

1. Convene the meeting.

Chairman Scafidi convened the Board at 7:00PM on the above date with the following other Board members in attendance: Joseph Pace, Clerk, Paul Binette and Robert Rowe. Absent: Robert Eastman and Town Manager George Olson.

2. Minutes of Board meeting of February 11, 2002.

*Mr. Binette moved to accept the minutes as submitted; second by Mr. Rowe. VOTE: Unanimous.*

3. Bid Opening – DPW Cargo Van.

With only one bid received, the Board agreed to instruct DPW to contact the vendors for an extended submission date for bids.

4. Presentation on new Water Treatment Plant – Jeff Dericks.

Victoria Del Greco, Water/Sewer Superintendent, thanked the Board for visiting the Plant this past Saturday to view the status of the current plant and obtain information regarding the need for an upgraded one. She noted that, following a 2-year study, the conclusion was made to propose a new plant, rather than upgrade the current. Reasons include: (1) the potential for flooding, noting during the 1996 flood over six feet of water was in the Plant and all components were under water and out of commission for a week. (2) By the end of this year, the Town will not meet new regulations for safe drinking water. After much review, the cost to upgrade the present plant would be more costly than building a new plant. In 2002, a preliminary design will be prepared and presented, with final design ready by 2003. Construction will follow though it will be four years before the plant is operational. Also still to be determined is location, technology and eventual cost to the rate payers.

The Board was presented with reports to review and any questions should be directed to Keith Noyes or Ms. Del Greco. Mr. Noyes reported the 2003 Town Meeting warrant will include an article regarding this issue and will include an estimate for rates.

Discussion followed on location (primary is the Town property adjacent to the reservoir (8 acres), part of which is being used by the Sportsmen's Club. Ms. Del Greco note there are several reasons: eventual access from Route 88; elevation (away from the flooding area); close to existing plant and can use piping in place; it is Town-owned.

Mr. Pace asked of the new health regulations and necessary timeline for us to comply. Ms. Del Greco noted the regulations deal with the disinfecting process.

Bill Campbell, resident, asked if there are plans for the present plant's use once construction is complete? There is concern the area could flood again but as of yet there are no plans.

Mr. Noyes noted the new plant should carry the Town into a 20-year period, noting the Exeter River should handle 20 years at least and this will treat that water. Herb Moyer, Westside Drive, noted if the Town is relying on the Exeter River for supply, the Town should help area towns in promoting the watershed protection. Mr. Scafidi thanked all involved for the presentation.

5. First reading of temporary changes to Ordinance 101.2 – Chestnut Street parking.

Chairman Scafidi noted the changes are to relieve the parking situation on Chestnut Street during the Bridge project. He did not have the specifics on the changes. The Board decided to hold off discussion till a later meeting, noting the project had not yet begun.

6. Change in mileage rate paid to employees – SOP F-02-03

Chairman Scafidi read the change, noting an increase from 31 cents to 36 cents as per recent IRS changes. This is the first of two readings.

7. Nuclear Safety Public Forum – Herb Moyer.

Mr. Moyer reported on a Community Forum, scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7PM at Phillips Exeter Academy, presented by the Seacoast Anti-Pollution League, concerning 'living with our nuclear neighbor at Seabrook in the age of terrorism'. Because of the informational matter and the desire to reach all those interested, including those unable to attend, Mr. Moyer was requesting the Board co-sponsor the Forum, thereby having the meeting taped and aired on Channel 22. Mr. Moyer read letters of support (attached) from Joni Praded and Tyler Tingley, Principal of Phillips Exeter. He noted area Town's emergency management directors have been contacted to participate, and Steve Hermans will be moderating. He also presented information from NH Public Health concerning the impact of September 11<sup>th</sup> on both the public and environmental health systems (attached). Mr. Moyer noted the Forum is planned to be a rationale setting and not an emotional setting. Mr. Moyer stated Capt. Soave (Exeter's Emergency Management Director) has worked hard on setting up Exeter's program and this would be a chance to get the project information out to the community.

Mr. Pace thanked Mr. Moyer for his presentation noting it is a valuable resource but the conversation this evening does not center on that. The Town's policy for Channel 22 is if the project is not sponsored by the Town or the School, it does not appear. He noted programs sponsored by the Red Cross (CPR classes) and others have not appeared, and won't without a change in policy. Mr. Moyer noted the Board was correct in the denial of the others as the Board does not have the responsibility to provide information on CPR or glasses and sight programs, but they do have the responsibility of protecting the citizens of the community.

Chairman Scafidi noted the policies regarding Channel 22 have not deviated since inception. He noted that residents are free to attend the forum and the Board does what is necessary to keep residents informed. What is consistent, however, is that this type of program is not aired. He noted Fire Chief Comeau and Capt. Soave did not know of the program till Mr. Moyer asked them to co-sponsor the event and, if the program is that important, emergency management departments of the area should have been notified. He noted Channel 22 is a Government Access channel vs. Public Access TV and does not wish to change policy.

Mr. Moyer noted he was under the impression all towns in the 10-mile radius had been contacted. He, however, did urge the Board to consider the issue important enough to co-sponsor the event noting State and Plant representatives would also be present. If not air, would the Board consider recording the proceedings, reviewing them and deciding if the content was okay, then air on Channel 22?

Chris Nord, Meadow Lane, a member of SAPL and C-10 in Newburyport, Mass, commented that he had attended a recent Forum on Seabrook in Newburyport and a lot of time was spent in discussion with local emergency plan officials i.e. sirens, etc. It was useful and helped educate citizens, serving as a public education device.

Mark Trafton, 33 Main Street, noted there is a balanced panel in place for the Forum scheduled at PEA. They did not mean to blindside the Board but not inviting emergency management officials. He asked the Board to consider that, since 9/11, nuclear safety is of paramount importance and preparedness affects all residents. Broadcasting the forum will help shut-ins and those without transportation to view. If the Board chooses not to air this time, he hoped they would consider it in the future. He noted it is morally incumbent to be prepared and it's the Board's responsibility to protect the citizens.

*As no motion was made to support the co-sponsorship of the panel, no vote was taken. The forum will not air on Channel 22.*

8. Permits:

Chairman Scafidi presented the following:

- Gary Hinz, representing Exeter United Methodist Church and other Exeter churches, requested permission to hold a walk-a-thon on March 29<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1:30, noting it is a 'Lenten Walk based on Stations of the Cross'. The Chief of Police has approved the route map and a certificate of insurance has been received. Ms. Blenk noted an additional permit regarding the Stations was given to the Swasey Parkway Trustees for acting. ***Mr. Pace moved to allow the walk; second by Mr. Rowe. VOTE: Unanimous.***
- Virginia Schneider of the Seacoast Wind Ensemble requested permission to use the Town Hall for a pops concert on May 19<sup>th</sup> from 3-5PM. ***Mr. Pace moved to allow; second by Mr. Rowe. VOTE: Unanimous.***

9. Town Manager's Items:

- Chairman Scafidi presented the Board with a list of areas for placement of train directional signs, noting Mr. Olson and the State DOT have been coordinating efforts to direct citizens from exit 9 off Route 101 to the train station. The sites include: by the "Club's sign on Route 27, at the intersection of Brentwood Road/Columbus Avenue and at Lincoln Street. The Board agreed and a letter will be sent to the DOT confirming those locations.
- A public notice (attached) from the Town Clerk was read concerning absentee ballots and criteria for receipt of same.

10. Selectmen's Committee Reports:

Mr. Rowe reported the Council on Aging, sponsor of the Post Cane, is in search of the oldest resident in Exeter following the passing of Mrs. Myron. Anyone knowing of someone over 100 should contact the Town Manager's office.

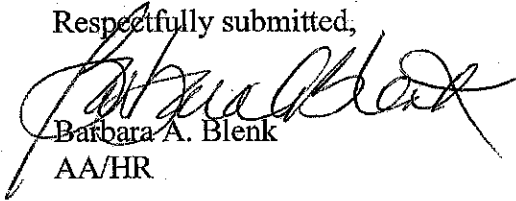
Mr. Binette had no report but offered support and best wishes to Tom Beeler, Selectmen in Hampton Falls, who lost everything in a fire at this family's home this past weekend, including many pets. The Exeter Fire Department, along with others from the Seacoast, helped battle the blaze.

Mr. Pace reported the Historic District Commission met and approved applications, as well as continuing their discussion on public education.

Mr. Scafidi noted the Water & Sewer Advisory Committee met and the Board reviewed their actions both Saturday and at this evening's meeting.

11. Public Comments: Being none, *Mr. Rowe moved to adjourn; second by Mr. Binette. VOTE: Unanimous.* Time: 8:02PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara A. Blenk  
AA/HR

attach