

Town of Raymond
Board of Special Selectmen Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2000

ATTENDANCE: Tim Pomerleau, Chairman; Betty McDermott; Ada Brown; Mark Acker; Michael McClellan; Chad Blair, Envision Realty; John Rand, Northern Pines Study Committee; Elizabeth Algeo, Chairman Conservation Commission; Nathan White, Road Commissioner; and Elizabeth Cummings, Town Manager.

1. Call to order. Tim Pomerleau opened the meeting at 6:00 pm at the Town Office.
2. Executive Session - Negotiations for the position of Town Manager.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to go into Executive Session with Elizabeth Cummings, Michael Wing, MMA representative; and an applicant for the Town Manager position. Seconded by Michael McClellan.

VOTE: Unanimous.

RECESS: Tim Pomerleau recessed the meeting at 6:01 pm.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Michael McClellan.

VOTE: Unanimous.

RE-OPEN MEETING: Tim Pomerleau re-opened the meeting at 8:03 pm saying that no motions or votes were taken.

3. Meeting to further discuss the Northern Pines Property.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Pomerleau noted that the Fire Department Fire Report has been submitted.

MOTION: Michael McClellan motioned to take this issue to a Special Town Meeting. Seconded by Betty McDermott.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Pomerleau reported that in talks with Leo Blair this week, Mr. Blair said that he didn't want the Town to trade the property. Mr. Rand felt that this meeting was to decide whether a vote would be considered to receive the gift if offered. He said that he understood that there were other possible recipients on Mr. Blair's list. He continued that Mr. Blair must possess the property for one year for tax purposes in which time he would lease the property to the recipient and then give ownership. He thought that Mr. Blair expected the recipient to hold the property for some time and use it. Chad Blair said that the original discussion with Mr. Poore was that the pavilion would be for the Town's use and not to sell. Mr. Pomerleau asked if there was any guidelines written about the obligations and responsibilities concerning this gift. Mr. Blair replied not yet that they were not willing to encumber any of Envisions resources until they know who would be taking the property. Mr. Acker asked if the upgrade of the road was expected. Mr. Blair replied that the present condition was all right to them but the Town would be responsible for repairs. He added that the upkeep of the road would go with the owner of the pavilion and property. Mr. Pomerleau asked if they would approve of the Town leasing the property to another entity. Mr. Blair said no that if they wanted to lease the building, they could do that. Mr. Pomerleau again asked for guidelines so that the Town would know with what they are dealing. Jennifer Danzig, resident, indicated that she had been talking with the YMCA about coming into Raymond as a partnership with Raymond. Mr. Blair felt that would be acceptable as long as the program was

for Raymond's benefit. Mr. McClellan asked if Raymond votes to accept the gift, might the property be given to someone else. Mr. Blair replied yes that Raymond was only one of the possible recipients. Mr. Pomerleau asked why Raymond was being rushed into making a decision before December 31st. Mr. Blair said there wasn't a deadline for them concerning tax status or any other kind but that they are negotiating with others and a decision must be made. Mr. Rand said that the warrant article could give permission for the Selectmen to negotiate. Mr. Pomerleau restated that the Town needs to know what they're voting for if the Town accept the property. Ms. Danzig felt that Envision Realty wants the property to be used by the Town and not to be sold for monetary gains to the Town. Mr. Blair indicated that Envision Realty needs to see what the Town wants to do with the property and then decide if it is acceptable to them. Mr. Rand expressed that more information was needed between the parties. Mr. Pomerleau suggested a workshop by the Selectmen and Leo Blair. Charles Leavitt felt the process would evolve but Envision needs to have a decision by the Town to allow any negotiations. Mr. Pomerleau reiterated that they needed to know what the obligations and responsibilities would be if the Town votes to be considered as a recipient. A resident encouraged the Selectmen to allow this to come before a special town meeting. Mrs. McDermott indicated that the four choices in John Rand's report, less the fourth one which apparently is no longer valid, gave the options available and would allow the Selectmen to vote to send this to a special town meeting. Mrs. Brown concurred.

Mr. Pomerleau felt that two things had to be present to allow a vote 1) have a meeting with Leo Blair to find out what the criteria of the gift would be and 2) set a date for the special town meeting. Mr. McClellan felt very rushed. He felt the process needed more information but on the surface it seems like a possible advantage to Raymond. Mr. Leavitt said that preparation time was necessary.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION: Michael McClellan amended his motion. That the Selectmen would approve a special town meeting to consider accepting the gift if offered. Seconded by Betty McDermott.

VOTE: 2 in favor (McDermott, Brown) 3 opposed (Acker, McClellan, Pomerleau)

4. Adjourn.

MOTION: Ada Brown motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Betty McDermott.

VOTE: Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: Tim Pomerleau adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise H. Lester

Secretary