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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES MARCH 12, 2001

1. Convene the meeting

Chairman Binette convened the meeting of the Board at 7:04PM on the above date. Also in attendance: Paul Scafidi, Joseph Pace, Robert Rowe, Wendy Stanley Jones and Town Manager George Olson

2. Minutes of the February 12, 2001 meeting

Moved by Mr. Scafidi, second by Mr. Pace, to accept the minutes of the February 12, 2001 meeting as presented. SO VOTED

3. Bid openings

Chairman Binette noted that no additional bids had been received on the new Recreation Department Truck, the Town having received only a single bid. Mr. Olson recommended that the bid not be opened and that the State bid be considered. This was agreed to.

Chairman Binette asked Mr. Olson to report on the bids opened earlier in the week. Mr. Olson reported that bids for the alarm system for the Public Safety Building and for the new ambulance had been opened at 4:00 on the 7th and had been shared with Public Works and Fire respectively. Mr. Olson reported that he would have a recommendation on both at a later meeting.

4. Request to address the Board – Harold Parker, Manager of Outreach Programs for Rep. Sununu.

Mr. Olson reported that Mr. Parker could not make this evening's meeting due to a scheduling conflict resulting from the cancellation of the Board's meeting of the 5th. He will reschedule for a later date.

5. Second reading of parking limitation on Front and Elliott Streets

Chairman Binette asked the Board members if they had any new ideas since the matter was discussed at the last meeting. There being no comment from the Board, Chairman Binette recognized Rev. Jamie Monahan of the Baptist Church and asked her to come to the mic. Rev. Monahan confirmed that the 2-hour parking limitation was to be on the opposite side of Front St. from the church. She asked what had happened between December and February to make the problem the Town's and not PEA's. Chairman Binette responded that while the problem is in part the result of construction workers building the new Science Center, the Academy is in no position to tell individuals who can and cannot park on Town Streets. He further stated that the Academy had informed the Town that they would support any decision the Town makes.

Rev. Monahan asked why PEA could not limit where folks parked as part of the contract for the construction work. Chairman Binette responded that such a change was not reasonable in an existing contract. In addition, he stated that any such language placed in a contract could not be enforced by PEA. Ms. Jones noted that many of the spaces on Front St. are being used by day students at PEA and that they had just as much right to park on Front St. as anyone else. She felt that the 2-hour parking limitation would free up some of the spaces now taken by these day students.

Rev. Monahan asked whom to contact if she had a large funeral and needed to keep some spaces open? Chairman Binette responded that the person to talk to was the Town Manager who would be in touch with the Board regarding setting aside the needed spaces.

Mr. Pace applauded Rev. Monahan for her and her congregation's attention to the issue, but disagreed with her earlier characterization of the board as being "adamant" to make the changes. He indicated that he was not supportive of the change.

There being no further comments, the 3rd reading and vote on the ordinance change will take place at the meeting of the 19th.

6. Second reading of parking limitations on Front St. crosswalks and intersections.

Chairman Binette asked if anyone on the Board had any new information to bring to the issue. Mr. Pace responded that this change was an effort on his part to improve safety, but not limit parking to 2 hours. Chairman Binette read the proposed change.

Rev. Monahan came to the mic and stated that the "no parking here to corner" in front of the church had been put up recently and that parishioners had received tickets. Upon further investigation, it was found that the signs were in the wrong location. This was corrected. There was discussion of the State requirement that there be no parking within 30 feet of an intersection, and the proposed changes to bring this to 50 feet on a section of Front Street near the church.

It was clarified that the 2-hour parking on Front St. would be limited to 8 to 5 on weekdays. Mr. Dow came to the mic and asked for clarification on where the 30 feet is measured. It was suggested that it was 30 feet along the curb line.

Ms. Jones brought up a concern from the last meeting having to do with 15 minute parking on Front St. near the post office. She noted that it was supposed to be on the agenda for discussion this evening. Mr. Olson apologized for having missed this item and indicated it would be on the next agenda. Ms. Jones suggested that the parking limitation near the post office be limited to 8 to 5 on weekdays so that individuals could park there on weekends and not be in violation. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the meeting of the 19th.

There being no further comments on the ordinance change, it will be read for a 3rd time and action will be taken on the 19th.

7. Second reading of change to dates when work is permitted in the Town's right of way.

Chairman Binette read the proposed change and asked Public Works Director Keith Noyes to come to the mic and explain the change. In response to Mr. Rowe's question as to what would be gained by making such a change, Mr. Noyes responded that with the considerable amount of development going on it would be beneficial to give contractors a little more time if the hot top plants were open and it was warm enough to do the work. Mr. Rowe asked why the approval during the 2-week period would come from Mr. Tucker, the Highway Superintendent and not the Board. Mr. Noyes responded that people can always come to the Board with a request to work in the street during the winter and that Bob Tucker was the expert in such matters and would not let someone work in the street if the weather did not allow. He stated that Mr. Tucker was the best person to make such decisions.

There being no other comments on the ordinance change, it will be acted upon at the meeting of the 19th.

8. Action on increase to Police detail rate - \$27 to \$30/hour

Chairman Binette read the letter from the Police Association calling for the increase noting that the collective bargaining agreement gave the union the right to set such fees.

Moved by Mr. Scafidi, second by Ms. Jones to change the rate paid to detail officers from \$27 to \$30 per hour. SO VOTED

9. Authorization to execute NHDES Local Source Water Protection Grant

Mr. Olson explained that back in November Town Planner Sylvia von Aulock had applied for a grant to match funds raised at last year's Town Meeting to take a look at protecting the Water Works Pond. The application was successful and now there is a need for the Board to vote to accept the grant and to authorize the Town Manager to accept the funds. **So moved by Mr. Scafidi, second by Ms. Jones. SO VOTED**

10. Continuation of agreement with Bell and Flynn for hot top

Chairman Binette explained that the Town had received a letter from Bell and Flynn indicating that they would provide the Town with hot top in place for a cost of \$32.75 per ton, a dollar more than in 2000. Mr. Noyes came to the mic, explained that he had called around, found that the cost was running \$34 to \$34.50 per ton from other vendors, and recommended the Board accept Bell and Flynn's offer. Chairman Binette asked if the quality of the work would remain the same. Mr. Noyes responded that it would.

It was moved by Mr. Scafidi, second by Ms. Jones to accept the offer made by Bell and Flynn to charge \$32.75/ton during calendar year 2001 for hot top in place. SO VOTED.

11. Authorization to execute agreement for engineer/design services for Great Bridge work

Mr. Noyes came to the mic and explained the selection process that included submittal of proposals and interviews. He noted that engineering services might not be bid out, as is the case with construction and equipment due to limitations placed on the process by the State that is paying 80% of the cost of the project. The firm of SEA has been chosen to design the bridge at a cost of \$56,000. The State Department of Transportation has approved the agreement with SEA. At a later date, another agreement will need to be signed for detailed construction. The project is expected to cost some \$1.2M.

It was moved by Mr. Scafidi to authorize the Town Manager to sign an agreement with SEA of Concord New Hampshire for preliminary design of renovations to be made to the Great Bridge. Mr. Rowe asked if there were any plans to widen the bridge. Mr. Noyes responded that there were none due to the limiting width of the abutments. Chairman Binette asked if the bridge would be closed during construction. Mr. Noyes stated that one lane traffic would be maintained. Mr. Pace seconded the motion. SO VOTED

12. Permits

Moved by Ms. Jones, second by Mr. Pace, to permit the Jr. Women's Club to put a banner up across Water St. from March 30 to April 9th advertising an "Easter Bunny Breakfast". SO VOTED

Moved by Ms. Jones, second by Mr. Scafidi, to permit the American Diabetes Association to hold a bike race through Exeter on May 6, 2001. SO VOTED

Moved by Ms. Jones, second by Mr. Scafidi, to permit the Exeter Youth Network use the main floor of the Town Hall on May 12th for the purpose of holding a youth concert. Building to be used only in the event of rain. SO VOTED

Moved by Mr. Scafidi, second by Ms. Jones, to permit the Exeter Area Kiwanis Club to hold a road race as part of Revolutionary War Days on July 21, and to further allow them to block off parking spaces adjacent to the Bandstand and to use the entry way and the Town Hall steps as part of the event. SO VOTED

13. Town Manager's items

Mr. Olson reminded everyone to vote tomorrow the 13th, that the next Selectmen's meeting will be held on the 19th, read an announcement from the High School calling for WWII veterans who left school without graduating to come forward and receive their

diplomas at a special ceremony to be held in May. Mr. Olson also read the truck ban now in effect on Drinkwater and Birch Roads through April 30th. The weight limit is 6 tons.

14. Selectmen's Committee reports

Mr. Rowe reported that the Planning Board continues to work on the Master Plan and the Capital Improvement Program. Ms. Jones reported on the efforts of the Exeter Arts Committee, the upcoming Safety Committee meeting set for the 15th and the Ambulance Committee to meet on the 16th.

Ms Jones stated the it had been an honor to serve on the Exeter Board of Selectmen for the past 6 years, and opined that the Board has worked well over the past years. She stated that being a Selectman had proven to be an excellent opportunity to serve her Town.

Mr. Pace reported on the upcoming meeting of the Rockingham Planning Commission.

Mr. Scafidi reported that he had had no recent committee meetings, but he did want to report on the success of the Exeter Hockey Team, State Division II Champs, Exeter's first hockey championship in 18 years.

Mr. Scafidi went on to thank Ms. Jones for her 6 years of service to Exeter, describing her as a real asset to her community and thanked her for everything.

Chairman Binette noted that this might also be his last meeting, given the elections to be held tomorrow. In the event he loses the contest he wanted to thank the Board for all of their hard work and expressed his great pleasure at being given the opportunity to be a member of the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Binette went on to note the storms of the past week and expressed his, the Board's and the Town's thanks to the Public Works crew the Police and Fire Departments for all of their efforts at insuring that everything was under control. He suggested that if residents had an opportunity to speak to a Public Works employee, a police officer or a firefighter that they be thanked for all of their efforts over the past difficult days.

There being no other business it was moved by Mr. Scafidi, second by Ms. Jones, to adjourn. SO VOTED. 8:14PM

Respectfully submitted,



George N. Olson
Town Manager