

Selectmen's Meeting – May 31, 2006

Present were Selectmen Deborah J. Davis, Francis W. Faulkner, Jr. and Bruce L. Tatro. Also present was Town Administrator Elizabeth A. Fox.

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Financial Matters. Selectmen reviewed and approved accounts payable and payroll manifests.

Vermont Yankee. The “Unusual Event” declared over the past weekend and notification requirements under the town’s emergency plan were discussed. Selectman Faulkner reported that he was notified by the Police Department.

Memorandum of Understanding – Pandemic Planning. Selectmen voted to designate Town Administrator Fox as authorized to execute the memorandum on behalf of the town in addition to EMD Bohannon and Health Officer DeRocher.

P & H Sand and Gravel Bond, Tax Map 86 Lot 1. Selectmen reviewed correspondence from Dick Fraser outlining costs for reclamation of gravel sites. He was suggested by DRA Gravel Tax Estimator Mary Pinkham-Langer as a information resource for reclamation costs. After review of the memo, Selectmen accepted, as sufficient to ensure reclamation, a bond of \$ 20,000 for the portion of excavation located in Swanzey. Selectmen, after acceptance of the bond, executed the Notice of Intent to Excavate for the pit. Acceptance of this bond satisfies the condition of the excavation permit issued by the Planning Board in 2004 for this excavation area located in Swanzey and Winchester.

Recycling Center. Selectmen met with Recycling Center Manager David Krisch reviewing the revised position description for Assistant Solid Waste Manager. Selectmen approved the position description – Attachment #1, authorizing staff to initiate recruitment. Krisch advised Selectmen of NHRRA’s acquisition of larger warehousing area in support of the organization’s marketing efforts.

Yale University and the proposed Cheshire County Jail. Selectmen discussed conversation with and email from Yale’s Associate General Counsel James Carolan. Attorney Carolan expressed the University’s opposition to placing a jail on their property contradicting the reports received from Cheshire County Commissioner Roger Zerba that Yale had initially contacted the Commissioners expressing interest in that type of development. It appeared the proposal to place a new jail on Yale’s property was developed by local realtor George Foskett. Selectmen discussed avenues available to the town to influence the process requesting staff prepare correspondence for the board’s

consideration. Concerns about public safety, particularly fire and rescue response, sewer allotment, use of valuable commercial real estate for tax exempt facilities and the county's consideration of utilizing eminent domain was also discussed. Selectmen requested a list of the delegation members with contact information.

Lane Field. Selectmen met with Kerry Kelly and Mike LaRoche, representing Swanzey Cal Ripkin, who proposed donation by the league of a pavilion to be constructed at the field near the concession area. Estimated cost of the pavilion is \$9,600. The structure is proposed to be 24' x 30' with a truss roof and gravel floor. It would be available for baseball, soccer and for use by the general public off season. Expected maintenance of the structure was discussed. Process to accept such a donation pursuant to RSA 31:95-e was also discussed. Selectmen requested staff schedule a hearing for June 14th. It was also reported that one of the dug outs on O'Brien Field needed some repair (third base line).

Department of Public Works. Selectmen met with DPW Director Lee Dunham who advised that he was working to firm up the department's summer road plans. Impact of price increases in asphalt and asphalt related products since the budget was developed was discussed. He advised that he anticipated having for the board's next meeting a prioritized projects list working from that developed during the winter.

NH Route 32 Sidewalk/Shared Shoulder project. Selectmen reviewed correspondence from HTA reporting the bid results. Selectmen voted to award the project, subject to approval from NHDOT, to low bidder Leonard W. Lawrence Excavating, Inc. authorizing the Chair to execute the Notice of Award when NHDOT's concurrence is received.

W.H. Development. DPW Director Dunham updated board member on construction issues related to the subdivision road including concerns with traffic control, gravel materials and culvert locations. Whether it might be necessary to do core samples of the road to confirm the materials placed was discussed.

Voluntary Merger, Cheshire Fair Association – Tax Map 19 Lot 94, 95 & 96. Selectmen approved voluntary merger of three parcels off of Route 12 owned by the Fairgrounds effective for Tax Year 2006.

Non-public session, Department of Public Works – RSA 91-A:3IIIb. Selectman Faulkner excused himself from the meeting. Selectmen Davis and Tatro voted unanimously by roll call to go into non-public session to consider hiring of a grounds and facilities maintenance supervisor at 7:50 p.m. Present for the session were Town Administrator Fox and DPW Director Lee Dunham. Selectmen came out of non-public session at 8:15 p.m. Selectmen authorized DPW Director Dunham to extend a conditional offer of employment to a candidate for the position and voted unanimously by roll call to seal the minutes of the session until the conditions of the employment offer are satisfied. Selectman Faulkner returned to the meeting.

Town Hall Heating System and Generator. Selectmen discussed the need to develop a plan to replace the fuel storage systems for the heating plant at Town Hall and the

generator. Further research into the options available will be conducted before making a decision regarding how to proceed. Need to expedite the process and get the building cleaned up the building prior to Old Home Day was discussed.

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting of May 17, 2006. Selectmen reviewed and approved as written the minutes of their meeting of May 17th.

Police Department, Letter of Resignation – Officer David Eldridge. Selectmen reviewed a letter received from Officer Eldridge resigning from his position as a full time officer with the Town effective June 8, 2006 accepting his resignation with regret. Selectmen authorized initiation of efforts to recruit a candidate to fill the vacancy created by his resignation.

Upcoming Meetings. The board discussed its meeting schedule over the next three months.

Homestead Dam. Selectmen were provided with a memo dated 5/31/2006 outlining staff discussions with NHDES, NHDOT and Dam Owner Doug Brown on 5/25/2006.

Enforcement. Selectmen were advised that a Cease and Desist had been issued related to business activity at 49 Spring Street.

Correspondence, Permits & Other Matters. Selectmen reviewed and acted upon the following:

- Intent to Excavate, Tax Map 86 Lot 1-1.
- Abatement # 2006-07, \$ 97.
- Current Use Application, Tax Map 68 Lot 1 & 1-1.
- Event Permits # 2006-13 & 14.
- Property Tax Warrant \$ 5,587,225.
- Intent to Cut, Tax Map 51 Lot 17 & Tax Map 44 Lot 10.
- Boundary Line Adjustment Agreement, Rachel Schnyer & the Town of Swanzey - Attachment #2, per survey plat prepared by Ed Goodrich.
- Notice of Lien, Tax Map 87 Lot 2-5039.
- Abatement, Tax Year 2005 – B. LeClair, Sunset Point.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Submitted by,

Elizabeth A. Fox
Town Administrator