

# FINAL MINUTES

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

## MINUTES

June 29, 2009

### 1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman William Campbell convened the meeting at 7:00 pm in the Nowak Room of the Town Office Building and introduced other members of the Board: Ms. Julie Gilman, Mr. Matt Quandt, Mr. Bobby Aldrich and Town Manager, Russ Dean. Mr. Bob Eastman was not present.

### 2. Public Comment- None

### 3. Minutes and Proclamations

#### a. Regular Session: June 8, 2009

Mr. Aldrich made some grammatical corrections to the minutes and Mr. Campbell had one addition to the minutes to clarify a Board decision.

**Mr. Aldrich moved to approve the June 8, 2009 minutes as amended; second by Ms. Gilman.**  
**VOTE: Unanimous.**

#### Regular Session: June 15, 2009

Mr. Aldrich made four corrections.

**Mr. Aldrich moved to approve the June 15, 2009 minutes as amended; second by Ms. Gilman.**  
**VOTE: Unanimous.**

### 4. Appointments- None

### 5. Department Reports: Parks and Recreation Department

**Parks and Recreation Department-** Mike Favreau, Parks and Recreation Director reported that the Summer Adventure Camp is underway and going well even with the poor weather. Camp is full with 185 campers, there are some swim lessons available for the second session, but it is about 95% full. Fall registration is beginning. The Recreation Department has 32 seasonal employees. Music Together has been using the upstairs meeting room and is going well. The Recreation Department has offered yoga since last year but added Zumba and Pilates recently. Revenue for June is down due to inclement weather. There will be an outdoor movie night on July 21 at the Recreation Park at dusk showing Madagascar 2, and the rain date will be July 23. The concert season is off to a good start also.

### 6. Discussion / Action Items

#### a. DPW Recycling Bins Proposal

Phyllis Duffy appeared to present the DPW bag increase request. The DPW proposes to change the price of the large bags from \$1.60 to \$2.00 and the small bags from \$.80 to \$1.00. These increases are in line with many of the surrounding communities. Ms. Gilman asked if the DPW has seen a decrease in trash since the single stream recycling went into effect and Ms. Duffy reports that there has not been a decrease in tonnage. Ms. Duffy says that the new items that were added to the list of recyclables are not ones that weigh a lot.

# FINAL MINUTES

Ms. Duffy reports that the recycling program has outgrown the small blue bins and the DPW would like to offer wheeled totes that would have a lid on them, 32 and 65 gallon, in order to encourage more recycling. Ms. Duffy proposes that the Town purchase 50-75 of these large totes to offer to residents. Northside Carting will accept recycling in any container. Mr. Campbell does not want to eliminate blue bins and asked Ms. Duffy if there are still blue bins available. Ms. Duffy said that these bins must be ordered from Pennsylvania so the price was increased recently to allow for shipping costs. No additional blue bins have been ordered at this time. The DPW would also like to discontinue offering leaf bags since they are not priced any better by the Town than other retail stores and do not sell regularly. Mr. Dean agrees that the cost of administration of the program is more than the benefits of it.

Mr. Dean reminded the Board that there needs to be a public hearing in order to change the prices. Jim Knight, Oak Street, does not think that the orange construction debris bag is a practical program. He thinks that the Town may want to institute a weighing program for construction debris. Ms. Duffy reminded the Board that the bag program is simply for small residential use, not business related use. Jay Perkins addressed the idea of a scale at the transfer station, but the cost for a part time transfer station is too great for the budget at this time. Alan Bailey, Green St., is concerned about a 25% increase in the cost of the blue bags and would like to know if the Town is losing money on the bags right now. Ms. Duffy reported that in 2008 the revenue from blue bags was approximately \$418,000 and the solid waste and recycling contract cost is \$633,000. The increase in blue bag prices would bring the revenue to \$546,000. Don Woodward, Exeter resident, has seen a great increase in recycling in his neighborhood.

## **b. Property Values Update**

John DeVittori, Assessor, appeared to see if the Board had decided on whether to pursue updating the Town property values. There would have to be a series of public hearings. Ms. Gilman wondered if there is a certain type of property that would shoulder the tax burden. Mr. DeVittori says that single family homes would always bear the greatest burden, but he does not know of a certain home style that would be more or less affected. Mr. Campbell offered that if the Board goes ahead with the Public Hearing, it would give the Board time to more fully consider the update. The Board agreed that the public hearing is the appropriate next step. Mr. Campbell and Mr. Dean will set up a public hearing.

## **c. Recommendation for Unutil Study Funding**

Mr. Dean offered 2 scenarios to pay for the cost of the Unutil Small Business Energy Efficiency Program. 1) Charging the election account and the Fire Department pump purchase account which are both expected to have surpluses; and 2) /charging the upfront cost to general fund electricity for water and sewer departments since these departments would realize large savings in the energy program. Because there is a possibility of a special election the Board agreed to leave the election account intact. Ms. Gilman would like the Board to consider the revenue that the Town will receive from the power grid for agreeing to use our own generator power in the power company's time of need. This is revenue to the Town that should be considered when deciding how much is needed to fund the energy program. Mr. Campbell asked what the cost is that is associated with running our generators and Jennifer Perry, Public Works Director, told the Board that the cost of running the generators is markedly less than the revenue that would be generated by the program.

# FINAL MINUTES

**Ms. Gilman moved to approve funding for the Unitil 50/50 cost saving program to be funded from the appropriate electricity accounts in the amount of \$34,696.40, second by Mr. Aldrich. VOTE: Unanimous.**

Mr. Campbell wondered how many electrical events occur per year before the Board decides to participate in the generator program. Ms. Perry told the Board that she has been advised to expect 1-3 events per year and that they would be short term events. Mr. Aldrich also noted that there are no upfront costs involved in the program.

**Ms. Gilman moved to enroll into the Energy New England Demand Response Program as outlined in the memo of this date for a three year commitment, second by Mr. Aldrich. VOTE: Unanimous.**

## **7. Regular Business**

### **a. A/P and Payroll Manifests**

**Mr. Aldrich moved to approve the payroll warrant dated June 24, 2009 in the amount of \$143,494.51. Ms. Gilman seconds. Vote: Unanimous.**

**Mr. Aldrich moved to disburse Accounts Payable in the amount dated June 25, 2009 in the amount of \$687,653.02. Ms. Gilman seconds. Vote: Unanimous.**

Mr. Aldrich noted that the large items in the warrant were a bond payment and a Property Liability payment to the Local Government Center.

### **b. Tax Abatements and Exemptions**

**Mr. Aldrich moved to approve tax abatement for Map 72 Lot 225 Unit 1 in the amount of \$1,704.29. Mr. Quandt seconded. Vote: Unanimous.**

**Mr. Aldrich moved to approve an application to the Rockingham County Nursing Home for a resident of Exeter as presented. Ms. Gilman seconds. Vote: Unanimous.**

### **c. Water/Sewer Abatements**

### **d. Permits- None**

### **e. Town Manager's Report-**

Trash pickup will not be delayed this week. Glenn Stewart's retirement party was last week and we all wish him well. Jay O'Neil also retired and we also wish him well. Town Offices will be closed on Friday for the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. Tax bills are due on July 1.

### **f. Selectmen's Committee Reports**

**Mr. Aldrich:** The Arts Committee will be meeting with the maintenance department and Public Works to work on the projects that were discussed at the last meeting. At the Budget Committee meeting, there was discussion about whether or not the subcommittee meetings should be open to the public and posted in advance. Mr. Aldrich reported that it is the opinion of counsel that subcommittee meetings should all be posted and open to the public.

**Mr. Quandt:** Nothing to report.

**Ms. Gilman:** Ms. Gilman attended a meeting of Land Use Board Chairmen and Land Use legal counsel where they spoke of communication challenges from board to board. The Historic

# FINAL MINUTES

District Commission met and went over applications. A spreadsheet was recommended to keep all boards updated on progress with individual projects. Ms. Gilman attended 2 different Transportation committee meetings that spoke of the same grant period that is coming to a close on July 1 so the boards must submit letters of intent to be considered for the grants. The Town Planner is recommending a shoulder widening from Westside Drive to Pickpocket Road and one of the grants is appropriate for this project. The town has the funds to match the grant due to the Capitol Improvement funds that have been set aside for this project. The Transportation Committee would also like to apply for a grant for train station improvements, but it is unclear what matching funds are available for it. If letters of intent are submitted by July 1, it would give the Transportation Committees time to figure out the funding since it is unlikely that both would be approved. The Regional Transportation Committee has an idea to use prior funding for parking improvements to purchase additional land for train parking or perhaps charging for parking to bring in more revenue for train station enhancements. The Zoning Ordinance Review Committee is reviewing Chapters 9 and 7 and article 5. They are discussing definitions and whether they should try to use more of the assessing terminology. Ms. Gilman went to a Local Energy solution meeting in Concord last weekend and got a lot of information on energy solutions even for the historic district concerns. A lot of this information will be available on the Energy Committee's website.

**Mr. Campbell:** Mr. Campbell attended the Zoning Ordinance Review Committee meeting. The Planning Board met last Thursday and conditionally approved a tennis facility at the end of Continental Drive and approved a revision of the commercial part of the Felder Epping Road project and extended it for one more year.

## **g. Correspondence**

1. Letter from Comcast to Board of Selectmen re: Service and Channel Lineup changes.
2. Letter from David Gordon, DES to Jaye and Kelley Carr, 2 Moore Lane, re: Captain's Way MTBE
3. Letter from Eben Lewis, Wetlands DES to Denise LeClerc Rev Living Trust, 26 Greenleaf Dr. re: update on wetlands restoration.
4. Letter from Herbert Luz, 2 Greenvale Drive, Stratham to Chief Kane re: traffic flow in Downtown Exeter.
5. Letter from Sandra Moreau to Russ Dean re: thank you for assistance Salem/Walnut Streets.
6. Order and Decisions, NH BTLA re: Patricia Arline Trust v. Town of Exeter, Eric and Susan Eno v. Town of Exeter (BTLA cases)
7. Letter from Grant E. Mecozzi, DES Wetlands to Tuck Realty Corp, 136 High St re: shore land permit application for 85A Linden Street.

**8. Public Hearings – none**

**9. Second Public Comment – none.**

**10. Non Public Session – Mr. Aldrich motioned to move the Board into the Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3 (II) exception (a) employee compensation and exception (b) hiring of an employee at 8:25pm; Ms. Gilman seconded. Mr. Aldrich called roll.**

**Ms. Gilman – aye, Mr. Campbell – aye, Mr. Quandt – aye, and Mr. Aldrich – aye.**

**11. Adjournment**

# FINAL MINUTES

The Board emerged from Non Public Session at 10:22pm.

**Ms. Gilman motioned to adjourn; Mr. Aldrich seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Geis  
Recording Secretary