

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

MINUTES

September 8, 2008

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Joe Pace convened the Board at 7:10 PM in the Nowak Room of the Town Office and introduced other members of the Board: Ms. Julie Gilman, Mr. Matt Quandt, Mr. Bob Eastman, Mr. William Campbell, and Town Manager Russ Dean.

2. Public Comment – none.

3. Minutes

a. Minutes of August 25th, 2008

Mr. Campbell moved to waive the reading of the August 25th, 2008 minutes and accept them as presented, Ms. Gilman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous

4. Appointments – none.

5. Discussion / Action Items

a. Review 2008 MS-1

Mr. DeVittori, the Town Assessor, has completed the MS-1 for 2008 and handed out a summary to the Board. The Town's total valuation has declined 4.01%. There has been 20 million dollars in new growth and utilities have grown from 17 million to 24 million. Mr. Pace asked if the 4% reduction was driven by a certain sector. Mr. DeVittori stated that there was not one specific stratum that caused the decrease.

b. Bid Award: Surplus Police Vehicles

Mr. Pace recused himself from this action item and asked Mr. Campbell to step in as Chair. The DPW has reviewed the 2 bids on surplus vehicles opened at the Selectmen's meeting on August 25th.

Mr. Quandt moved to award the bid for surplus police vehicles to David Foss in the amount of \$500 per vehicle for three vehicles, Mr. Eastman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

c. Provident Bank Proposal for short term lease of the Town Hall

Mr. Pace recused himself from this action item and asked Mr. Campbell to step in as Chair. The Provident Bank would like to lease out space in the lower level of the Town Hall for a 12 month period at \$15 per square foot plus utilities costs. The Bank has proposed making some improvements to the property detailed in the lease. There were some issues with parking that were addressed and are now satisfactory. Mr. Eastman stated that he spoke about this issue a couple of weeks ago and was opposed to this. He now supports the lease for a 12 month period.

Ms. Gilman moved to approve the lease of the lower level of the Town Hall to the Provident Bank, beginning October 1st, 2008 for no more than a 12 month period and for \$15 per square foot plus utilities, Mr. Eastman seconded.

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A representative from the Provident Bank spoke up and asked if the lease could be moved up to September 15th. The Board agreed that September 15th would be fine.

Ms. Gilman moved to amend the approval of the lease of the lower level of the Town Hall to the Provident Bank, beginning September 15th, 2008 for no more than a 12 month period and for \$15 per square foot plus utilities, Mr. Eastman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

d. Accept State Aid Grant (SAG) for Solarbee Pilot

The Town has received a State Aid Grant from the State in the amount of \$53,431 as the state share of the solarbee pilot project. Mr. Dean said that the solarbee project has saved the Town a significant amount of money in electricity and they managed to keep the electricity budget flat. The proceeds will go to the sewer fund. Mr. Campbell asked how much money was saved in electricity. Mr. Dean said that he did not have the exact number but would look into getting it for him.

Mr. Campbell moved to accept the State Aid Grant for \$53,431 for NHDES Project C-767, Solarbee Pilot project, and authorize the Town Manager to sign the authorization form, Ms. Gilman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

e. Board discussion on School Impact fees

The Town has \$398,350.70 as of 8/31/08 in school impact fees. These impact fees may be released to lower the school share of Exeter's tax rate.

Mr. Eastman moved to authorize the release of \$200,000 to the K – grade 5 facilities and \$190,000 to the grade 6 – 12 facilities in school impact fees to lower Exeter's share of the 2008 local school tax rate, and authorize the Town Manager to draft a letter to the School Board indicating the release off the fees, Mr. Campbell seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

f. Board discussion on November General Election Site

Mr. Pace started the discussion on where to have the vote site for the November 4th General Election. There will be a site walk to help determine the best site. Mr. Eastman expressed his concerns on the Talbot Gym site. He brought up the fact that the Board of Selectman are responsible for the election site and making sure it is easily accessible for people with disabilities and for the elderly. He stated that the pavement in around the building is not in great shape and is a tripping hazard. It would cost more money for the Town to make that area accessible. He also said that the Town Office site in 2004 worked well. Mr. Quandt asked about drop off spots. Mr. Eastman said that there are drop off spots. Mr. Pace said that the site walk will be a great help in figuring out the site and seeing what the options are. All issues will be addressed.

6. Public Hearings

a. Final Reading: Taxi Ordinance Update

The Police Department has re-drafted the Town's taxicab ordinance due to the old ordinance being outdated and a new taxi service in existence in Town.

Mr. Eastman moved to approve the Taxicab Ordinance, Chapter 10 of the Town Ordinances, with the amended ordinance to take effect September 15, 2008, Ms. Gilman seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

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7. Permits & Approvals –

a. Abatements and Exemptions- none.

b. Permits-

There is a request for permit to use the Town Hall for a Home Energy Forum on Monday September 15th, 2008 at 2:00 pm.

Mr. Campbell moved to approve the permit to use the Town Hall on Monday, September 15th, 2008 for a Home Energy Forum at 2:00 pm, Ms. Gilman seconded. VOTE: Mr. Quandt abstained. 4/1 carries to be approved.

8. Reports

a) **Town Manager's Report-** The crews did a great job with the arrival of hurricane Hannah last week. Public works, Police and Fire kept the Town in great shape and he commends them all. The next Selectman meetings are September 15th, 29th and October 6th. The Water Tank project is in progress and should be complete in October. The Langdon Ave Sewer project is about 30% done and are hoping to be done before any snow comes. Meeting with departments on budgets will be happening this week and next week. Congratulations to the Blue Hawks Football team for their recent win.

b) Selectmen's Committee Reports

Julie Gilman: The Town Building Advisory Committee will be meeting to answer some questions. Some suggestions Ms. Gilman got for the placement of the Liberty Elm are Founders Park and Swazey Park.

Matt Quandt: nothing to report.

Bob Eastman: Mr. Eastman had nothing to report but asked about the naming of Chief Healy dedication. Mr. Dean stated that they have spoken to the family and that they are scheduling a date for the ceremony. Mr. Eastman also asked about a flag pole donation in Swazey Park for the ceremony on Memorial Day.

Bill Campbell: The Conservation Commission will be meeting this week and will be discussing the dredge and fill application for the String bridge collapse. Thursday the Planning Board will meet and will be discussing the Capital Improvement Program.

Joe Pace: Tomorrow, September 9th, the State Primary elections will be at the Town Hall from 7am to 8pm. He suggested if you need to register you may want to do it that day because the November election day will be very busy and lines will be longer.

c) **Correspondence** – none.

9. Public Comment – none.

10. Non Public Session – Collective Bargaining, Land Acquisition.

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At 8:05 pm, Mr. Eastman motioned to move into a non public session about Collective Bargaining and Land Acquisition, Mr. Campbell seconded. Mr. Pace asked Ms. Gilman to call the roll.

Mr. Eastman: Aye. Mr. Campbell: Aye. Mr. Quandt: Aye. Ms. Gilman: Aye. Mr. Pace: Aye.

11. Adjournment-

Respectfully submitted,



Aimee Caruso

Recording Secretary