



Town of Plaistow ♦ Board of Selectmen
145 Main Street ♦ Plaistow ♦ NH ♦ 03865

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:

DATE: Monday, May 20, 2013

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:33 pm

SELECTMEN:

Chairman, Robert Gray
Selectman, Michelle Curran
Selectman, Daniel Poliquin – excused

Vice Chairman, John Sherman
Selectman, Joyce Ingerson
Town Manager, Sean Fitzgerald

AGENDA:

MINUTES:

Motion by J. Sherman to approve the Minutes of May 13, 2013 with correction to page 7 (change “was not able” to “Did”).

2nd by: M. Curran.

Vote: 4-0-0 (Absent: D. Poliquin).

Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

R. Jeffrey

- Complimented Dan Garlington and the Highway Department for the grounds outside Town Hall. He thought they looked great.
- He noted he felt like the Town Crier because he was here to make announcements:
 - Oklahoma City has been devastated by a tornado. He lived there for a year while he was in the service.
 - Locally we had a bad fire on Sweet Hill. He hoped the Town would do something. He was sure the Lions Club was doing something to help the family.

S. Fitzgerald noted the Fire Department had responded and regionally people have responded. They are assessing the situation and doing what they can as a community to help the family.

R. Gray noted the family was well known in the community and whatever the Town could do they will.

- Librarian is leaving.

S. Fitzgerald noted they were not discussing this evening however they would find the appropriate time to recognize Diane Arrato Gavrish who has worked for the Town for two years.

- Memorial Day is going to be celebrated next Monday at 9:30 a.m. The American Legion will lead the parade from the Pollard School. The Memorial Day Committee is scheduled to meet this Wednesday. Pollard School children will be involved with the Memorial Day Program and the Korean War Veterans will be recognized for their service. State Rep Norm Major will be asked to speak.

S. Fitzgerald noted citations for the Korean War Veterans were being sent to the Governor to sign.

MESSAGE BOARD, CRUISERS & FIRING RANGE - CHIEF SAVAGE

Message Board

S. Savage noted the message board was outside of Town Hall for the Selectmen to view. Training will take place tomorrow morning and Selectmen are invited. The message board is capable of speed measurement and can be used as a message board. The cost was approximately \$17,200 and change. The department had raised about \$13,000 so far and outstanding requests are still out there. He does not want to use taxpayer money so he is trying to raise the funds. The message board is battery and solar equipped and can hold 199 messages. It can be placed strategically around Town for use and will be another great tool for the Town. It was received last week and different departments have looked at it. It is versatile and useful.

S. Fitzgerald recognized the Chief for his excellent work for seeking donations. The message board will be used for strategic purposes and a great asset for the Town.

J. Sherman noted it was a nice addition to the Town. He was glad they were able to secure it without tax payers' dollars.

Cruisers

S. Savage discussed Crown Vics no more being made, the use of Taurus sedans and now going to a utility vehicle which is larger in size. He discussed rotating of vehicles and the new vehicle being all wheel drive which will be useful to the Town and getting around to different areas in Town. The new vehicle is leased not purchased.

S. Fitzgerald noted the new vehicle was a model that was generally supported in law enforcement. Londonderry had just acquired the same vehicles for their fleet vehicle. It is a better fit for the Town.

S. Savage noted the Lieutenant's new command vehicle has arrived. Although it is not totally ready it is ready for the Board of Selectmen to view. The vehicle was brought to Town Hall for the Selectmen to see. The vehicle replaces the car that was totaled.

R. Gray noted the Board would recess for ten minutes to view the new command vehicle and message board which were outside of Town Hall.

Board returned at 6:58 p.m.

Firing Range

S. Savage showed PowerPoint Presentation on Plaistow Training Facility Firing Range Update. He discussed location of firing range, history of the range, range best management practices, lead capture system, elevation of range area, installation of sound barrier, improvement of parking conditions, improvements to parking areas using reclaimed materials, completion of shelter overhand attached to building, permanent installation of military generator (hardwired in), access road, and no cost to taxpayers.

J. Sherman inquired about entrance to the firing range.

S. Savage noted the only entrance to the firing range was through the existing lane over the cap.

J. Ingerson inquired if the entire perimeter was fenced in.

S. Savage noted it was. It was done about ten years ago.

S. Savage discussed the next steps: improve access road, improve parking, completion of BMPs, and generation of formal site plan.

S. Fitzgerald and S. Savage discussed evolution of the firing range.

R. Gray inquired what the nearest community in NH was that had a facility like this.

S. Savage thought the Windham Hudson area however a number of them travel to Epping. There is significant travel and overtime cost associated with this training. Haverhill Rod and Gun now goes to Fort Devans because they do not have a facility in their area any longer.

R. Gray discussed Planning Board standpoint.

M. Curran commended the Chief for his excellent job. She discussed volunteering time and effort and working towards the same goal. She discussed the site plan and noted it was important for people to know what was going on out there even though it was not tax payers' dollars being used.

S. Savage invited the Board to visit the site and offered for the Board to hold a Board of Selectmen meeting there.

S. Fitzgerald discussed ribbon cutting in the future at the facility.

J. Sherman agreed to have a formal opening ceremony. He thought the firing range was a good thing.

Consensus of the Board was that they should organize some type of ribbon cutting ceremony and invite the partners.

M. Curran recommended the facility be dedicated to the Chief of Police.

S. Fitzgerald suggested a motion be made.

Motion by M. Curran to dedicate the firing range to the Chief of Police Steve Savage. (The Stephen Savage Firing Range)

2nd by J. Sherman.

Vote 4-0-0.

Motion carries.

SOLID WASTE CONTRACT – PETER GAMACHE – JRM

S. Fitzgerald discussed during the past budget cycle they talked about JRM's contract. They went out to RFP and JRM was the lowest bidder. JRM has saved the Town lots of money. They have gone from \$82 per ton to \$68 per ton. Under the current contract the Town has the opportunity to extend the contract for two years. JRM is accessible 24/7 and has great customer service response. The current contract expires in June 2013. He recommended to extend the contract.

J. Sherman had no concerns. He has only heard good things. He requested Sean to put some numbers together on the savings that the Town has had with this contract.

R. Gray inquired about costs.

S. Fitzgerald discussed \$72 per ton and curb side collection.

M. Curran had no concerns. If there were any issues brought up over the past year JRM's team had worked through them. They have worked well with the community. She thought it was just an extra concession to crunch the savings. She thought increasing recycling was good.

P. Gamache would like to have given them a 5 year proposal however he gave them a 2 year proposal. The savings over two years is \$17,000. Cost savings can still be done by increasing recycling. He takes full responsibility for his crew and makes sure issues are taken care of immediately. He thought working in Plaistow was a good fit for JRM and looked forward to partnering with the Town of Plaistow.

S. Fitzgerald discussed originally having a five year contract and wanting to move forward with the two year contract and then in the middle of next year look at the five year contract and possibly go out for RFP. He inquired if JRM would honor the proposal in the five year contract for two more years.

P. Gamache noted he would have to go back to the owners and discuss. The cost savings could add up to \$80-\$100,000 over the next five years. He would be glad to bring this information back to the owners and discuss. He discussed JRM being in the process of building their own recycling facility.

R. Gray noted he would entertain a motion to extend the contract for two years and wanted Sean to negotiate details with Peter and then bring the information back to the Board.

J. Sherman preferred to wait.

R. Gray noted the Town was without a solid waste contract after next month.

S. Fitzgerald suggested to continue on with JRM. He noted he would like to meet with JRM and get the best numbers they could get. He noted he would report back to the Board in two weeks.

P. Gamache agreed.

J. Sherman and P. Gamache discussed the current trash barrel limit of two and decreasing the two barrel limit to a one barrel limit.

P. Gamache noted it was not a large hurdle, most communities were doing it. A typical family size could be retrained to recycle a little harder. He currently works with municipalities who do have a one barrel limit and noted some families need exceptions and some need meetings to discuss their situation so suggestions can be made.

J. Sherman favored Sean coming back to the Board in two weeks to discuss extensions (2 year proposal and/or five year proposal). He noted one thing a resident could do to reduce their tax bill was by increasing their recycling.

APPOINTMENT WARRANT: ZBA – GEOFFREY ADAMS

G. Adams introduced himself. He has served on the ZBA in the Town of Connecticut for four years in an elected position. He has worked in the construction field and has been involved with attending meetings in each town that he has lived. He enjoys doing it and feels he is pretty good add it.

J. Sherman inquired if Geoff had attended ZBA meetings in Plaistow.

G. Adams noted he had not however he has watched them on TV.

S. Fitzgerald discussed current members and alternates on the ZBA.

G. Adams noted he attended Planning Board and Zoning Board seminar last week.

J. Ingerson did not favor Geoff's appointment. She thought it was not in the best interest of the Town. She has experience being on the Planning Board and on the ZBA and noted it was difficult being on both boards and it could possibly cause an in issue. She did not think it was good to do both boards. When you are on a board you are there to assist whoever is sitting in front of you. She believes it would be difficult for him to be on both boards. Personally she did not think it was a good mix.

M. Curran respected what Joyce had to say. She thought Geoff showed great concern when he was there. He participates and she thought he would be an asset.

J. Sherman inquired if the Board receives recommendations from the Chair of the boards.

S. Fitzgerald noted they usually do however he does not have one from Larry Ordway for this evening. However he would seek one and have it forwarded to the Board. He noted they could be back in two weeks to further their discussion.

REVIEW OF EMERSON APPRAISAL /2013 ARM GRANT

S. Fitzgerald noted the Selectmen had copies in their folders. In 2012 the Town was noticed that they received an Aquatic Research Mitigation Grant which would allow them to add properties to the town forest. He discussed:

- RSA 41:14-A (Acquisition or Sale of Land Building or both) which allows Selectmen to dispose of property or acquire property.
- Town vote at a prior Town meeting.
- Review and recommendations received by the Conservation and Planning Board.
- Two Public Hearings completed.
- Emerson Property Frog Pond Woods appraised at \$32,000 on April 5th. A historic piece of property located at the back of the Town Forest. It is a beautiful piece of property and sits in the middle of a water rich resource area. Around it is additional Town properties;
- Acquiring the property would be beneficial to the Town.
- If the Board agreed he would send to Conservation, Planning Board and any other board asking for their opinion on the acquisition of the Emerson property.

T. Moore noted the Conservation Commission favored the acquisition. He noted if the Board of Selectmen voted to go forward tonight it would move the process along a bit quicker.

J. Sherman was 100% in favor of this transaction and suggested to move forward.

R. Gray thought this was a good thing for the municipality.

T. Moore noted the area was a land locked property.

J. Sherman noted the land was currently in current use and inquired if it would impact the purchase.

S. Fitzgerald noted it would not. He spoke to Mr. Emerson who is in agreement to sell the property to the Town for \$16,000 which is half of the estimated \$32,000 value. It will not cost the Town anything because of the grant (Aquatic Resource Mitigation Grant). He suggested to schedule the public hearing over the next several weeks.

J. Sherman suggested to move forward.

R. Gray agreed to move forward.

Motion by J. Sherman to direct the Town Manager to work with and contact Mr. Emerson regarding the offer on the property and to proceed with any activities leading up to the transaction under RSA 41:14-A.

2nd by J. Ingerson.

Vote: 4-0-0.

Motion carries.

J. Sherman noted the Town has been looking at this for a while and ConCom has been actively working regarding the acquisition of land to the Town Forest.

T. Moore noted the Plaistow First Committee had reviewed this information regarding the privately owned piece.

R. Gray thanked Tim for coming in.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

S. Fitzgerald:

- House fire in Plaistow. Thoughts and Prayers go out to family.
- Complimented work of the Plaistow Fire Department. He suggested sending each community that supported them a letter of appreciation.

M. Curran thought the letter of appreciation was an excellent idea.

J. Sherman agreed. He suggested writing the letter on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.

- Ball fields behind Pollard School – There is an Eagle Scout interested in helping out. Highway Supervisor Garlington provided a list of items that needed to be addressed.

J. Sherman discussed the installation of pitching mounds and noted he would like this to be reconsidered and passed by the Rec Commission and Rec Director. He did not think the area was the best for baseball however it would be okay for whiffle or T Ball.

- Assessing RFP – The Town went out to RFP for the Assessing Contract. There was a three week notice and only one responded: Corcoran Associates. He recommend a successor contract with Corcoran Associates noting they have worked with the Town for 14 years. He noted the details of the contract needed to be worked out with them but once completed he would report back to the Board.

J. Sherman supported Sean's decision/suggestion. A couple years back they had other assessing agents come in and he was not satisfied with the results. He agreed to work with Corcoran Associates.

M. Curran discussed strengthening the relationship with Corcoran Associates.

S. Fitzgerald noted Wil Corcoran helped with Beede reducing costs of the contract.

R. Gray noted the Assessing Contract ended last year and thought it was imperative that they get this completed.

- Memorial Day event begins at 10 a.m. this year. A number of Veteran groups and Pollard School children will be present. All Selectmen are invited.
- Plaistow First has made some recommendations which he will present to the Board in the near future.
- Economic Development Committee met this past Friday.
- Shelter down at Rec is being coordinated and will be installed this week.
- Normandeau is working with the Town on a number of projects: Treatment System, Highway Department Vapor Trench and Landfill Cap.
- Selectmen folders have the comprehensive update of the Plaistow First Committee. Additional updates are in the Selectmen's folders and can be put on next week's agenda.
- Conservation met last week.
- Planning Board met.
- ZBA is scheduled to meet May 30th.
- Sidewalk permit has been signed.
- Regional Selectmen meeting is June 5th.

OTHER BUSINESS

No Other Business discussed.

SIGNATURE FOLDER

R. Gray noted the Manifest and Signature folders were going around.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

J. Sherman:

- Slow time of year.
- Budget Committee does not meet.
- Not able to attend Plaistow First.
- Not here for Memorial Day which takes place at 10 am this year. He was disappointed that he could not attend because he likes to participate. He apologized for not being able to attend however he has a family commitment.

R. Gray was not sure if he was able to attend the Memorial Day celebration. He plans on attending however he is waiting for his work schedule.

M. Curran:

- Attended Family Mediation meeting. They did not have a quorum.
- Will be doing the flowers for Memorial Day. Flowers in the past were taken care of by Mrs. Bernadine FitzGerald however the torch has been passed to her. She has the flowers and will plant them this week.
- Has other commitments and will not be able to attend Memorial Day.

J. Ingerson:

- Met with the Old Home Day Committee. Deputy Jones discussed security and safety issues. They are looking for volunteers to come to the June 4th meeting to coordinate hours and times. They meet at 6:30 pm. The Committee and the Lions Rep have asked Buzzy Blinn to be this year's Grand Marshal in the parade. He was honored and touched and has accepted.
- Met with Conservation Commission. They are waiting for Governor's Counsel to sign on the property.
- Cable Committee was rescheduled to the 29th.
- Will attend the Second Session of the Selectmen Institute on June 1st at LGC.

R. Gray:

- Attended Economic Development meeting. Sean did an excellent job. He thanked UNOs Pizza for providing lunch. Business leaders and Normandeau Associates attended.
- Water symposium will be scheduled for later this summer.
- Met with land owner this morning regarding easement across Town owned property. He has nothing to report from the meeting.
- Planning Board met last week. Panera has the City of Haverhill's support. They have a letter for water support for the site. Good news is it should be going forward soon. They discussed legal services and were talking about getting a contract for legal services regarding sidewalk contract for Taurus.
- Tomorrow night he will attend the Historical Society meeting at 7 p.m. at the Museum. He noted Sean had the original contract that the Historical Society signed and he wanted a copy to take to the meeting.

NON PUBLIC RSA 91-A:3 II (a) PERSONNEL

Motion by J. Sherman to go into Non Public under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Personnel.

2nd by J. Ingerson.

Board polled: R. Gray=yes; J. Sherman=yes; M. Curran=yes; and J. Ingerson=yes

Public Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Audrey DeProspero