

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of June 11, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Alan Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Selectmen Bruce Breton, Dennis Senibaldi, Margaret Crisler, and Roger Hohenberger were present. Town Administrator David Sullivan was delayed, and arrived at 7:25 PM. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Carpenter read the agenda into the record.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Board welcomed Ms. Amy Bernard, Administration's summer intern.

Ms. Devlin announced the arrival on June 6th of Mason Joseph Call, son of Asst. Town Administrator/Finance Director Dana Call and her husband, Bill.

Mr. Senibaldi corrected an error in the local paper, noting that Tot Time is not scheduled for June 12th, but rather July 12th.

Mr. Hohenberger announced that the caboos has arrived at the Depot area, and that visitors to the area have been numerous.

OLD BUSINESS: Highway Agent Jack McCartney reviewed the West Shore Road project with the Board, noting that Tate Brothers was willing to hold their bid price from 2006. Discussion ensued regarding the scope of work, projects completed in 2006 with available funds, and whether or not to rebid the project.

Mr. Senibaldi moved and Mr. Breton seconded to award the West Shore Road project to Tate Brothers for an amount not to exceed \$143,242, as specified in their proposal dated 08/01/2006.

After a brief discussion regarding procedure, the motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Senibaldi moved and Mr. Breton seconded to waive the bid process for West Shore Road paving. Passed 4-1, with Mr. Hohenberger opposed.

Mr. Senibaldi then moved and Mr. Breton seconded to award the West Shore Road project to Tate Brothers for an amount not to exceed \$143,242, as specified in their proposal dated 08/01/2006. Passed unanimously.

WORKSHOP/TRANSFER STATION: Mr. Poulson announced that, effective June 25th, the Transfer Station will no longer be accepting video display devices greater than 4" in size, as these items are now hazardous waste per State statute. A discussion ensued regarding means of offering the residents the convenience of a mobile drop-off at the Station.

Discussion then moved to the issue of misuse of services at the Station, and the problems faced by staff in policing the use. Highlights included:

- Staff is only able to monitor the exterior of the site when alerted or during slow periods due to the nature of their duties
- Layout of the site is not conducive to physically policing the customers.
- Video surveillance system cannot identify stickers or misuse, and an updated system would require a fulltime surveillance person.
- Flaws within the sticker system, including multiple stickers, borrowed stickers, and failure to obtain by residents.
- The inability to prove or disprove the origins of residential and commercial waste.
- Taxpayer disputes.

- The lack of restrictions, fees, and scale operations, which prohibits the adherence by the Station to the Solid Waste Ordinance prohibited disposal section.

Discussion ensued regarding the neighboring facilities visited by the Board members. Noted were the efficiency of the other stations, particularly the conduciveness of their layout to customer sorting/recycling and disposal. It was also noted that Pelham does not accept commercial or demolition waste, and suggested that Windham discontinue this service in this interest of cost savings. Concerns were raised regarding increased costs to the residents if these services were discontinued, however, several members of the Board felt any increases would be minimal.

Discussion then moved to curbside pickup, and it was the general consensus of the Board to not move to full curbside pickup at this time. Mr. Poulson stated that he had no vested interest, however, switching to curbside would save money. A discussion ensued regarding the budget savings versus loss of services. Mr. Poulson suggested the Board look into taking advantage of an invitation to participate in a regional hybrid municipal recycling facility with Corcoran, which would offer curbside pickup of recyclables.

Mr. Carpenter suggested that the Board establish tangible short-term solutions for Mr. Poulson to follow-up with that evening, such as stopping commercial demolition, reviewing the Town's relationship with commercial haulers, or exploring an arrangement with Waste Management to utilize their trucks/trailers for disposal.

Mr. Poulson reviewed possible solutions to immediate staffing issues, including replacing the vacant full-time position with two part-time employees or changing one of the operator positions to a laborer position. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Carpenter then polled the Board on their positions thus far. Mr. Breton felt demolition should be discontinued or a fee established, however he disagreed with the discontinuance of commercial hauler contracts.

Mr. Senibaldi felt demolition should be discontinued and commercial haulers redirected to another facility.

Mr. Hohenberger requested that Mr. Poulson begin looking at redesigning the facility to improve efficiency. He also felt the contracting out of some services via trailers left on site and picked up when full by outside vendors and some means of handling hazardous waste should be explored.

Mrs. Crisler supported the discontinuance of demolition and, after a public hearing, the discontinuance of commercial haulers. She also noted that she liked the idea of limiting quantities of waste, providing some form of hazardous waste disposal, development of revised layout for the facility, and establishment of a special revenue fund for capital purchases to be funded by Transfer Station income.

Mr. Carpenter noted he was also impressed with Pelham's handling, and supported looking at a new layout for Windham's facility. He also supported raising the demolition disposal fees, followed by discontinuance in March, as well as redirection of the commercial haulers.

Long-term, it was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Poulson look into the layout/design of the facility, changes to the sticker system, establishment of a capital reserve fund, sub-contracting specific services, and hazardous waste disposal.

After a brief discussion regarding loss of recycling revenue/tonnage, Mr. Senibaldi moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded that effective October 1, 2007 Mr. Poulson advise all commercial haulers to transport their curbside residential waste directly to their facility and not to the Windham Transfer Station. Passed 4-1, with Mr. Breton opposed.

Mr. Senibaldi then moved and Mr. Breton seconded that staff post a public hearing relative to increasing the fees received for Construction/Demolition debris, as recommended by Mr. Poulson. Passed unanimously.

After lengthy discussion regarding staffing issues, Mr. Senibaldi moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded that the Transfer Station hours be changed to Tuesday and Wednesday 10AM to 6PM and Thursday through Saturday 8AM to 4PM for the months of July through September. Passed unanimously.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Sullivan presented an abatement request from Victory Baptist Church, and explained that Mr. Norman is recommending its denial as it does meet the requirements for an exemption.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Senibaldi moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded to deny the request for abatement as recommended. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Sullivan advised the Board that Primex, the Town's Worker's Compensation provider, was offering a multi-year agreement to the Town which includes a 5% credit off of our calculated rates in each of the following three years. Mr. Sullivan advocated continuing with Primex based upon many years of satisfactory service.

Mrs. Crisler moved and Mr. Hohenberger seconded to approve Mr. Sullivan remaining with Primex for the Town's Worker's Compensation coverage. Passed unanimously.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the timing of the property tax warrant.

Mr. Senibaldi requested authorization to expend \$600 from the surplus White funds toward the sifting of the Town Beach sand. He also advised the Board that the swale by the beach had been cleaned out without approval.

After a brief discussion, both items were tabled to the following week.

Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mrs. Crisler seconded, to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendi Devlin, Administrative Assistant

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