

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

7:00 pm at the Town Office

Attendance: Mark Acker, Chairman; Ada Brown; Charles Leavitt; Dana Desjardins; Peter Leavitt, Appeals Board; and Don Willard, Town Manager.

1. Call to order. Mark Acker opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.
2. Consideration of previous minutes dated April 2, 2002.

MOTION: Ada Brown motioned to approve the Minutes as written. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: Unanimous.

3. Request from York Cumberland Housing for waiver of waterline capital connection fee. Jay Waterman, Development Director.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard explained that because Jordan Bay Place will need domestic water and fire protection, their expense will be \$4,000 to the Town. Mr. Waterman said that since the project is low-income, non-profit, elderly housing which is Section 202 he felt that a waiver should be possible. He said that they will need a six inch and a two inch connection. These connections will increase their expense over their original plan of having a well and pump system by \$16,000. Mr. Leavitt asked what their overall cost will be. Mr. Waterman replied just over \$2 million. Mr. Leavitt questioned their supposition in their budget on the low value of credits which they wouldn't have to put in and their high value of add-on equipment and work for the waterline hookup. Mr. Willard recommended that Raymond be consistent with their charging for hookups and not waive any applicant. Mr. Acker saw an opportunity to set the Town's policy. He said he didn't believe in giving exemptions in this matter. Mr. Waterman asked if other non-profit land holders pay taxes along the waterline. Mr. Willard replied that there were no others at this time. Mr. Leavitt agreed with Mr. Acker even though he believed the Selectmen understood that the project is of benefit to Raymond. He added that the Selectmen tried to keep the fee as reasonable as possible for everyone. Mr. Willard added that the TIF level is now almost at the maximum level available and also if the TIF comes in any year below the estimated level, then the rest of the required amount will have to be paid by the taxes on the residential properties. Mr. Leavitt also believed that the improvements to the Route 302 corridor and the waterline would enhance the attributes of Jordan Bay Place.

MOTION: Ada Brown motioned to deny the waiver requested by York Cumberland Housing and any other entities who request waivers in the future including the Town itself. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: Unanimous.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard noted that the Town would be looking for stubs for Tassel Top Park, the present District 1 Fire Station, and two for the new Public Safety Building.

4. Consideration of interest rate proposals received and bid award for temporary financing of the water line construction project.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard reported that the total short term indebtedness needed will be \$885,463 of financing which will begin May 12, 2002 and end November 12, 2002. The low bid was Key Bank at 2.25%. This funding will only be used as needed.

MOTION: Mark Acker motioned to accept the Key Bank bid of 2.25%. Seconded by Ada Brown.

VOTE: Unanimous.

5. Final consideration and approval of 2002 Town Meeting Warrant Articles.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard explained that a letter has just been received which indicates that legislation has been enacted that will allow towns to charge up to 8.75% for unpaid taxes and if that amount is charged, the town would then pay overcharged tax payers not less than 4% of that amount which would be 4.75%. Mr. Acker felt that the Town traditionally elects to charge the highest percentage on unpaid taxes so that unpaid taxes would not be as advantageous to residents. Mr. Leavitt agreed. Mr. Willard said that with this change the Budget/Finance Committee would have to be notified and asked their opinions.

MOTION: Ada Brown motioned to charge unpaid taxes 8.75% and on abatements 4.75%.  
Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous.

DISCUSSION: Dana Desjardins reviewed the issue of the \$20,000 to be put in a Land Acquisitions Reserve Account. He felt that this reserve account would be advantageous to the Town if a piece of land became available which should be preserved. The purchase would still have to be passed by a Town Meeting vote. Mr. Willard added that this land would most probably be for conservation purposes.

Mr. Leavitt asked if we now have positive knowledge that the school will be getting an additional \$50,000 from the State. There was discussion about whether to reduce the amount of undesignated fund balance by the \$50,000 and go to \$250,000 instead of the \$300,000. It was decided to leave it at \$300,000.

Peter Leavitt wanted to know if the change in wording had been made to the proposed ordinances as discussed at the public hearing. Mr. Willard said that the Town Planner and the Town Attorney have been involved in the changes. Mrs. Brown asked that the ordinances be printed in the Town Report in their entirety. After talking with Mrs. Trepanier, Mrs. Lester said that this addition would increase the size of the book by about 12 double-sided pages as well as the postage.

MOTION: Ada Brown motioned to approve the warrant including the changes in the percentage charged for underpaid and overpaid taxes as well as the additional printing of the ordinances.  
Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous.

MOTION: Charles Leavitt motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss the scholarships.  
Seconded by Ada Brown.

VOTE: Unanimous.

RECESS: Mark Acker recessed the meeting at 8:04 pm.

MOTION: Mark Acker motioned to come out of executive session. Seconded by Ada Brown.

VOTE: Unanimous.

RE-OPEN MEETING: Mark Acker re-opened the meeting at 8:22 pm.

6. Consideration of applications for 2002 Town Educational Scholarships in Executive Session.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Acker commented on the superior quality of the applications saying that they were all very deserving, and the Selectmen decided to award a scholarship to everyone as follows:

\$500 Carleton Edwards Nathaniel Cayer

\$500 Collins-Day Berkley Cline

\$500 Alva E. Clough Rachel Dwinnell

\$500 Carleton Edwards Nikki Emery

\$500 George Wood Lauren Ashley Mcclean

\$500 George Wood Alan Simmons

\$500 Collins-Day Ashley Lynne Weeks

Mr. Leavitt asked that their respective high schools be notified for presentation.

7. Communications and other business.

a. Gateway Grant

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard announced that Joseph Bruno our Representative to the Legislature applied our request for the Gateway grant to a bill for economic and community development. LD 1144 passed the House and we have received the funding of \$10,000.

b. Portland Water District Waterline

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard said that Will Pierce the construction manager had called to say that the project can't be started until after April 22, 2002 because they have to wait until the environmental review is finished. Mr. Willard warned that the Route 302 portion of the waterline would now most probably be delayed by a week as originally planned.

c. Selectman Committee Appointments

DISCUSSION: Mr. Acker said that since he will not be running again, his positions on some committees should be reassigned. He was most concerned that the MMWAC position should be filled soon so that their work can proceed with a Raymond representative. He felt that the Lake Region Bulky Waste board and the GPCOG positions were not as immediate a concern. The Selectmen noted that these positions don't necessarily have to be filled by Selectmen. Therefore, it was felt that if Phil Hammett, Chairman of the Recycling Committee, would be interested he would be a good representative from Raymond for MMWAC. Mr. Willard said that he would ask Mr. Hammett.

d. Public Safety Building Groundbreaking

NOTICE: Mr. Willard announced that the groundbreaking ceremony would be on Friday, April 19, 2002 at 4:30 pm at the site.

8. Review and authorize April 16, 2002 Treasurer's Warrant.

MOTION: Mark Acker motioned to approve the Treasurer's Warrant in the amount of \$59,086.65.  
Seconded by Ada Brown.

VOTE: Unanimous.

9. Adjourn.

MOTION: Ada Brown motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: Mark Acker adjourned the meeting at 8:36 pm.

Louise H. Lester  
Town Clerk