr. Eastman said he spoke with a resident

that day that thought as part of the deal, there was a provision that if it caused a problem, they would close the drive-thru.

Mr. Pace said he drives through that area every morning on his way to work and spends just as much time going through the traffic in that area as he does getting on Route 101 going into Portsmouth. Mr. Eastman mentioned that he takes Holland Road instead for the same reason.

Chairman Binette stated he did not mind making changes for one business, but he felt if we make this change for one, we should do it for all of the business on that road.

Mr. Ingram felt that the light created more problems, since you have traffic traveling north and south on Portsmouth Ave, and you also have traffic turning onto Portsmouth Ave from the light. He felt this made it just a bad intersection and caused problems that would not be relevant to other businesses on Portsmouth Ave.

Chairman Binette stated that we could do this, but he felt rather than putting up a 'Right Turn Only' sign, we may ask Dunkin Donuts to rearrange their drive thru. If cars exited onto Alumni Drive, they would then have the light to allow them to go either right or left.

Mr. Pace did not feel confident that a 'Right Turn Only' sign would be a panacea for the problem. Mr. Pace suggested trying to find a more comprehensive solution to the problem. Mr. Eastman referenced other businesses that have a 'Right Turn Only' sign up and he's seen people take left turns regardless. Mr. Campbell thought we should at least postpone a decision until Dunkin Donuts was consulted for their input. Chairman Binette agreed and asked Mr. Dean to contact Dunkin Donuts so they could join the Board with this discussion.

Chairman Binette asked for the Board to postpone moving to the next item to allow St. Michael's Church to discuss their project off Stoneybrook Lane. St. Michael's Church had originally been on the agenda for March 6, 2006 and by error was not added to tonight's agenda. The Board agreed to allow them to present their proposal.

Father Marc Drovin introduced himself and stated that he was here to petition the Town of Exeter for permission to extend water and sewer lines onto their property at the end of Stoneybrook Lane, although part of their property is in Stratham. Their objective is to develop the property so they can build a church with seating capacity for up to 1,000 people, a church center to hold offices and meeting rooms, a residence for clergy and a maintenance garage for grounds, equipment and supplies. Father Marc went on to explain how they came upon this land and their plan for the future.

Father Marc told how St. Michael's Church has been an integral part of the community for over 100 years. In 2009 they will be celebrating their 150th anniversary, and their goal is to celebrate by constructing a new facility to last for the next 150 years.

In November of 2002 the parish was gifted with the property on Stoneybrook Lane for the sole purpose of relocating the parish community to this site so the mission of the Church can continue for generations to come. The reason the benefactors gave them this property was for the purpose of expanding the seating capacity for the church as well as to provide additional parking and meeting spaces for church activities. They are a growing, active community that administers not only to the Catholic community but to entire local community through their social outreach program.

Father Marc said the gift of the land has restrictions that the Church should be built within 10 years or the land will revert back to the previous owners. It was made clear to him that the terms of this agreement are non-negotiable. They would like to start developing this property so that such a generous gift of this magnitude will not be lost.

After beginning the design phase of this project and knowing the infrastructure is an important component, they are petitioning at this time for the Town of Exeter to extend the water and sewer lines on the property for use for fire prevention and to obtain the right to discharge sewage into the Exeter Municipal System. This piece of property is unique because it straddles the Exeter/Stratham border, although the majority of the buildable land is in Stratham. Father Marc felt the extension of the water and sewer lines would better protect the environment. At this time, he passed it over to Mr. Dan Blaze, his architect working on the project.

Mr. Blaze approached the microphone and stated that they are currently in the very preliminary stage of designing the many components of the project. He reiterated the intended use for the property, and he outlined that the property is 77 acres total, with 17 acres in Exeter and 60 acres in Stratham. Of the 17 acres in Exeter, there are two acres of up-land and 15 acres of wetlands, whereas Stratham has 42 acres of up-land and 18 acres of wetlands. Thus they are planning to construct the buildings in Stratham. Chairman Binette asked Mr. Blaze to clarify if most of the buildings or all of the buildings would be in Stratham, and Mr. Blaze stated that all of the buildings would be constructed in Stratham.

Mr. Blaze has met with both Town Planners (of Exeter and Stratham) and both Conservation Commissions. The property would also provide a turn-around for plows as the Town of Exeter plows Stoneybrook Drive. Since the original design, they have pulled the buildings closer together and also reduced parking and pulled the entire program closer to 101.

Mr. Campbell asked what portion of Holland Way is on the map, and Mr. Blaze clarified that Holland Way was not in fact on the map.

Mr. Blaze referenced a memo from Ms. Victoria Del Greco dated March 3, 2006 stating that the water lines would have to be upgraded. She also made preliminary interpretation that there is sufficient capacity in the sewer lines going to Stoneybrook.

Mr. Campbell asked if this was a necessary item to move forward with the project. He asked if they would have the ability to put in a well should their proposal be turned down. Mr. Blaze stated that yes, they could.

Mr. Dean pointed out that tonight's meeting was more to get information on the scope of the project. He mentioned one thing that would require more attention would be an agreement from 1985, which actually originated in March of 1972, between Exeter and Stratham to allow for these types of situations. These agreements need to be researched more to determine who would collect fees, etc.

Mr. Pace said the focus is on the extension of the water and sewer lines, but he noted that other things will come out from this being a preliminary standpoint. Mr. Pace questioned if there has been any discussion on what would happen to the existing buildings.

Father Marc stated that their hope is that another church community will consider purchasing it. They have also spoken with developers who would consider renovating the building within the confines of the current structure.

Mr. Campbell felt they also need to take into consideration the policies the special committee came out with in the 1990's. He felt additional research needed to be completed to recognize their concerns at that time and determine how they will fit in with this particular project.

Mr. Ingram felt this would be a special case as St. Michael's has been a part of Exeter for a long time and should be treated as site-specific. The only reason they would be in Stratham was due to the makeup of the land. He likes this idea and also felt it would be beneficial to ask Ms. Victoria Del Greco to come to our next meeting to answer more specific questions so at that time they may be able to give more of a general feeling of the Board.

Chairman Binette asked if there were any additional questions, and Mr. Ingram asked when they needed a decision from the Board for their plans. Father Marc and Mr. Blaze agreed that they would like one sooner versus later so they can begin design work in early spring.

Mr. Campbell asked if they had any plans of meeting with the Planning Board, and Mr. Blaze stated they hope to meet with both town's planning boards this month or early next month (May).

Chairman Binette thanked Father _____ and Mr. Blaze for joining us, and he also thanked Chief Comeau for allowing us to speak to this topic.

8. <u>Bid Award: Fire Department Pumper.</u>

Chairman Binette thanked Chief Comeau for allowing them to divert for a moment. Chairman Binette stated that on March 27th, two bids for the new Fire Department Pumper were opened, and he introduced Chief Comeau for his recommendation.

Chief Comeau referenced a comparison sheet that he and Mr. Harry Thayer compiled to compare the specifics of the two trucks. Chief Comeau said one bid came in lower, but in going through the details of each truck, there were a number of items required that were not included in the lower bid. If you added all of these additions to that bid price, the truck from Crimson Tide, which is the higher bid, was actually \$8,000 lower with those required additions considered. Chief Comeau outlined all of the specifics that they listed and how they compared. Chief Comeau recommended the C&S Specialty, Inc. of North Smithfield, RI to be awarded the bid as they manufacture trucks from Crimson Fire.

Chairman Binette clarified the actual bid amounts, and he questioned how the Board could work that, since the warrant article approved a 10 payment plan which totaled \$531,180. Mr. Dean noted that the cost would still meet this number.

Mr. Campbell questioned what an 'EVT' is. Chief explained that 'EVT' stands for an Emergency Vehicle Technician. If there are any problems with the truck, it can be serviced locally by an EVT versus going back to North Smithfield, Rhode Island any time it needs servicing. Currently the fire department has to take their trucks to North Attleboro, Massachusetts for maintenance. With this truck, the company would allow us to use a local vendor for repairs, etc.

Mr. Eastman made a motion to approve the award of the bid to Crimson Tide of C&S Specialty, Inc in the amount of \$420,189 for the lease/purchase of a 1500 GPM Rescue Pumper for the Fire Department, as approved on March 14, 2006; second by Mr. Ingram.

Before voting, Mr. Pace wanted to applaud the Chief because it's not often the Board sees this much detail justifying their recommendation for awarding the bid. All of the Board agreed.

VOTE: Unanimous.

9. <u>Bid Award: River Pump Station Pump & Motor.</u>

Mr. Dean stated that bids were opened on February 27, 2006. 3 bids were received, and the recommendation is to award the bid to Hayes Pump, Inc. of West Concord, Massachusetts. Mr. Dean referenced the memo from Ms. Victoria Del Greco, which stated that Hayes Pump, Inc. was the most responsive and had the best quality pump for their needs. Mr. Dean also noted that they originally requested and budgeted \$50,000 for the pump, so this bid falls under budget.

Mr. Dean also stated that Mechanical Solutions, who submitted a bid just over \$23,000, did not include installation fees in their bid quote.

Mr. Eastman made a motion to approve the award of bid to Hayes Pump, Inc. in the amount of \$36,758 for the purchase and installation of a new raw water pump and motor to be installed at the River Pump Station; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.

10. Sign Grant Agreement: Train Station Parking Expansion Project.

Mr. Dean acknowledged that the train station parking lot expansion article was approved by the voters, and the Board needs to execute the agreements with the state. There are three agreements that required signing.

Mr. Pace made a motion to execute the agreements between the Town of Exeter and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation for right-of-way acquisition, design and construction of the train station parking lot expansion project; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.

The Board proceeded to pass the agreements for signatures.

11. <u>CATV Advisory Committee Charge.</u>

Mr. Dean stated that the CATV Advisory Committee Charge had originally been presented at the Board of Selectmen meeting on March 6, 2006, and they discussed a revised charge. The main focus was to structure the committee setup to include expiring terms, with 5 voting participants, one alternative, and a Selectmen's Representative.

Mr. Pace suggested they vote to disband the former committee and adopt the new charge will be more to approve programming versus negotiating the terms of the contract. Mr. Pace thought that one of the challenges that will face this committee will be to help determine what has merit to be broadcast, but he thought the committee would be more of a help to the community in making recommendations on which shows are appropriate to be aired. Mr. Pace also noted that the Board of Selectmen will be able to reverse any decision made by this committee.

Mr. Ingram felt comfortable with the charge as written. He felt comfortable that as an advisory group, they would bring any issues to the Board of Selectmen for approval.

Mr. Pace wanted to ensure that programs are monitored beforehand versus after-the-fact. Everyone has different opinions, and Mr. Pace wanted to develop procedures for determining appropriate content.

Mr. Dean made a request to residents, that if they have experience with cable television programming, please volunteer as this would be a great help to the community.

Mr. Campbell moved to approve the charge of the Cable TV Advisory Committee as written; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Pace moved that the Board of Selectmen disband the members of the former committee pending the appointment of new members for the Cable TV Advisory Committee; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.

12. <u>CATV Advisory Committee Appointment.</u>

Mr. Dean recapped that Candance Hoene was interviewed for a position on the Cable TV Contract Committee on March 6, 2006. The Board had a chance to meet with her and discuss her interest in the committee.

Mr. Pace moved that the Board of Selectmen appoint Candance Hoene to the Cable TV Advisory Committee with a term to expire on April 30, 2009; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.

- 13. <u>Town Manager's Report.</u>
 - Mr. Dean stated the next Board of Selectmen meeting will be held on April 17, 2006, and at that time they will schedule a work session to discuss water and sewer issues. Mr. Ingram asked to have representatives from St. Michael's Church back, as well as representatives from Dunkin Donuts.
 - Other things to report were that the Town Office had auditors in last week for the basic town audit and things went quite smoothly.
 - The Town has also been a part of a filing with the PVC. Mr. Dean had an opportunity to sit with Mr. Rob Ciandella and feels this will result in some good changes to the rules/regulations currently in place regarding the Town's right-of-way.
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14. <u>Permits.</u>

Mr. Dean presented the following for action:

• RTB Relay requested to hold a relay race on September 16th from 7 am to 4 pm.

- Seacoast Wind Ensemble requested to use the Town Hall Main Floor on May 21st from 1:30 pm 5:30 pm for a concert.
- New Outlook Teen Center and the Exeter Arts Coalition requested to use the Town Hall Main Floor with use of the stage on May 10th from 6 pm – 8 pm for the Exeter Arts Coalition music show.
- The American Cancer Society requested to use the Bandstand on April 15th from 11 am 3 pm for a bake sale.
- Phillips Exeter Academy requested a permit to reserve parking on Tan Lane for three buses to transport attendees of several adult conferences on June 27th from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm and on June 30th from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Chairman Binette noted that in the past, they have double-parked in that area, blocking traffic and causing a safety hazard since fire engines would not have room to get through, so he suggested reminding them that this is not allowed.
- The Quota Club of Greater Portsmouth requested to use the Town Hall Main Floor with use of the stage on October 21st for appraisals, jewelry sales and a tea room.
- The Quota Club of Greater Portsmouth also requested to use the Bandstand on October 21st from 8 am 5 pm as a collection point for coats and also to sell apples and pumpkins.
- Exeter Parks & Rec requested to hold a 5K Road Race as part of Parks Discovery Day on June 17th at 9:30 am.
- Exeter River Local Advisory Committee requested to hang a banner across Water Street from May 22nd to June 4th to advertise for the 2006 Alewife Festival.
- Exeter Veterans Council requested to hold the Memorial Day Parade on May 29, 2006 at 10:00 am.
- Exeter Rotary requested to block off parking spaces on May 26th from 8 am 6 pm for a geranium sale.
- Exeter Rotary also requested use of the Bandstand on May 26th from 8 am 6 pm for a geranium sale.
- Phillip Exeter Academy requested to block off parking spaces for a variety of dates (from July 3rd through August 4th) to load buses for transportation to various locations for their summer school program.
- Phillips Exeter Academy also requested to hold a road race on May 13^{th} from 2 pm 6 pm.
- RCA Head Start requested use of the Wheelwright Room on April 5th from 9 am 11:30 am for a policy council head start meeting.

Mr. Campbell moved to approve all permits as stated; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.

17. <u>Selectmen's Committee Reports.</u>

Mr. Ingram: River Committee meeting on Thursday at 9:00 am. They will have discussions with consultants and also employees from the State to discuss requirements for the Great Dam. They will also be discussing their priorities.

Mr. Eastman: Nothing

Mr. Pace: Did not have any updates on committees, but Mr. Pace brought attention to a film by an Exeter resident about the Appalachian Trail, "Southbounders," that will be premiering at the Ioka this weekend. Mr. Pace told how this resident is currently in Los Angeles trying to launch his career but his dream was to have his first film premier at the Ioka.

Mr. Campbell:

Mr. Binette: Rec Advisory Committee is meeting tomorrow, April 4th, at 6:00 pm. The majority of the discussion will be on Discovery Day.

Public Comments: None.

Mr. Eastman moved to adjourn; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous. Time: 8:12PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A Lund AA/HR Dir.