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**EXETER BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES MARCH 11, 2002**

1. Convene the meeting

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

2. Minutes of the Board of Selectmen's meeting of February 25, 2002

**Mr. Binette moved to accept the minutes as submitted, second by Mr. Rowe, SO VOTED with Mr. Eastman abstaining.**

Chairman Scafidi deviated from the agenda at this point to ask Coach Tufts and McMenimen to come forward with members of the Exeter High School Hockey team. Chairman Scafidi congratulated them all for their second consecutive Division 2 State hockey title. Following a reading of a proclamation proclaiming the week of March 10th through the 17<sup>th</sup> as Hockey Week in Exeter, Chairman Scafidi asked Coach Tufts to say a few words. After thanking the Board for the recognition, Mr. Tufts introduced the members of the team. Mr. Binette pointed out the photo of the team that appeared in Foster's Daily Democrat. The Board and the team shook hands and Chairman Scafidi once again congratulated all on their victory.

3. Bid opening -- Fence at Kid's Park (Parks and Recreation)

Chairman Scafidi proceeded to open bids for fencing:

NH Fence, York ME	\$9,360
4 Seasons Fence, Portsmouth	\$11,442
GC Triple A, Dover	\$7,990

**It was moved by Mr. Binette, second by Mr. Pace to turn the bids over to the Town Manager and the Parks and Recreation Director for review and recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. SO VOTED**

4. First reading of temporary changes to Ordinance 103.1 -- Chestnut St. Parking

Chairman Scafidi noted that the change was being proposed to address a loss of long term parking associated with the Great Bridge reconstruction and that the change was meant to remain in effect only during the construction period. The change involves making the 2-hour parking spaces on Chestnut Street, beside the Mill, all day parking. Mr. Rowe confirmed that these were the spaces that ran from the intersection of String Bridge to the first driveway at the Mill. This being the first of three readings, the matter will be addressed again at the Board's next meeting.

5. First reading of addition to Ordinance 301 -- One Way Streets and Traffic Circles

Chairman Scafidi noted that this item had to do with the Water St. entrance to the parking lot across from the IOKA. Mr. Olson reported that the sign that prohibits exiting from the lot onto Water St. had been in place since the parking lot was built, but that no ordinance had ever been considered prohibiting cars from exiting. The result is that the Police have no enforcement powers in regard to motorists exiting the lot onto Water St. Mr. Pace asked if it was prudent to remove the sign since it was not enforceable. Mr. Olson responded that the sign had been in place since the lot was built and that it would be his recommendation to keep the sign in place even though until the ordinance is passed there can be no enforcement.

Chairman Scafidi noted that this was a first reading and that the second reading would take place at the next meeting.

6. Final reading of change in mileage rate paid to employees

Chairman Scafidi noted that this matter had been discussed at the previous meeting. Mr. Eastman asked for confirmation that the Building Inspector was the recipient of mileage since he used his vehicle in his work on behalf of the Town. Mr. Olson confirmed this, noting that others, including the Town Clerk, Town Planner, and the Assessor from time to time used their own vehicles in the course of their work.

Mr. Binette asked if there was paperwork involved describing the amount to be paid? Mr. Olson confirmed this, explaining that the mileage forms were in turn processed by the Finance Department, and that the forms reflected the purpose of each trip.

**It was moved by Mr. Binette, second by Mr. Pace, to increase the mileage rate paid to employees on Town business from the current 31 cents to 36 cents. SO VOTED**

7. Request to remove funds from Water and Sewer Fund Balance for 2002 projects

Chairman Scafidi read from the list (attached) describing water projects to be undertaken during 2002 utilizing the water fund balance. He noted that much of this was discussed at the meeting of February 25. Mr. Pace asked what the fund balance amounted to. Mr. Noyes, Public Works Director stated that it stood at \$933,500 at the start of the year. This meant that when all of the work was accomplished the balance would be some \$500,000.

Mr. Eastman questioned the \$60,000 withdrawal for construction of new Public Works Offices, noting that the voters have not yet decided if they wish to fund the project. Mr. Pace asked if there was a problem delaying this decision until the next Selectmen's meeting in light of the fact that voting will take place on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Noyes responded that this would not be a problem.

Mr. Rowe asked that none of the items listed be voted on this evening since his first opportunity to see the list came just last Friday. Mr. Noyes indicated that he would like the Board to act this evening in that the water projects were time sensitive.

Mr. Eastman noted that in the Capital Improvement Program \$250,000 was set aside for water projects, yet the list before the Board called for an expenditure of \$325,000. Mr. Noyes responded that the CIP numbers were developed prior to the completion of the Water Study and that the figures before the Board were current.

Mr. Rowe asked why the Town treated twice as much sewage as it produced as potable water. Mr. Noyes stated that the reason for this is that there is still some infiltration, and that there are still sump pumps connected to the sanitary sewer system. Nevertheless matters are much better today than in the past. Mr. Noyes could not remember the last time that storm water had to be diverted across the river to the settlement pond, an indication of how far the Town has come with storm water separation.

Mr. Rowe asked about the Cottage St. project; asking Mr. Noyes what a "blow off" was. Mr. Noyes responded that it was a means for better cleaning out the water line, made necessary by the fact that the Cottage St. service is not looped. Mr. Rowe stated that he was aware of a sewer problem on Cottage St. and that he would have the homeowner get in touch with Mr. Noyes.

**It was moved by Mr. Eastman, second by Mr. Pace, to authorize the release of \$425,700 from water capital reserves, with the understanding the additional \$60,000 requested will be addressed following action on warrant articles on March 12. SO VOTED**

Chairman Scafidi moved to the matter of sewer projects reading from a list (attached) generated by the Water and Sewer Advisory Committee. Once again Mr. Eastman noted the funds for the building, requested that they be deleted from this list as well. He went on to note that the CIP called for some \$300,000 in sewer spending and questioned what was not being done. Mr. Noyes responded that work on Portsmouth Ave. sewer replacement was being put off for a year given the yearlong work on Great Bridge.

Chairman Scafidi noted that with the requested withdrawal from the sewer reserve, the balance would be approximately \$700,000.

Mr. Rowe asked what the problem was with the Gardner St. sewer. Mr. Noyes responded that it was an old clay pipe and that efforts to clean the line showed that it was nearing failure. He went on to say that this project would be bid out along with work on Buzell and High St. that was being paid for by the Hospital. The result will be the lowest possible cost per foot for replacement.

**It was moved by Mr. Pace, second by Mr. Eastman to authorize the release of \$140,000 from sewer reserves, with the understanding that the additional \$60,000 requested will be addressed following action on warrant article on March 12. SO VOTED**

#### 8. Permits

Mr. Olson reported that no permit request had been received.

9. Town Manager items.

Mr. Olson reminded viewers that tomorrow was voting day, 8 to 8 at the Town Hall: that it was dog registration time once again, noting that all dogs must be registered each year; and that starting April 1, the Park St. bridge will be closed for repairs for at least 2 weeks.

10. Selectmen's Committee reports

Mr. Pace reported on the Master Plan Steering Committee and its continuing efforts at going through the material generated at the recent visioning sessions, the upcoming meeting of the Conservation Commission on the 12<sup>th</sup> and next weeks meeting of the Historic District Commission.

Mr. Binette addressed Chairman Scafidi, thanking him for the past 9 years of hard work on behalf of the Town and the long hours he put in as a Selectman. Mr. Binette stated that he hoped that this was not the end of Chairman Scafidi's public career and that he would be most pleased to see him back again. He closed by thanking Chairman Scafidi again and noting that the Board will miss him.

11. Public Comment

**There being none, it was moved by Mr. Eastman, second by Mr. Binette to adjourn. Prior to calling for a vote Chairman Scafidi read the attached statement thanking all the people he had worked with over his years as a Selectman.**

**SO VOTED 7:43PM**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George N. Olson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George N. Olson  
Town Manager