

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of May 15, 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. Sullivan noted that, overall, Windham had fared well during the flooding, and extended kudos to the Fire and Police Departments for their efforts. He stated he had taken a tour of the Town to assess the damage the previous evening and that morning, and that photos from around Windham were available for viewing on the Town's website.

Chief McPherson approached noting that numerous road closures had been in effect the previous day, and the flooding had been a challenge for staff. He stated that the schools would be closed the following day to allow for further road inspections/assessments.

Chief McPherson reported that the Department had pumped out over 60 basements the previous day and an additional 40-50 that day, and noted that residents can contact the Fire Department if they are in need of assistance. He noted that no structural damage had been reported. Chief McPherson then extended his thanks to the Emergency Management Staff.

Mrs. Crisler stated that the Department of Health had issued a notice cautioning residents regarding floodwater contamination, which recommended that if contact occurs the area should be disinfected and that wells should be tested if flooded by surface waters.

Chief McPherson then advised the Board that the reverse 911 system had been utilized for the first time on the 14th as part of the voluntary evacuation of the Kendall Pond Dam area. He explained that, as concerns had risen about the dam in Londonderry, the area that could be affected in the event of failure had been mapped out, relayed to Derry, and the shelter activated.

Ms. Linda German of the Windham Garden Club presented the Arthur Baker Community Investment Grant to the Windham Cooperative Kindergarten in recognition of their gardening camp. A check in the amount of \$1,020 was accepted by representatives Christie Davis and Linda D'Agostino.

Ms. German then noted that, due to the flooding at the Town Common, the Annual Garden Club Plant sale scheduled for Saturday from 10AM to 1PM would be moved to the Town Hall parking lot.

Police Chief Gerald Lewis approached to echo Chief McPherson's report of the previous days' events. He noted that traffic flow is improving, and urged drivers to keep on the lookout for barricades, cones, etc. He also extended praise to the officers and fire department staff for a tremendous job.

CORRESPONDENCE: Bond release, Timberlane Road Extension. After a brief discussion, this item was tabled until the arrival of the Planning Director.

LIAISON REPORTS: Mrs. Crisler noted that the Planning Board will be looking at developing a driveway ordinance. In addition, the Historic District Commission is considering creation of a demolition ordinance, which would allow for the HDC to request a 30 day delay on demolition of Historic buildings.

CORRESPONDENCE, CONTINUED: Mr. Hohenberger indicated he had seen a notice in the local paper regarding the closing of the Tallant Road and Castle Hill Road bridges beginning on the 26th. He stated he did not believe

they were supposed to be closed until after the meeting between the Pelham and Windham boards. A discussion ensued regarding the lack of notification from the Town of Pelham, and that it may be a moot point as the Castle Hill Road bridge was heavily damaged in the floods.

Mr. Hohenberger stated he would still like a letter sent to the Town of Pelham expressing the Board's disappointment that they were proceeding with the closing. He then moved that a letter be sent to Pelham as described and that the DOT be copied. Mr. Carpenter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES: None.

AMBULANCE BID: Chief McPherson noted that eight vendors had been sent packets and three bids received and reviewed by the Ambulance Committee for the following equipment:

AEV:	\$133,617/delivered
Horton:	\$138,607/delivered
PL Custom:	\$147,624/delivered

Lieutenant Jay Moltenbrey approached noting that the low bidder had not satisfied the bid specifications, and that the Committee recommended the bid be awarded to Greenwood Fire Apparatus for purchase of the Horton ambulance as bid.

A lengthy discussion ensued, with input from Mr. Larry Woodbury of Greenwood, regarding the various warranties offered on the vehicle and transportation of the vehicle if service is required.

It was the consensus of the Board to support the recommendation of the Committee, however, they would like to see more information on the availability of extended warranties prior to making a decision. Mrs. Crisler also indicated she would like assurance in writing that Greenwood will provide a driver to transport the vehicle for service, if necessary. Lt. Moltenbrey will follow-up.

POLICE VEHICLE BID AWARD: Chief Lewis noted that ten bid packets had been distributed for the two SUVs approved at Town meeting, and two bids received as follows:

Irwin Motors:	Vehicle 1/No bid
	Vehicle 2/\$19,850 (net after trade) 2006 Explorer
Grappone Ford:	Vehicle 1/\$26,596 2006 Expedition
	Vehicle 2/\$19,842 (net after trade) 2006 Explorer

Chief Lewis noted that the bid specifications had requested that vehicle 1 be bid as a 2006 full-sized vehicle with the special service package, and vehicle 2 as a 2005 or 2006 mid-sized vehicle. Total budget available is \$50,155.

A discussion ensued regarding the capability of the Explorer to handle the wear and tear. Chief Lewis suggested that vehicle 1 be awarded as bid by Grappone and the trade in of \$3,650 utilized toward that, and he will explore further options for vehicle 2.

Mr. Carpenter moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to award the purchase of 2006 Expedition to Grappone Ford for their bid amount of \$26,596 less the trade-in amount of \$3,650. Passed unanimously.

It was the consensus of the Board that the Chief research a used Explorer for vehicle 2 and return the following week for approval.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION: Mr. Bill Cass and Mr. Peter Stanzer were present to update the Board on several items.

Route 111 By-pass: Mr. Cass noted that this project is proceeding on schedule, although the relocation of utilities remains an ongoing issue. He noted that the contract requires the area east of exit 3 be open by 2007. This construction season the re-opening of Roulston Road, trail paving, and opening of the by-pass on the Range Road side will be bid.

Mr. Hohenberger requested that monthly updates be provided for use by emergency services and public information.

Mr. Hohenberger also noted that discussion should begin soon regarding the residual roadways, and Mr. Cass replied that the finish work will not be completed until 2008, so that will not need to be resolved until 2008-09.

A discussion ensued regarding the existing Range Road, duplicate road names, reclassification of Lamson Road, and possibly utilizing excess fill from the by-pass project for the High School site.

Mr. Cass will work on developing monthly updates, and Mr. Sullivan will schedule a future workshop to discuss the issue of road names.

Wall Street Intersection: Mr. Cass noted that intersection was reviewed at the Board's request, however, he will have it looked at a second time as the Board's request to remove the second thru-lane does not seem unreasonable.

I-93 Project: Mr. Cass noted that the rights-of-way negotiations are moving ahead, and the wetlands permit is in place. The Army Corps of Engineers permit is still pending, as is the lawsuit. He noted that the court has scheduled the suit to coincide with the State's construction schedule to avoid delays to the project, and construction is expected to begin sometime next summer in the Range Road area.

Mrs. Crisler inquired about the relocation of the Common Man restaurant, and Mr. Cass replied the State was working with the owner to finalize an agreement to relocate the building to the new restaurant site.

Mr. Peter Griffin requested an update relative to the Transit Plan with Massachusetts. Mr. Cass noted the Transit Investment Study is moving forward, that fee has been approved and the paperwork is being forwarded to the Governor's Council for June.

Mr. Griffin informed the Board the Southern NH Planning Commission would be hosting a meeting on June 15th in Manchester to discuss the various rail options.

Mr. Charles McMahon sought clarification from Mr. Cass regarding the completion of the triangle area between the barrels of I-93. Mr. Cass noted that 2008 was correct, and that modifications to the schedule are being proposed to include an extensive earth work project in the area behind Dunkin Donuts.

Mr. Hohenberger noted that the Board had received a letter suggesting a round-a-bout be utilized at the intersection of the High School access road and Route 111, which the Board opposed. A discussion ensued regarding safety concerns and alternatives. Mr. Cass will bring the Board's concerns back to the Department.

A *brief* discussion ensued regarding Pelham and the signalization of Mammoth Road and the closing of the bridges. Mr. Cass will follow-up with Mr. Morrill of Division 5.

CORRESPONDENCE, CONTINUED: *Bond release:* After a brief discussion regarding the bond release form, Mr. Carpenter moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to release the bond in the amount of \$28,560 to EJR Development, LLC. Passed unanimously.

RAIL TRAIL ALLIANCE: Mr. Wayne Morris advised the Board that the Transportation Enhancement Grant had been approved, and work will begin in 2008.

Mr. Morris then noted that the WRTA is ready to execute the contract for the paving of the trail. A discussion ensued regarding damage to the trail from the flooding, and Mr. Sullivan stated he believed it would be the State's responsibility to repair the trail as it does not constitute normal wear and tear.

Mr. Morris noted that 2/3 of the funding for the pavement is in place, and the WRTA will be conducting fundraising. Mrs. Crisler clarified for those listening that the agreement for the paving will be between the WRTA and the vendor, but the trail itself is jointly overseen by the Town and the State.

After further brief discussion, Mrs. Crisler moved and Mr. Carpenter seconded to accept the WRTA's offer to pave the Rockingham Recreational Trail and work with the vendor. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Morris will follow-up to have the Road Agent and Planning Director inspect the pavement.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Sullivan announced that the Annual Memorial Day parade will be held on May 29th beginning at Center School at 9:30 AM.

Mr. Senibaldi inquired whether Festi-ball will occur on Saturday given the flooding. Mr. McMahon replied that if the rain stops by Wednesday the fields should be okay.

Mrs. Crisler noted that she had located an old piece of correspondence from Mr. Barlow noting there appeared to be cracks in the well casing. A discussion ensued regarding allowing the toilets to be used and posting signs not to utilize the sinks. The consensus of the Board was to post the sinks accordingly.

NEW BUSINESS: On behalf of the School Board, Mr. Stearns sought the support of the Board to conduct a Special Town Meeting, if necessary, to correct survey errors on the High School site.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the amount of property involved, lack of a map showing the area, cost, and the ability to change the article at the Deliberative Session if necessary.

It was the consensus of the Board to support a Special Town Meeting, if the need arises. Mr. Carpenter requested that Town Counsel opinion be garnered relative to the proper process.

Mr. Dick Forde approached to state that the taxpayers should not be required to pay for the cost of correcting this error; rather it should come from the original firm's insurance.

Mr. McMahon expressed concerns that the High School had been sited on the wrong land, and urged that due diligence be done on both the Clark property and the Londonbridge site.

Mr. Michael Hatem concurred, noting that construction will not start until next spring and time is available now.

Discussion ensued regarding the timing of the Town Meeting and possibly consolidating it with the Primary election in September.

Mrs. Crisler moved and Mr. Carpenter seconded to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 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.