BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES N CLERK'S OFFICE OCTOBER 15, 2001

1. Convene the meeting.

Chairman Scafidi convened the Board at 7:00PM on the above date with the following present in addition to the Chair: Joseph Pace, Robert Eastman, Robert Rowe, Paul Binette and Town Manager George Olson.

2. Minutes of Selectmen's meeting of October 1, 2001.

Mr. Binette moved to waive the reading and to accept the minutes of October 1st as submitted; second by Mr. Rowe. VOTE: Unanimous.

3. Receipt of gift from the Seacoast Ensemble – Bandstand Maintenance.

As Mr. Desantis was not present, the Chair continued with the meeting.

4. Public Hearing on Community Development Block Grant – Rockingham Economic Development Corporation.

Warren Henderson, President of REDC, spoke of the win/win/win situation with the Town's involvement with the Community Development Block Grant, noting \$350,000 is available per year for Exeter for public facilities/housing rehabilitation and economic development projects. There is no net cost to the Town as all expenses are reimbursable. The Grant pays for an administrator so no Town staff time is involved. The situation allows for a new taxpayer, additional jobs and, in the proposed project, additional day care slots in the Town.

Chairman Scafidi opened the public hearing by clarifying that the funds are available to municipalities for economic development, public facilities and housing rehabilitation projects that primarily benefit low and moderate income persons. The Block Grant funding request is for Appleseed's Day School proposal to construct a 6,800 square foot daycare facility in Exeter. The new center will service 104 children and create 20 new jobs. The majority of jobs would be for persons of low and moderate income households.

Of the \$312,000 in CDBG funds, \$297,000 will be subgranted to Rockingham Economic Development Corp. REDC will loan \$242,000 to Appleseed's Day School (\$92,000 for equipment and \$150,000 for Permanent Working Capital), \$50,000 will finance training for the new jobs. The project conforms with Exeter Housing & Community Development Plans' goal of encouraging daycare services.

Chairman Scafidi asked for public comments.

Kelly Standen (CPA) and Katie Rose (Teacher), partners for Appleseed's Day School, spoke on the market research completed during this past year reporting the substantial need for day care, with about a one year wait for children 3 and over and almost no slots for ages up to 3 years. The School will maintain 20 jobs and have a strong presence in the community, noting their proposed involvement with the Chamber of Commerce, conducting annual toys for tots program and speakers on various topics. Both Mrs. Standen and Mrs. Rose are from Exeter, having graduated from Exeter

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High School. Mrs. Standen stated there is compelling evidence for day care need as they have not yet advertised but have already received 81 calls for spaces.

Kerry Martin, Stratham (the Board gave permission to speak as a non-resident), works at Exeter Pediatrics and very often hears of the need for daycare in the area from patients.

Carol Healy, Exeter, has a 16 month old and has had a difficult time finding daycare. Her husband recently switched careers in order for them to accommodate child care.

<u>Linda Thurston</u>, Exeter, has been researching day care for her son, as her current center will not now take her daughter because of space. There is no room anywhere.

<u>Cathy MacDougall</u>, Exeter, has been struggling for 11 years as a 'working mom', particularly with the day care situation. She noted after school care is a big issue and Appleseed's Day Care will be offering this service. Quality care is needed in the Exeter area.

<u>KrisAnn Dalton</u>, Exeter, offered her support of the project. Since Synergy closed down their day care there are no drop-in facilities. Appleseed's will be providing this service in order for parents to 'drop off' their children for a couple of hours so parents may attend appointments, shop, etc. Ms. Dalton noted she is new to the area and has no family locally to assist with child care.

Wendy Hayden, Kensington (Board approved her speaking), reiterated that Appleseed's has not yet advertised but has received 81 calls for slots. As Exeter is the "big city" to Kensington, its residents look for opportunities available for services. The drop-in situation is unique. She noted many day care employees of Synergy have gone to Portsmouth for positions but wish to come back into Exeter as they live nearby. Unfortunately, many babysitters are of high school age and are not available during the day to cover appointments, etc.

<u>Karen & Randy Chouinard</u>, Exeter, currently have their child on 3 to 4 waiting lists and are still not in a slot. They are one of the 81 slated for a position with Appleseed's. Mr. Chouinard noted the east side of Exeter has grown with over 100 new homes in the past few years. The problems involved with quality child care continues to grown.

With no further public comments, Chairman Scafidi closed that part of the public hearing and opened the second part — to discuss the **Housing & Community Development Plan**. (copy provided to the public and attached).

Chairman Scafidi asked for public comments concerning the Housing & Community Development Plan. There were none and he closed that portion of the hearing.

Third portion of the hearing, opened by Chairman Scafidi, concerns the <u>Residential Anti</u>

<u>Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan</u>. He noted that though this project does not involve any displacement or relocation of persons, if the Town were to undertake a project which involved displacement or relocation, they would follow the plan. The Plan, attached, outlines the measures to follow in finding comparable, suitable housing for persons displaced or relocated. He asked for public comments: there were none so he closed the public hearing.

Amended worseld

Chairman Scafidi re-opened the regular session of the Board. Mr. Binette moved to adopt the Updated Housing and Community Development Plan; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Binette moved to adopt the Residential Anti Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan as proposed; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Binette moved to approve the submittal of the CDBG application <u>and</u> vote to authorize the Chairman to sign and submit the application and upon approval of the CDBG application, authorize the Chairman to execute any documents which may be necessary to effectuate the CDBG contract; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.

5. <u>Bid Openings</u>:

Sale of property for non-payment of taxes: No bids were received.

1981 GMC Truck: Two bids were received (see attached). Mr. Binette moved to award the bid to the highest bidder, Bob's Heavy Equipment, for \$200; second by Mr. Rowe. VOTE: Unanimous.

<u>2001 Town Report</u>: Three bids were received (see attached). Mr. Binette asked if the printer who handled the 2000 report had bid. Barbara Blenk answered they did, Sant Bani Press. Mr. Pace moved the Town Manager examine the bids and return to the board with a recommendation; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.

6. Change in ownership of the Park Street Bridge.

Correspondence has been received from the NH Department of Transportation (attached) concerning restoration of the Park Street Bridge. Mr. Olson noted the Town's CIP calls for the bridge to be replaced and we have already requested federally matching funds, so this is excellent news, as the State pays 90% of the costs. [It was noted that the funds from the State are actually 80% federally funded and 10% State funded, but the State maintains both].

Mr. Rowe asked what figure is to be used for the 90/10% figures? Mr. Olson noted the CIP figure was \$275 for replacement of the bridge, which consists of a pre-fab bridge set upon the existing abutments. The figures, however, will be made on estimates for a wider bridge in order for the weight limit to be increased and the Town's emergency vehicles to cross.

Mr. Pace moved to authorize the Town Manager to accept the State's proposal and to develop a funding proposal; second by Mr. Rowe. VOTE: Unanimous.

7. Application to NHDOT for project funding – Kingston Road shoulder widening & railroad station parking.

Mr. Olson reported that grant applications have been prepared by the Rockingham Planning Commission for the funding of the two projects with a potential funding date of 2005. One project is the widening of the shoulders for a bike patch on the Kingston Road would be from Washington Street to Tamarind Lane at a proposed cost of \$292,500. The other involves the acquisition of land to expand the parking lot at the new train station at an estimated cost of \$475,000. The projects would be paid for 80% by federal funds, 20% by the Town. These projects would go into competition with

other communities' projects so there is no guarantee they will be funding. Mr. Pace moved to support the projects and to express a willingness to support warrant articles for the 20% match at the 2003 or 2004 Town Meeting; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.

8. First reading of the amended Taxi Ordinance to incorporate limousine services.

Chairman Scafidi read the areas of Chapter 10 concerning changes to the taxi ordinance (copy attached). This is the first reading.

9. Permits:

- Phillips Exeter Academy requested permission to close Tan Lane on October 26th from 5-10PM for ribbon cutting and black tie dinner at the Phelps Science Center. *Mr. Binette moved to approve; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous*. Mr. Binette asked about the game plan for parking. Mr. Olson noted PEA will have shuttles from the various lots.
- Phillips Exeter Academy requested permission to close Tan Lane on October 27th from 7A-12N for an additional ribbon cutting. Mr. Binette moved to approve; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.
- Al Brandano requested permission to hang a banner across Water Street to advertise a fund raising event for NH East Youth Hockey & Make-a-Wish Foundation from October 29 through November 9th. The Electric Company will install the banner. *Mr. Pace moved to approve; second by Mr. Rowe. VOTE: Unanimous.*
- NH Society of Photographic Artists requested use of the main floor of the Town Hall for their annual meeting. They use the upstairs gallery during the year for displays. *Mr. Pace moved to approve; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous*.
- Ann Tufts, representing the EHS Music Boosters, requested use of the Town Hall main floor for their annual Craft Fair on Saturday, December 1 from 8AM-4PM (set up on Friday from 5-7PM). They will be sharing the hall with the Parade Committee. Mr. Rowe moved to approve; second by Mr. Binette. VOTE: Unanimous.

10. Town Manager's Items:

Fall pick-up is the week of October 29th and the \$2.50 stickers are available at reception; Halloween is October 30 from 4-7PM (fire sirens will sound); Halloween parade & party is October 31st; the Board's next meeting is October 29th; Leaf pick-up is the week of November 5th and bags are available for 45 cents each at reception and public works; Swasey Parkway curbing project should be complete by early November.

11. <u>Selectmen's Committee Reports:</u>

Mr. Binette reported the Recreation Advisory Committee met and are anxiously awaiting the Board's decision on their by-laws revisions. He has requested Mr. Olson schedule it for an upcoming agenda.

Mr. Rowe noted the DPW budget sub-committee is meeting this Wednesday but does not yet have a time.

Mr. Pace stated the Conservation Commission meets this Tuesday and will report that the Board will have final approval of their by-laws, which they have been working on revising. HDC meets October 18th.

Mr. Eastman stated the Planning Board met on Thursday and continued their CIP discussions. A letter will be presented to the Board and Budget Committee concerning their support. The Police budget sub-committee met.

Mr. Scafidi noted the Parks Advisory Committee met last week and are requested the Board approval continuing the Committee. The current committee has met the charge by the Board and the on-going committee would consist of community volunteers rather than the members appointed by the Board. Water & Sewer Advisory Committee meets next week and will be reviewing the recently received Water Study.

12. Public Comments: No one present.

Mr. Pace moved to adjourn and resume in a non-public session to discuss a personnel matter; second by Mr. Eastman. Roll call vote: 5-0. Time: 8:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Blenk

Admin. Asst/HR Dir.

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Amended 10/29/01 - pg 3 [Item #6, 2nd para. \$275,000]

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Rec'd 10/30/01

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Amended 10/29/01 - pg 3 [Item #6, 2nd para. \$275,000]

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