

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Workshop of October 23, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Galen Stearns called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Selectmen Roger Hohenberger, Margaret Crisler, and Dennis Senibaldi were present, as was Town Administrator David Sullivan. Mr. Carpenter was excused. Mr. Stearns opened the workshop with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mrs. Crisler noted that Candidates' Night, which had taken place the previous week, would be repeated on Channel 20 throughout the weekend.

Mr. Senibaldi announced that the annual Scouting for Food bags had been distributed and were scheduled for pick-up the following Saturday.

Chief Lewis requested that the Board execute an MOU for the remaining ten (10) portable radios as part of the 2003 Lawnet Program. This will provide each officer with his/her own radio, and is at no cost to the Town. After a brief discussion, the Chairman executed the document as requested.

RECREATION WORKSHOP: Mr. Sullivan opened the discussion, noting the intent was to discuss the development of an ordinance relating to the Town's recreational facilities and common areas. Mr. Sullivan noted that the full Policy Committee, which consisted of himself, Allan Barlow, Chief McPherson, Chief Lewis, Dave Poulson, and Dana Call was present, and had looked into drafting an ordinance for Griffin Park for submission to the March Town Meeting. Mr. Sullivan stated that representatives of Windham Baseball, Windham Soccer, and the Recreation Committee had been invited to attend. He then went through a Powerpoint presentation with the Board specifically pertaining to Griffin Park, highlights of which included: issues with the Skateboard Park, trash, dogs/dog owners, pond concerns, security, and vandalism.

Mrs. Crisler and Mr. Hohenberger noted several items of interest that they felt were overlooked, including parking and water issues. Mr. Sullivan felt these were outside the scope of the ordinance discussion. Mr. Hohenberger then noted that rollerblading and bikes along the walking path should be incorporated, and Mr. Stearns asked that "motorized" vehicles within the park be included, as well.

An item by item discussion then ensued, highlights of which included:

- Skateboard Park: Discussion occurred regarding continual complaints and issues regarding the area; closing or moving the park; restricting it to residents only, implementing a permit system; adding dedicated staff to oversee; enforcement issues; and implementation/utilization of a fine schedule.

It was suggested that a public meeting be arranged to allow input from the children who utilize the area toward finding a solution. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Sullivan follow-up to arrange such a meeting sometime in the near future. Mrs. Haas, Recreation Coordinator, suggested that the fine schedule and/or permitting system be in place prior to the meeting for presentation to the attendees.

- Trash: Mr. Poulson stated he is in the process of drafting a global ordinance regarding littering/illegal dumping. He stressed that outreach is the key. Mr. Senibaldi suggested that the coaches be contacted regarding their organizations' responsibility to ensure the fields are clean before leaving the area. Mr. McMahon felt that more visual reminders were needed in the form of brightly colored receptacles and signage.

- Dogs: It was the initial consensus of all members present to ban all animals from the Park. A discussion ensued regarding the current regulations and possible construction of a separate dog park. Mr. Sullivan inquired whether the Board wished to have another public forum discussion regarding this matter.

Further discussion ensued regarding enforcement issues, and Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded to draft an ordinance to ban all dogs from Town property for submission to Town Meeting.

It was suggested that a combined meeting be arranged to discuss the dogs and skateboard park issues. Mr. Hohenberger then withdrew his motion and Mrs. Crisler her second.

Mrs. Crisler then moved and Mr. Hohenberger seconded to schedule a public hearing on November 20th to discuss the skateboard park, dogs on Town property, and other issues. Passed 4-0

- Parking: Mr. McMahon advised the Board that the crosswalk and reduced speed in the area had been endorsed by the State, and the parking lot project across from Griffin Park was moving forward.
- Pond: Mr. McMahon suggested that rip-rap be laid around the perimeter to discourage wading. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus to move forward to obtain a DES permit to do so.
- Access: A brief discussion ensued regarding misuse of the center driveway for vehicle traffic and the number of individuals having access to the gate. Mr. Senibaldi moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded that Mr. Barlow change the lock immediately to a non-duplicable key lock with a maximum of ten (10) keys made for distribution.
- Other: Mr. McMahon advised the Board that he had confirmed that the concession stand does not require a permit per State regulations.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 93-A:3 IIa. Roll call vote, all members “yes”. The topic of discussion was personnel and the Board, Mr. Sullivan, and Ms. Devlin were in attendance.

Mr. Sullivan updated the Board on the Assistant Planner recruitment process. Mr. Sullivan will proceed to offer the position to one of the top candidates discussed.

Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 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.