

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Minutes of November 20, 2006**

Chairman Galen Stearns called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Selectmen Dennis Senibaldi, Margaret Crisler, Alan Carpenter, and Roger Hohenberger were present, as was Town Administrator David Sullivan. Mr. Stearns read the meeting notice into the record, and explained that the discussion would begin with the Skateboard park, followed by the dogs, then all other remaining items.

**PUBLIC HEARING/GRIFFIN PARK:** Mr. Sullivan extended his thanks to all those in attendance, and provided a brief overview of the previous meeting's slideshow presentation, highlighting numerous problems at the Park that have developed over time including: failure to abide by posted regulations, trash, dog feces, and vandalism. He noted that most users do follow the rules, however, those few that didn't had led to the current concerns. Mr. Sullivan stated that the Policy Committee would work to incorporate this evening's input into the proposed Ordinance.

Public discussion regarding means to correct issues at the Skateboard Park ensued, with the following addressing the Board: Tom Case, Carolyn Webber, Joey Thompson, Mitch Dolloff, Dawn Chamberlain, Charles McMahon, Mike Swider, Deb Gerardi, Jesse Corso, Ralph Valentine, Al Guevera, Denise Dolloff, Karen Trovato, Connor Roy, Lisa Piessens, Laurie Gaudette, Joe Gaudette, Andrew Lucy, and Jeff Trovato. A petition to keep the Skateboard park open, consisting of approximately 300 signatures, was presented to the Board by Joey Thompson, and it was the overall consensus of all speakers that the Skateboard park should not be closed. Several suggested that permit or ID system be implemented, that staff be hired to monitor the area, that non-residents be barred, and that a fine system be implemented. It was also suggested that the Police Department confiscate the skateboards of offenders and their parents be contacted to collect them.

Upon closure of the public input portion, a discussion ensued among the Board members. Mrs. Crisler voiced her support of a permit system and the idea of confiscating the skaters' boards for infractions. She also noted that she would like to see a procedure developed for users to follow when they see an incident occur.

Mr. Stearns inquired of Police Chief Lewis whether they had the authority to take the skateboards. Chief Lewis indicated if an ordinance were in place, they could do so, but he would hesitate to implement that as a solution. He also noted that he was not in favor of the children self-policing or the parents speaking to others who were not wearing helmets, etc., expressing concerns regarding retaliation.

Mr. Hohenberger stated he liked the idea of the users forming some type of organization to undertake fundraising, etc., for the Skateboard park, and voiced his support of implementing a pass system. He did not support the children self-policing the area.

Mr. Carpenter stated that, with a facility like this, some issues are to be expected. He felt that the worst thing the Board could do would be to create legislation that cannot be enforced.

Mr. Senibaldi was also not in favor of self-policing, and voiced his support for a photo ID system and a stricter ordinance.

Mr. Stearns thanked all who spoke on the matter. He then asked that the members direct the staff to proceed to develop an ordinance to include the following: staggered hours for various age groups, photo ID/sticker system, distribution of the sticks to be by the Police Department, community service clean-up of the area, and overall hours. It was the consensus of the Board that staff proceed accordingly.

Discussion moved to the presence of dogs at Griffin Park. The following approached in opposition of the banning of dogs from the area: Jocelyn Bishop, Joe Collins, Tom Case, Lisa Pascarella, Donna Morgan, Ed Gallagher, Steve McGarr, Tonia Chase, Ralph Sinclair, Kathy Felson, Amy Denton, Erin Mulhauser, Barbara Robinson, June Vaillaincourt, Bill Powers, Michael Hatem, Jessica O'Neill, Margaret Corsh, Bruce Witte, Heidi Heath, Jen Hammill, Bruce Moeckel, Belinda Sinclair, Wendy Keller, and Maz DeLuca. A petition to continue to allow dogs at the park, containing approximately 50 signatures, was presented by John Apkorian. It was suggested by many that increased education and enforcement were a better solution, and several stressed the importance of socialization for dogs. Lisa Piessens spoke in favor of a ban, noting that dogs do not have the same rights as people and are a town-wide problem as there is no leash law in effect. She stated that countless people fail to clean-up after their dogs, which results in a health hazard. Mike Piessens felt it was an issue of the volume of dogs and the number of out-of-towners who may not be cognizant of the existing rules.

Mr. Stearns closed the public input portion, and a discussion ensued among the Board members regarding the need for enforcement, possible implementation of a permit fee, limiting dogs to a certain number of feet off the paved walkway, increased education, possible hiring of a park attendant, and a set fine scale. It was the consensus of the Board that the Policy Committee proceed accordingly to draft a proposed ordinance.

Further brief discussion ensued regarding a possible dog park at Herbert Field, the Deputy Dog Officer, and the hiring of a dedicated staff member to enforce the Park rules.

Discussion moved to parking issues. Mr. McMahon approached to advise the Board that the goal is to have a completed plan before them by year-end, with construction to begin in the spring. He noted that all matters at the State level have been completed.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding safety concerns at the pond area, including wading and the geese population. Installation of rip-rap was once again discussed as a means to prevent wading, and it was the consensus of the Board that no permit to do so be pursued at this time.

The public hearing was officially closed at 10:45 PM.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:** Mrs. Call reviewed the schedule of upcoming budget meetings with the Board.

Mr. Sullivan advised the Board that two bids had been received for the purchase of the 1985 Maintenance vehicles as follows: \$800 from Robert Pellegrino and \$401.25 from Mike Salafia. He then recommended the sale be awarded to Mr. Pellegrino for his bid amount. Mr. Carpenter moved as recommended and Mr. Hohenberger seconded. Passed unanimously.

*Chief Lewis* advised the Board that four bids had been received for the purchase of portable radios, however one had been eliminated as it did not meet the specifications and one had been received late. The remaining two considered were: Ossipee Mountain Electronics of Moultonboro, NH/\$2,629.50 each and Cen-Com of Londonderry, NH/\$2,442.00 each. Chief Lewis recommended the bid be awarded to Cen-Com. After a brief discussion, Mr. Carpenter moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to award the bid for the purchase of 4 portable radios to Cen-Com of Londonderry for their total bid amount of \$9,768. Passed unanimously.

*Highway Agent Jack McCartney* advised the Board that two bids had been received for the purchase of a plow for the Department as follows: Howard P. Fairfield LLC or Pembroke, NH/\$6,250 and EW Sleeper of Concord, NH/\$7,027. After a brief discussion, Mr. Senibaldi moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded to award the bid for Howard P. Fairfield for their bid amount of \$6,250. Passed unanimously.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendi A. Devlin, Administrative assistant.

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