

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Minutes of May 8, 2006**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Galen Stearns called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Selectmen Roger Hohenberger, Margaret Crisler, and Alan Carpenter were present, as was Administrator David Sullivan. Selectman Dennis Senibaldi was delayed. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Stearns read the agenda into the record.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mr. Stearns announced that the Annual Beach Clean-up would take place on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, as would Festi-Ball at Griffin Park. The Annual Strawberry Festival is scheduled for June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mrs. Crisler added that the Annual Garden Club Plant was also scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Mr. Carpenter* announced that representatives of the Boys Scouts would be attending the Conservation Commission meeting the following Thursday to request permission to utilize Conservation Land for camping.

*Mr. Sullivan* announced that the Town and the WBSL would again be playing softball at Festi-Ball. The game will commence at 12:30 PM.

*Mrs. Haas* stated that Dave's Septic had donated an additional chemical toilet, at no charge, for the Festi-Ball event.

*Mrs. Crisler* noted that the Local Government Center had a workshop upcoming to discuss recreation liabilities faced by municipalities. Mrs. Haas indicated she was aware of it.

Mr. Hohenberger then inquired of Mrs. Haas whether the Master Plan Committee had been formed for recreation, to which she replied it had, noting they would be before the Board shortly.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mr. Stearns stated that the annual bridge survey had been received from the NH Department of Transportation, and noted that it did not appear to be complete. Mr. Sullivan clarified that the wooden bridge located in Pelham would be on their list, and that Bridle Bridge would be on Hudson's report. Copies of these reports have been requested and will be forwarded to the Town in the near future.

*Notice received* from the Attorney General's Office relative to the residual Industrial Drive land. Mr. Sullivan clarified that while the Board had agreed to accept the \$500 from the State, the eminent domain procedure had to be completed.

*Letter received* from Richard Low, expressing his desire to donate the original clock from Schoolhouse #3 to the Town Museum in honor of Mr. Willis Low's mother, Ethel Bloomfield Low. In addition, Mr. Low would like to include the deed by which the School Board transferred #3 to Willis Low for the sum of \$1.

Mrs. Crisler moved and Mr. Hohenberger seconded to accept with many thanks the donations as read. Passed 4-0.

*Notice received* from the Rockingham Planning Commission relative to an "Innovative Zoning" meeting scheduled for 7P.M. on Wednesday at the Hampstead Town Hall.

*Letter received* from the Conservation Commission expressing their continued opposition to the reclassification of Pine Hill Road.

*Letter received* from the Department of Safety, confirming the Windham Fire Department's allocation of portable radios. Mr. Sullivan clarified that the Board had previously authorized former Chief Messier to accept this equipment grant from the State.

*Carbon copy* received of letter from Chief Lewis to the Department of Transportation expressing his opposition to the DOT's suggested installation of a round-a-bout at the intersection of Route 111 and the High School access road. Mr. Sullivan indicated that the Highway Safety Committee had forwarded a similar letter to the DOT, and noted that Mr. Cass will be attending the next meeting of the Board.

*Copy of* Environmental Impact report received relative to I-93. Mr. Hohenberger requested that Mr. Sullivan get further data relative to increased chloride levels in Beaver Brook, and clarification relative to item D16 which references one additional lane as opposed to two. Mr. Sullivan will follow-up.

*Mr. Senibaldi* arrived at 7:20 P.M.

*Carbon copy* received of letter from Mr. Sullivan to the NHDOT, expressing the Board's opposition to proposed solutions to safety concerns at the Route 111 and Wall Street intersection, and requesting that they re-evaluate area.

**MINUTES:** Mrs. Crisler noted a correction was needed from "Mr." Mesiti to "Mrs." Mesiti, and then moved to approve the minutes of April 17<sup>th</sup> as amended. Mr. Hohenberger seconded. Passed unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTINUED:** Mr. Senibaldi announced that, with regret, he must resign as a regular member of the Conservation Commission. He further stated that the Conservation Chairman, Jim Finn, had requested that he stay on as an Alternate, which he would like to do if the Board so desired.

Mr. Hohenberger then moved and Mr. Carpenter seconded to accept Mr. Senibaldi's resignation with regret, and to appoint him as an Alternate to the Conservation Commission. Passed 4-0-1, with Mr. Senibaldi abstaining.

Mrs. Crisler then requested that the deadline to request appointment to the various boards and committees be extended by two (2) weeks. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to extend the deadline as suggested.

**RECREATION:** Mr. Sullivan noted that three (3) bids had been received for the ADA improvements at Griffin Park, as follows:

DeCola Paving:	\$11,735
BitCon:	23,000
Tate's Paving:	28,600

Mr. Sullivan noted that a representative from DeCola was present if the Board had any questions, and that Mr. McCartney had met with the company to clarify their bid amount. He further noted that Mr. McCartney is confident that DeCola can complete the project as specified, as is the Recreation Committee, and recommended the bid be awarded to them.

A discussion ensued regarding the project specifications, which include the 450' +/- of the center walkway, and pathways from the left of the Park to the tennis court, from the tennis court to the multi-use building, and from the skateboard park out to the walkway. Mr. Senibaldi inquired about access to the soccer field, and Mr. Sullivan stated that the Governor's Council had approved waiting on this aspect, as it may possibly be corrected via an Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Hohenberger inquired as to the base material, and Mr. DeCola indicated 10-12" of gravel would be used. Mr. Carpenter then sought clarification that the area would be re-graded, and Mr. DeCola replied in the affirmative.

A discussion then ensued regarding the presence of a backhoe on the walkway as witnessed by Mr. Carpenter, and the possible need to change the locks. Mr. Senibaldi noted that it is currently a combination lock, which he

could ensure was changed. A brief discussion ensued regarding the possibility of switching to key locks with non-duplicative keys.

Mrs. Crisler inquired as to who will be conducting the inspection once the project is completed, and Mr. Sullivan replied that Mr. Turner and Mr. McCartney would do so.

Mr. Carpenter then moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to award the paving bid as specified to DeCola for their bid amount of \$11,735. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Sullivan sought clarification from Mr. DeCola that the project would not begin until after Festi-Ball, to which Mr. DeCola replied in the affirmative.

*Recreation Coordinator* Cheryl Haas sought the Board's approval to continue with last year's tennis staff. Mr. Senibaldi noted that both individuals handled the program completely, did a good job, and that the Recreation Committee had heard no complaints. He further noted that this is a self-funding program, and that neither individual has had a raise in three (3) years.

Mrs. Haas noted that the proposed salary of \$16.25/hour represented an 8% increase, and Mr. Sullivan explained it had been calculated as a 5% step raise coupled with a 3.3% COLA.

Mrs. Crisler then moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to set the hourly rate for the tennis staff as requested at \$16.25/hour. Passed unanimously.

*Mrs. Haas* then reviewed the lifeguard salaries with the Board, noting that a 3.3% increase was proposed, along with reimbursement for WSI certification for some staff members and an additional \$1.00/hr. Mrs. Haas explained that WSI certification is required to conduct swimming lessons, and that two (2) staff members have their certification.

Mr. Senibaldi inquired what the cost of the certification was, and Mrs. Haas replied it was \$170. She noted, however, that the monies had not yet been reimbursed, as the staff had not been officially hired.

A discussion ensued regarding staff numbers and rotation, and Mrs. Haas explained that the staff would be as follows: 1 beach supervisor at 36 hours/week; 3 senior lifeguards at 32 hours/week; 1 regular lifeguard at 28 hours/week; and 3 junior lifeguards, which would all be new hires. She also noted she hopes to keep the beach open through Labor Day.

A discussion ensued regarding certifying the five returning staff members, staff current certifications, and lifeguard requirements.

Mrs. Crisler moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to approve the lifeguard salary schedule as presented by the Recreation Coordinator, that being: beach supervisor \$14.11/hr; senior lifeguards \$10.85/hr; lifeguard \$9.81/hr; and, junior lifeguard \$8.78/hr. Passed 4-0-1, with Mr. Stearns abstaining.

*Mrs. Haas* updated the Board on the sifting of the beach sand. She noted that she had spent many hours attempting to locate an alternative company to conduct the sifting, and had been unsuccessful. She noted that many other communities own their own sifter, however, they are not interested in loaning it out, and that several do no sifting at all.

Mrs. Haas advised the Board that she had obtained a quote of \$420 from Brox for the 10 yards of replacement sand allowed under the Town's DES permit. A brief discussion ensued regarding the need to perch the beach if the 10 yards is exceeded.

Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to approve the expenditure of \$420 for the purchase of 10 yards of sifted sand to be delivered from Brox, funding to come from the Special Warrant article.. Passed unanimously.

*Mrs. Haas* then requested permission to expend \$750 toward landscape clean-up at the Windham Wonderland Playground, as quoted by Brandin Landscaping.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Carpenter moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to approve the expenditure of \$750 for landscaping at Windham Wonderland Playground. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Senibaldi then noted that several swings and chains at the Wonderland Playground are in need of replacement, at an approximate cost of \$1,200. He requested that the Board authorize Mrs. Haas to order the replacements.

A discussion ensued, in which Mr. Ralph Valentine stated that the Recreation Committee wished to conduct a site walk at the playground prior to Mrs. Haas ordering replacements. The Board concurred, and Mrs. Haas will re-address this matter at a future meeting.

*Mr. Hohenberger* moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded to hire the five (5) returning lifeguards. Passed 4-0-1, with Mr. Stearns abstaining.

*Mrs. Haas* advised the Board that the Recreation Committee had discussed the status of Tokanel Field, and voted to bid the project. The estimated cost will not be more than \$15,000 from the Town accounts, however an additional \$10,000 may be available through donations..

Mr. Hohenberger inquired as to the scope of work, and Mr. Sullivan noted that the field will be “flipped”, skinned, and the backstop replaced. Mr. Valentine noted the project would also include some irrigation work.

A brief discussion ensued, in which Mr. Hohenberger noted he would like to see the bid specifications. Mr. Sullivan will forward the bid specification to the Board for comment.

*Mrs. Crisler* suggested that the Recreation Committee attend the LGC seminar on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

**PUBLIC HEARING/FEEES:** Mr. Stearns read the public hearing notice into the record. Mr. Turner explained that Town Counsel had drafted a new ordinance, which had been adopted by the Planning Board, relative to lot mergers; however no fees had been authorized as yet. A \$25 fee was being proposed.

Mr. Stearns clarified that this fee applied only to mergers and not to lot line adjustments, and Mr. Turner replied in the affirmative. Mr. Carpenter inquired how many mergers occurred per year, to which Mr. Turner replied six or seven generally.

After a brief discussion, Mrs. Crisler moved and Mr. Carpenter seconded to approve the recommended lot merger fee of \$25. Passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Mr. Sullivan advised the Board that the Strategic Planning is ongoing, and the SWOT (Strengths/Weaknesses/Obstacles/Threats) analysis is underway. The Committee will be meeting again on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**VERIZON:** Ms. Diane Sherry, Franchise Manager, and Ms. Lisa Thorn, gave a brief presentation to the Board regarding services offered by Verizon should they be granted a cable franchise in Town. Highlights included:

- Verizon will be running fiber directly to homes, which will allow multiple users with no degradation of service in-house
- VIOS Internet with 5-30mb downstream will be offered
- 100% digital cable service will be available with a successful franchise agreement
- Service “bundles” will be available

Mr. Stearns inquired how close the company was to build-out, and it was noted that Verizon expected to finished their aerial work by year-end.

After further brief discussion, the Board thanked the representatives for attending.

*Mr. Hohenberger* moved and Mr. Carpenter seconded to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendi Devlin, Administrative Assistant

*Note: These minutes are in draft form and have not been submitted to the Board for approval.*