

Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 4, 2003

Attendance: Ada Brown, Chairman; Betty McDermott; Charles Leavitt; Dana Desjardins; Christine McClellan; Caroline Allum, GPCOG; Kevin Woodbrey, Chairman of the Technology Committee; Lori Forbes, Technology Committee; Elisa Trepanier, Information Director; Jean Carter, Comprehensive Plan Committee; Patrick Cayer, Chairman of the Planning Board; Frank McDermott, School Committee; Ernest Allen, Budget/Finance Committee; Jack Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer; Tom Carter; Elizabeth Cummings, Finance Director; and Don Willard, Town Manager.

1. Call to order. Ada Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Town Office.

2. Consideration of previous minutes dated February 25, 2003.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to approve the Minutes with the correction to delete a motion on the last page which was redundant. Seconded by Christine McClellan.

VOTE: Unanimous.

3. Public Hearing – Community Development Block Grant/Community Planning Grant Application. Study of regional service provision.

DISCUSSION: Ada Brown opened the Public Hearing at 7:02 pm. Mr. Willard explained that this \$10,000 grant would be used to study what the area towns of Bridgton, Casco, Naples, Harrison, Sebago, Frye Island, and Raymond could do cooperatively to enhance public safety in this region. Mrs. Carter asked if the other towns were going to be partners in this grant proposal. Mr. Willard said that they would be submitting letters of support which will go with Raymond's application. He added the grant application deadline is Friday, March 7th. He said that it was felt that the study is needed in order to see what enhanced services are necessary to protect the areas disadvantaged. Mrs. Carter asked if this would create new services. Mr. Willard said the study would allow an outside third party to review what we have, discover what is needed, and apply what opportunities are available. He added that Kathleen Brown of the LRDC is looking into applying for another grant which might return as much as \$7,500 which could be used as well. Ms. Allum noted that Ingraham Volunteers is doing some research for the Lakes Region to see what services are being used and what is needed. She added that other service organizations will be used as reference as well. The Lakes Region has grown by 18% since 1990 and the public safety and emergency management services must grow with the population. Mr. Willard noted that Governor Baldacci is encouraging cooperative agreements among towns and this is a way to get started. He added that this study would not compel towns to do anything. Mr. Leavitt added that State incentives may require cooperative efforts and this will help us prepare for that. Mr. Willard said that the only match required would be time and effort but no money. Ernest Allen felt that Windham should be included. He added that he would have appreciated more information ahead of the public hearing to familiarize himself with the subject. Mr. Willard apologized for the lack of information ahead of the meeting but said that there was a short lead time for this grant proposal. Mr. Leavitt said that the study might find that Windham should be included in whatever we do. Mr. Willard continued that if Raymond doesn't get funds we will need to do a study in the future for which we would have to raise the funds.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to support and submit a CDBG grant for the amount of \$10,000. Seconded by Christine McClellan.

VOTE: Unanimous.

4. Report on Raymond's Technology Program – Kevin Woodbrey.

DISCUSSION: Kevin Woodbrey expressed his wish and the mission statement of the Technology Committee to provide the best information to the Town that they can. He explained how the present system works and what it takes to keep it running. He noted that the volunteer group has dwindled to the extent that only the basic demands are being met and more help is needed. He said that this system was invaluable to the Town and the schools and that adding the video component for live broadcasting would increase Town participation as well as being an invaluable training tool for the school.

5. Consideration of Town Meeting warrant article to accept Brown Road and Ball Drive as Town roads.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cooper reported that Brown Road has been brought up to Town standards from Webbs Mills Road to the Gray Town line with a 2 inch overlay on a 20 feet wide surface in addition to shoulder and ditch repair. Ball Drive is 22 feet wide with everything complete except for the final coat of asphalt which will be done

when the houses are completed in the development. Mr. Cooper recommended approving Ball Drive with the condition that it be completed before it is in fact a town road. Mr. Willard announced that he had a letter of interest with 15 signatures on it encouraging this proposal. Mr. Willard recommended putting the two roads on the next Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Elisa Trepanier said that Nathan White, Public Works Director, would like to put a requirement in that they provide a turnaround for the trucks at the town line. Chris Ball said that area would be Lot #4 which has been sold and the use of that land would have to be arranged with the new owner. Mr. Cooper thought a turnaround might be arranged over the line in Gray because both towns would use it. There was discussion about the Planning Board requirements for town or private road construction.

MOTION: Charles Leavitt motioned to approve the addition of Ball Drive and Brown Road to the next Annual Town Meeting Warrant for consideration of becoming a town road. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous.

MOTION: Dana Desjardins motioned to go into Executive Session. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: 4 in favor (Desjardins, Leavitt, Brown, McClellan) 1 abstention (McDermott)

NOTE: Betty McDermott recused herself from this discussion.

RECESS: Ada Brown recessed the meeting at 8:40 am.

6. Land Use Legal Issue - Executive Session

MOTION: Dana Desjardins motioned to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: 4 in favor (Desjardins, Leavitt, Brown, McClellan) 1 abstention (McDermott)

RE-OPENED MEETING: Mrs. Brown re-opened the meeting saying that no action was taken.

7. Communications and other business.

a. Public Works truck

Mr. Willard reported that the 2000 Chevrolet truck has a broken frame in two places. At the present time it is parked and insurance coverage and possible replacement/repair is being investigated.

b. Budget Workshop.

Mrs. Brown requested that they have a Budget Workshop this week. It was decided to have it Wednesday, March 5 at 4:00 pm or if bad weather it will be Friday, March 7th at 4:00 pm.

c. Planning Board Chairman Patrick Cayer

Mr. Cayer had great concern over the protocol used for the handling of a complaint about a Planning Board member and his subsequent resignation. Mrs. Brown said that the Selectmen had accepted his resignation and would be advertising for a replacement. Mr. Willard informed them that they are in the process of writing a protocol for the appointment process which will include soliciting and appointing volunteers as well as voluntary and involuntary resignations. Mr. Cayer felt that the Selectmen should have had a vote after their executive session concerning this issue. Mr. Willard explained that it was left to the accused to decide whether he wanted a public hearing or not. It was apparent with his resignation that he didn't wish to continue with this issue. He said that the Selectmen by not taking any action allowed the accused to make his own decision. Mrs. Brown reiterated that the accused chose to leave the Executive Meeting and then submit his resignation. Mr. Cayer had great concern that this might happen again and that keeping members would be difficult. Mr. Willard said that in his career this was the first time this had happened and that they conducted their meeting by Maine State law. Mr. Cayer felt that the Planning Board is under a high level of scrutiny and that there are members who could be held for conflict of interest. They as a group are very careful to decline their position on the Board if they feel there might be a perceived notion of conflict of interest. He was afraid that this action might cause other resignations. Mr. Willard asked for his suggestions in their study of a protocol. Mr. Cayer felt that this complaint should have been brought to public hearing and a vote taken by the Selectmen. Mrs. McClellan didn't feel that she had enough information to vote on the issue and that the accused rendered his resignation which stopped the process. Again it was noted that both parties in the dispute would have to agree on a public hearing, or it would not be held. Mr. Leavitt stated that it is the intention of the Selectmen to form a protocol to deal with appointments and any actions associated with them. It was discussed that there should be a chain of information when a member is charged which would start at the Planning Board and then be presented to the Selectmen by

the Planning Board.

8. Review and authorize March 4, 2003 Treasurer's Warrant.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to approve the Treasurer's Warrant in the amount of \$47,836.85.
Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous.

9. Adjourn.

MOTION: Christine McClellan motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: Ada Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:53 pm.

Louise H. Lester
Town Clerk