

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Minutes of January 22, 2007**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Mr. Stearns called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Selectmen Roger Hohenberger, Margaret Crisler, and Dennis Senibaldi were present, as was Assistant Town Administrator/Finance Director Dana Call. Selectman Carpenter and Town Administrator David Sullivan were excused. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Stearns read the agenda into the record.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mr. Stearns noted that the previous Saturday a ground-breaking had been conducted for the High School. He noted that the majority of the Board of Selectmen and School Board had been present for the ceremony.

*Mrs. Call* noted that the Warrant and Budget will be available this week, and reminded all that none will be mailed prior to the Deliberative Session this year.

**LIAISON REPORTS:** Mrs. Crisler announced that she had been appointed to the Government Affairs Committee for the Local Government Center, and had attended a meeting the previous Friday. She stated that several proposed bills had been reviewed for consideration, including:

- ✦ Those to increase the highway user fee, which is currently 18%, to address under-funding of transportation funding which is causing a lack of maintenance on roadways. The Committee supports the increased funding, but not solely from a gas tax.
- ✦ A bill to fund the LCHIP program through deed recording fees, on which the Committee will remain neutral.
- ✦ HB 89, which will allow public employees to strike, which the LGC will oppose.
- ✦ A bill to replace \$1M in AIDS funding. There are concerns about this bill, as the Towns would then have to assist the recipients from their General Assistance funds.
- ✦ A study group has been formed to look at State retirement issues.
- ✦ A Bill to eliminate the exemption granted to Towns from local zoning ordinances as it pertains to neighboring communities. An exception would be made for cooperative projects.

*Mrs. Crisler* also noted that the Planning Board had met the previous Wednesday, and approved the Johnny Hill subdivision consisting of 27 lots and totaling 81 acres. The developer, Everett Ryan, is also donating 3.5 acres to the Town for recreational use. A proposal was also heard for the Granite State Sports Club, a 96,000 SFT complex with, among other things, indoor soccer facilities. A variance will be required for this project. Finally, *Mrs. Crisler* noted that the Dunkin Donuts project had also been heard.

**MINUTES:** Mrs. Crisler moved and Mr. Hohenberger seconded to approve the minutes of September 25, October 2, December 4, December 7, December 11, December 18, December 19, and December 28, 2006 as written. Passed 4-0.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Bond release, Johnson Street Extension. Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mr. Senibaldi seconded to approve the release of \$19,740 to Century Builders for the Johnson Street Extension. Passed 4-0.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Mrs. Call requested the Board make a formal motion to “move” the Town articles to the Warrant. Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded to move all articles to the Warrant. After a brief discussion regarding the lack of Planning Board vote counts on their recommendations to the Zoning Articles, the motion passed 4-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING/DISPOSAL RATES:** Mr. Stearns read the public hearing notice into the record. Mr. Poulson approached to review the current disposal fees, which have not been adjusted since 2004. He noted that the current Ordinance allows the Board to adjust these fees accordingly, and that the proposed increases reflect the Town's increased costs over the years.

A discussion ensued regarding the various cost increases to the Town, and Mr. Hohenberger expressed concerns that the increases will be passed on to the residents. Mr. Poulson disagreed, noting that these increases apply strictly to commercial businesses in Town who utilize the Transfer Station to dispose of their waste.

Mr. Hohenberger then moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded to approve the rate increases as proposed for demolition/construction debris, MSW, tires, and metal waste, effective February 1, 2007. Passed 4-0.

*As the meeting* was running ahead of schedule, the Chairman called for a five minute recess.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** Mr. Stearns read the notices into the record. Mrs. Call indicated that these articles will appear on the ballot, however, the Board must first officially act on each of them separately. The first will officially rescind the Fire Hazardous Response Contracted Detail Special Revenue Fund, which is now covered under the revolving fund. There being no public input on this matter, the article will appear on the ballot as written. The second pertained to the petition to create a Land Use Change Tax Special Revenue Fund. There being no public input, the article will appear on the ballot as written.

**NH DOT:** Mr. Bill Cass and Mr. Peter Stammus (new Project Manager), were present to update the Board on several matters relating to the Route 111 by-pass and I-93 projects. Highlights of the discussion included:

- ✦ Mr. Cass indicated that it will be the Town's prerogative as to the naming of the new section of Route 111. The by-pass area may not require an additional name, as it provides limited access only.
- ✦ Shadow Lake Road will remain as such in Salem, and it will be a Class V roadway.
- ✦ No definitive answer was available regarding Range Road. Mr. Cass reiterated that it is the State's opinion that the residual portion should be town-owned and under town jurisdiction. A discussion ensued regarding the Town's hesitancy to take over this portion and the traffic impacts to the neighborhood as it may still be used heavily as a cut-through to Route 28. Mr. Stearns indicated the Board would like to wait to see the change in traffic pattern after the opening of the by-pass before making a decision.
- ✦ A timeline of construction was reviewed: Shadow Lake Road will be closed at the end of 2007; utility work will be done in the area of Delahuntys and Route 28 in 2008, with work on Exit 3 beginning immediately after; and the 5-way intersection on Route 28 may be redesigned to a 4-way, if necessary, after monitoring of the traffic patterns in the area.
- ✦ Mr. Stammus indicated that the final project design for I-93 is at 40% and continues to progress.
- ✦ The pending court case has not effected the project from a design standpoint, and the State is awaiting a decision in May.
- ✦ The right-of-way acquisition and relocations are ongoing, and being prioritized as per the construction schedule.
- ✦ The Exit 4 bus terminal will be completed in Spring, and construction of the Park & Ride at Exit 5 has begun and will be completed in 2008.

- ✦ The Cross Street bridge replacement in Salem has begun, and will be completed in 2008.
- ✦ Mainline construction will begin in 2008.
- ✦ Increased project costs have extended the completion date of the project to the year 2015, as opposed to 2012.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding additional funding for the project, what type of surplus commercial properties will be available in Windham, and conceptual access to surplus developable land.

Mr. Stammus noted that the State felt the working study group previously formed needed to resume their activities, as there were several new developments to review. Mrs. Crisler volunteers to be the point person in re-establishing this group.

After a brief discussion, Mrs. Crisler requested that the timeline for the area of west of Exit 3 be clarified. Mr. Stammus noted the following:

- ✦ The NB barrel reconstruction will take place in 2008, as will earth work west of the Route 111 mainline.
- ✦ The SB barrel reconstruction will begin in 2010, with all lanes maintained via a traffic shift.
- ✦ In 2011, work will begin north of Route 111 up to the weigh station.
- ✦ In 2012, Route 111 and 111A work will be completed, as will the Park & Ride.

Newly elected Councilwoman Hollingsworth briefly introduced herself, and extended an offer to help the Town in any way she could during this project.

Discussion moved to the Shaws/Wall Street intersection, and the Board's previously expressed concerns regarding the lane design. Mr. Cass stated that the State will clearly need to work to address the ongoing concerns, perhaps via right turn arrows in the far lane. He will follow up with the Traffic Bureau on this matter. A brief discussion ensued regarding the aggressive drivers in the area, and the Board requested that staff follow-up with Police Chief Lewis regarding accident data in this area.

The Board thanked Mr. Cass and Mr. Stammus for the time and efforts on behalf of the Town, and for their presentation that evening.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Hohenberger inquired as to the status of the permit for installation of rip rap at the Griffin Park pond. Mrs. Call indicated she believed that the permit had been put on hold by the Board at a previous meeting. She will confirm the status with Mr. Poulson.

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION:** Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded to enter into a non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3-IIc. The topic of discussion was reputations, and the Board, Mrs. Call, Tax Assessor Rex Norman, and Ms. Devlin were in attendance.

Mr. Norman reviewed a previously approved hardship abatement with the Board, and the accompanying paperwork was clarified for the records. No further decisions were made.

Mrs. Crisler moved and Mr. Hohenberger seconded to adjourn. Passed 4-0.

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.*