

## Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 5, 2002

**Attendance:** Ada Brown, Chairman; Betty McDermott; Charles Leavitt; Dana Desjardins; Christine McClellan; and Don Willard, Town Manager.

1. **Call to order.** Ada Brown called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm at the Town Office.
2. **Consideration of previous minutes (October 15, 2002):**

**MOTION:** Betty McDermott motioned to accept the Minutes as written. Seconded by Charles Leavitt. Charles Leavitt indicated that on Page 2 he was mis-represented regarding the statement about Carol Paleski. He requested that it be removed. Betty McDermott moved to accept the minutes with the sentence under Paragraph 8, line 6 to read: "Mr. Leavitt felt it was "too little too late." Charles Leavitt seconded the motion.

**VOTE: Unanimous.**

3. **Employee Health Insurance Coverage.** Chairman Brown tabled this item as Ken Karofsky was present for item 4.
4. **Street Light Request – Cape Road**

Ken Karofsky was recognized by the Chairman and he presented his concerns regarding the increase use of the Cape Road by pedestrian, cyclists and others, especially in the early mornings. He is concerned that with the sharp curves, steep hills and dangerous intersections that street lights should be added to reduce the possibility of an accident.

Denis Morse, Fire Chief addressed the Board. He met with Nathan White, Road Commissioner and reviewed the road. They looked at dangerous intersections, curves, hills and blind driveways as criteria to list areas that needed to be addressed. Recommended locations for lighting are 1. Sunset Chimney Road, 2. Fire Lanes 20, 34, and 42, 3. Frye's Landing, and 4. the new school bus turnaround. Sunset Chimney and Fire Lane 20 are within the new pavement area.

Charles Leavitt asked if Zephyr Road was evaluated. D. Morse responded that given the private lighting he did not feel it should be changed as the aesthetics would be effected.

Ken Karofsky added that with the new paving people are driving faster and there are a high amount of deer in the area.

D. Morse added that there will be a fog stripe added to the edge of all new pavement. This should help define the road.

D. Willard indicated that the improvements stated would result in an increase of approximately \$680 to the existing street lighting budget of \$16,967. This is a small increase to an already small budget for the miles and numbers of streets in the town. D. Desjardins mentioned that too much lighting can be detrimental as well, as what happened with the beach. D. Willard responded that those were metal halide "box lights" which are a different fixture altogether and also very bright. The philosophy at this point is to place lighting where public safety is compromised. There is no comprehensive plan at this point for lighting and that is something that should be addressed in the future.

D. Morse indicated that he and Nathan White support adding lighting where needed when road improvements are made.

**MOTION:** Betty McDermott moved to direct the Town Manager to implement the lighting improvements on Cape Road as recommended by the Fire Chief. With a second by D. Desjardins the **motion passed unanimously.**

[EDITOR'S NOTE: The recommendations discussed at the meeting differ slightly from the recommendations stated in the Fire Chief's letter submitted for the meeting. It is the intention of the Town Manager to follow the recommendations in the letter: lights installed at Sunset Chimney Road, Fire Lanes 20, 34, and 42, and Frye Island Ferry Landing provided they agree to share the cost.]

#### **5. Street Light Request - Public Safety Building**

D. Willard stated that the entrance on Main Street is designed for a 70-watt fixture with a cost of \$126.12 with annual expenses of \$15.62. A larger light will need to be installed at the driveway on Route 302 similar to that at the intersection of Route 302 and Hawthorne Road.

**MOTION:** Christine McClellan moved to have the Don Willard, Fire Chief and Nathan White consult with Central Maine Power and implement the lighting. Betty McDermott seconded the motion. **Passed unanimously.**

Ken Walker from the audience asked about a warning light for the building when vehicles are dispatched. D. Morse answered that there are provisions for one when it is determined it is warranted. In addition signage on Route 302 was not in the budget, but the site is wired for power. He is meeting with Glen Builders on Thursday to resolve the contract issues. D. Willard assured the Selectmen that the retainer would not be released until all the issues were resolved.

**6. Employee Health Insurance Coverage** – This item was placed back on the table for discussion.

C. McClellan wished to go on record that she was in favor of a reconsideration of the vote regarding this item. She is concerned that the item is not an emergency and should be considered as part of the regular budget process. She is sympathetic to the employees but feels that the proper adoption of the funds should be reviewed.

**MOTION:** C. McClellan moved to reconsider the vote taken on this item. With a second by B. McDermott, the **motion passed 3-2.**

Discussion continued on the topic regarding the best process to use. Chairman Brown stated that she supports the recommendation by the Town Manager to take this to a special town meeting vote. The time of a special town meeting was discussed at length. D. Willard suggested the Board consider the first Selectmen's meeting in December. That would provide for proper notice and allow members of the Board and him to meet with the Budget Committee.

D. Desjardins went on record stating his opposition to the reconsideration. He does not agree with delaying the provision of improved benefits to the employees as it is very difficult to keep good staff.

The Board discussed the involvement of the Budget Committee in the process and their interest in the process. D. Willard stated that they will participate as the Board requests.

The article which authorizes the Board to have a Contingency Fund was reviewed. It is clear that expenditures do not have to be defined as an "emergency" but rather as an "un-anticipated need."

**MOTION:** Chairman Brown moved to hold a special town meeting to address the funding of the employee health insurance plan. With a second by C. McClellan, the **motion passed 3-2.**

It was clarified that the motion intended to set the town meeting for December 3, 2002 with a Budget Committee meeting to be held prior to the meeting.

7. **Town Manager Performance Review** – Chairman Brown declared the Board was going into Executive Session for the purpose of completing the annual review of the Town Manager. The Board recessed to the back office. After a period of approximately 35 minutes the Board resumed their seats.

**MOTION:** D. Desjardins moved to come out of Executive Session. With a second by C. Leavitt, the motion **passed unanimously.**

Chairman Brown announced that the Board had completed their annual review and that it was favorable. It was noted that the Board gave Mr. Willard a high performance rating and they wished to continue his employment. D. Willard responded that he would like to stay.

**MOTION:** C. Leavitt moved that the Chairman be authorized to negotiate an extension of the Town Manager's contract for 2003-2004. With a second by C. McClellan the motion **passed unanimously.**

#### 8. **Communications and other business.**

**Embedtech** - D. Willard reported that he and Chairman Brown had a meeting with John Kendall CEO of Embedtech to discuss the current status of the job creation required under the CDBG program as well as new property taxes generated. Currently none of the 40 projected jobs have been created. Approximately \$14K of the original \$50K increase in annual property taxes has now been realized. Despite this slow progress, Mr. Kendall is still confident that the terms of the grant and his financial commitment to the Town of Raymond will eventually be realized.

**Election** – C. Leavitt stated that he wanted to recognize the citizens of Raymond that voted.

#### 9. **Treasurer's Warrant – November 5, 2002**

**MOTION:** B. McDermott moved to approve the November 5, 2002 warrant in the amount of \$1,172,605.93. With a second by C. McClellan the motion **passed unanimously.** It was noted that this warrant included payoffs of 2 bond anticipation notes.

**MOTION:** Dana Desjardins motioned to adjourn. Seconded by B. McDermott.

**VOTE: Unanimous.**

ADJOURNMENT: Ada Brown adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by Amanda L. Simpson  
Deputy Town Clerk