

10/30/01

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

OCTOBER 29, 2001

1. Convene the meeting.

Chairman Scafidi convened the Board at 7:02PM on the above date. Present, in addition to Mr. Scafidi, were Joseph Pace, Robert Eastman, Paul Binette, Robert Rowe and Town Manager George Olson.

2. Read & approve minutes of October 15, 2001 meeting.

Mr. Olson noted a change on page 3, item #6: \$275 should be changed to \$275,000. **Mr. Binette moved to accept the minutes as amended; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.**

Chairman Scafidi invited a resident to the microphone who wished to make a comment early in the meeting as he was unable to wait till "Public Comments". Jim Reardon, King Arthur Court in Sherwood Forest, thanked the Board and the Highway Department for the construction of the sidewalks from Lancelot to Robin Hood Drive. He has noted over the years that many children travel that area and have been walking in the streets. He also noted that in many communities it is not uncommon to see Highway Personnel standing around with only one or two actually working. Not the case in Exeter, as they were all working at the scene while in the Park. The residents should be proud. Chairman Scafidi thanked Mr. Reardon for his comments.

3. Bid Openings:

Chemical Bids: see attached. **Mr. Pace moved to remit the bids to the Town Manager and appropriate department head to review and return with a recommendation; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.** Mr. Binette asked if the bid is awarded to whomever has the lowest overall package deal or if they are individually awarded. Mr. Olson noted we pick and choose the lowest/best deal. Mr. Binette also noted some packets from Pennsylvania and suggested the review on whether the bid prices were the delivery prices.

Ford Probe (Police): Two bids were received.

Dwight Purrington (Epping NH)	\$ 208.
Heavy Truck Sales of NE, Berwick ME	\$1261.

Mr. Binette moved to accept the high bid from Heavy Truck Sales of NE, Berwick ME. of \$1,261, as is; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.

4. Award of Bids – Town Report

Mr. Olson recommended the low bidder, Newburyport Press of Newport, MA, at a cot of \$5,430.80. In her memo recommending the award, Mrs. Blenk noted this bid is lower than Sant Bani Press' bid for the 2000 report. This is the first time the Town would be using Newburyport Press but they come recommended by the Town of Hampton. **Mr. Binette moved to accept the recommendation and to award the bid to Newburyport Press; second by Mr. Rowe. VOTE: Unanimous.**

5. Second reading of taxi ordinance amendments.

Chairman Scafidi noted the amendments were read in their entirety at the last meeting. Mrs. Blenk noted several interested parties had been in to collect a copy of the proposed amendments. Mr. Rowe asked if this ordinance would apply to car dealerships offering shuttle service to their patrons when having their vehicles serviced? Mr. Olson noted the transportation is not 'for hire' as the taxi service would be. They are not dispatched to pick someone up at their home and deliver to another area, but are only transported to and from the dealership. Attorney Mark Gearreald was present and noted the key words in the ordinance are "for hire". Third and final reading is at the next meeting.

6. Execution of agreements related to return of passenger rail service to Exeter

Mr. Olson reported the 4 documents to consider have been reviewed by Town Counsel (Gearreald) and the impact on residents in 2002 & 2003 is \$8,640 per year. This is expected to be part of a \$55,000 warrant article tied into the construction process as part of a federal match. The total cost of the station is to be \$1.4 million.

The four agreements include:

- Sub-lease between the Town & the State of New Hampshire: This is necessary as Guilford would only negotiate with the State for the three platform sites in NH, hence as master station agreement between Guilford & the State and sub-leases between the State & Exeter, Durham and Dover. The sub-lease mimics the master lease and Exeter must now assume any obligations the State has agreed to. As long as Amtrak service is provided the sub-lease is in effect.
- Station Sponsor Agreement: This is between the Town and Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (NNEPRA) and reflects the Town's responsibilities in maintaining the platform and providing access to the train. Hours of operation, how the station will be maintained, use of the state for revenue-making purposes, as well as insurance details not covered in the master insurance agreement are included. The agreement is for 20 years.
- Amtrak side letter: This contains required language that supplements the Station Sponsor Agreement in terms of insuring the Town maintains and keeps the platform clean and provides Amtrak the opportunity to stop in Exeter. This is in effect for as long as Amtrak service is provided.
- Master Insurance Agreement: This locks all of the station towns into paying a prorated share of the insurance costs against any eventuality associated with the Amtrak or Guilford service on the Portland to Boston line. Exeter's annual share will be determined by rider ship once the service begins. The first year's percentage is 8.71% of the \$185,000 premium.

Mr. Rowe asked of this board binding future boards to financial commitments. Attorney Gearreald noted the agreements may be signed by one board but the financial commitment is a yearly obligation and must be approved at Town Meeting each year. If the voters do not approve, the service ends.

Mr. Rowe moved to authorize the Town Manager to sign the agreements on behalf of the Board; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous. Mr. Olson noted the rail service Grand Opening is December 14th, with general service to begin December 15th. He thanked the Board for their action and cooperation over the years of preparation. Also, the Station Committee has been 'serving' since

1991, with Bob Hall making periodic presentations to the Board and at Town Meetings. The Committee wishes to promote the opening but the Board never officially established the Committee to serve the Town. In order to raise funds for the opening, their appointments must be official. **Mr. Pace moved to establish a Train Station Committee for the purpose of raising funds for the Grand Opening, with the current committee serving in this capacity; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.** Mr. Scafidi noted their 'Yeoman's work and dedication to re-establishing train service in this corridor. He also thanked Attorney Gearreald for all his work throughout the agreement preparation process.

7. Action on amended job descriptions.

This item is postponed for a couple of weeks in anticipation of feedback from the departments.

8. Permits:

- Veteran's Council requested use of Gale Park for the Veteran's Day ceremonies on November 11th at 11:00AM. **Mr. Rowe moved to approve; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.**
- Jim Thompson, Department of Agriculture, requested use of the Nowak Room on December 12th (confirmed at 8:30A-12N) for an outreach informational meeting for low-income housing. **Mr. Pace moved to approve; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.**

9. Town Manager's Items:

- Residents with elderly exemptions or credits on their tax bills will note the information was ill-printed (on 1000 of 5000 parcels). The bill is missing detail but the tax amount to be paid is correct. However, a corrected bill with explanation letter will be sent this week from the company printing our bills.
- Fall pick-up is this week. Stickers are available at the Town Office.
- Halloween Trick or Tree is Tuesday the 30th from 4-7PM. The fire alarm will sound at beginning and end. Parade and party is the 31st with formation at Swasey Parkway beginning at 4:30PM. Parade starts at 5PM.
- The Town's offices will be closed on Monday, November 12th for the Veteran's Day holiday. Rubbish and recycling collection IS on schedule.
- Because of upcoming construction on Great Bridge, no winter parking stickers for Pleasant Street will be given out this year. There are usually seven spaces and permits available on a first come-first service basis for parking. These residents must seek alternate overnight parking.

Town Hall steps are nearing completion. However, Mr. Rowe has proposed the porch be replaced with granite and brick and feature the Town Seal, rather than wood decking. The additional cost would be \$6600 over the \$12,000 balance in the account. Mr. Rowe noted it would provide a more permanent replacement and, after checking with 'those in the historical know', in keeping with the building.

Mr. Eastman noted the many projects completed and planned under CIP for the building and suggested better utilization of the building. Mr. Rowe noted with the fund raising on-going for an elevator, that service would provide access for better utilization. Mr. Pace noted HDC's concern over how the project was to be conducted, hoping to keep with the original intent of the building. Mr.

Rowe noted he has spoken with both Mr. Chase and Mr. Smith and they, in turn, have spoken with an expert on the subject and they now concur it would enhance the building. Mr. Binette thought the use of granite was a good idea, as granite is so much a part of New Hampshire. Also, no other building has the seal. Mr. Scafidi prefers the wood deck. ***Mr. Rowe moved to over-expend the project account by \$6600 in order to incorporate the brick & granite decking with seal; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: 4-1.***

10. Selectmen's Committee Reports:

Mr. Binette had none but asked on the status of the Board's review of the Recreation Advisory By-laws. Mr. Olson noted they are in the selectmen's office awaiting comments.

Mr. Eastman stated the Planning Board met Thursday and discussed upcoming Zoning changes for Town Meeting. In review of the RSA's he notes the Town has never authorized the Planning Board to manage the CIP program. Selectmen must move to place this on the warrant.

Mr. Pace will attend the Master Plan Steering Committee meeting Tuesday morning. The HDC will hold a work session with an architect concerning Historical materials available for economical maintenance of historical buildings. The Arts Committee continues the fund raising for an elevator at the Town Hall. Some grant money is being received also. They will be making a report to the Board in the next few months.

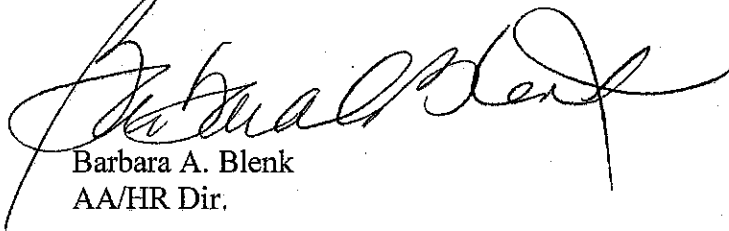
Mr. Scafidi stated the Water & Sewer Advisory Committee met last week and will be before the Board at the November 19th meeting to present the Water Study prepared. This will show the Town's water needs over the next 20-25 years and recommendations from Camp, Dresser & McGee, engineers conducting the study.

Mr. Rowe – none.

11. Public comments: None.

12. ***Mr. Pace moved to resume in a non-public session to discuss a personnel matter; second by Mr. Eastman. Mr. Eastman conducted a roll call. Vote: 5-0. Time: 8:55PM.***

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara A. Blenk
AA/HR Dir.

attach.