

# DRAFT MINUTES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

MINUTES

April 29, 2009

## 1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman William Campbell convened the meeting at 6:30 pm in the Nowak Room at the Town Offices. Mr. Campbell introduced other members of the Board: Mr. Bob Eastman, Ms. Julie Gilman, Mr. Bobby Aldrich and Town Manager, Russ Dean.

### Discussion – Special Town Meeting

The Board began by hearing from the Town Manager regarding the upcoming special town meeting to receive ARRA funds. Mr. Dean reported that a draft warrant has been prepared for the Board's review with two articles. The first is on the water street diversion piping improvements project. The second is on the Industrial Drive culvert. Both are eligible for fifty percent reimbursement through the ARRA and DES. The assumption is the Board will have a traditional town meeting as allowed under the new law SB39.

The question was raised regarding a two thirds vote versus sixty percent as SB2. Mr. Dean reported that DRA had offered the opinion that even though Exeter was going to hold a traditional town meeting, it only needed sixty percent for passage. Mr. Dean shared an email from DRA which confirmed this opinion. Discussion ensued on this issue.

Linda Hartson, Town Clerk, reported on process for the meeting. Booths for voting are needed, and there isn't a need for all booths. The ballots can be prepared with yes/no on them. There is a need for ballot counters. The bill emphasizes a hearing not a decision point. The Town Clerk suggested the warrant go to Riverwoods and other places to be posted. Ten days prior a session will be held to register voters and two checklist supervisors will be at the meeting.

Ms. Gilman moved to hold a traditional town meeting with paper ballots for the special town meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009, seconded by Mr. Aldrich.

Mr. Eastman asked to discuss the questions prior to setting the meeting. He is not going to vote.

Motion carried three to one (3-1). Mr. Campbell confirmed positions on articles would be taken after the public hearing on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Eastman moved to delete article two saying if the article fails at town meeting it is dead. The town ballot approved the project in March, if Town Meeting turns it down it would not be done. The article needs to be reviewed by counsel. Mr. Aldrich seconded Mr. Eastman's motion.

Mr. Quandt entered the meeting at 6:45 p.m. and asked about clarification on the motion, whether the article as written asks for two thirds or three fifths. He can support two thirds.

Mr. Dean read the email again from DRA regarding vote tallies for the Board to consider.

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Mr. Quandt stated again he has no problem with saving \$72,000 but would shoot for two thirds vote.

Mr. Alan Bailey was present and asked if this was a bonding authorization why it would be three fifths vote. Mr. Bailey asked what other Towns were doing on this issue.

Mr. Campbell indicated there was still a motion on the floor. Mr. Aldrich said he is all for pursuing 72,000 forgiveness, Ms. Perry is continuing work regardless, this is a different warrant and a different article altogether. We are not talking about Article 30 from the annual meeting.

Mr. Campbell asked for a vote on the motion to delete article 2. Motion failed 1-4, with Mr. Eastman in favor.

Mr. Quandt indicated the Town wants us to do the culvert project, it was not killed by Town Meeting. Mr. Aldrich said we now have SB39.

Mr. Campbell asked for a positive motion on article 2. Mr. Quandt stated with a two thirds vote he will support article 2.

Mr. Aldrich moved to post article 2 on the warrant with the undetermined portion on the two thirds vote to be amended at a later time. Motion was approved unanimously. Ms. Hartson will speak with Bud Fitch regarding the issues raised of two thirds vote versus three fifths vote.

Ms. Gilman asked for reconsideration which was unanimously voted by the Board. Mr. Eastman motioned to amend Article 1 for a two thirds vote. This motion was seconded by Ms. Gilman and approved unanimously by the Board.

Mr. Eastman moved to adjourn, Mr. Quandt seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Dean  
Town Manager