

Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 15, 2003

Attendance: Ada Brown, Chairman; Betty McDermott; Charles Leavitt; Dana Desjardins; Christine McClellan; Jack Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer; Phil Hammett, Chairman Recycling; Nathan White, Public Works Director; Ken Blow and Gino Gervais of BBI Waste Industries; 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 minutes dated:
 - a. April 1, 2003
 - b. April 7, 2003

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to approve the minutes for April 1, 2003 and April 7, 2003 as written. Seconded by Christine McClellan.

VOTE: Unanimous.

3. Consideration of Selectmen recommendation on 2003-2004 Raymond School Budget articles.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Leavitt felt that the Selectmen had exhausted every way to encourage the Superintendent and School Committee to reevaluate their budget and find items which could be lowered. He said it was the Selectmen's duty to be sure that everyone in town is represented in the budget discussion. He said that assessing was also the responsibility of the Selectmen and the setting of the mil rate. He added that the impact of the work on the budgets is manifest in a significant tax increase for this year. He wished to have a Selectmen recommendation on the school budget articles this year. He felt that this recommendation might promote further discussion at Town Meeting. Mr. Leavitt said that this was legal and thought that it would set a precedent. He continued that many towns have Selectmen which pass the school budget or help formulate it before it goes to their town meetings.

MOTION: Charles Leavitt motioned that the Selectmen not recommend the School budget for the year 2003-2004. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

DISCUSSION: Mrs. McDermott felt that this action would deter the effort to have a One Raymond concept and thought this would damage the Selectmen's relationship with the Budget/Finance Committee and the School Committee. She felt that the Budget Committee did their job and made their recommendations. She said she was upset that the Selectmen would even consider taking this action. Mr. Leavitt felt this was a move to coordinate budgeting and enhance One Raymond. He thought some revision was needed in their relationship with the other committees and to define the process. He said that the Selectmen are responsible for the total budget. Mrs. McDermott noted that the voters should make the final decision at town meeting. Mrs. Brown underscored that they would. Mrs. McClellan added that being a freshman Selectman she was shocked that the school budget was late in getting into the process. She also thought that the Selectmen did more with the formulation of the school budget. She added that the voters depend on the recommendations of the articles for guidance and information. At the public hearings for the school budget she didn't have all of her questions answered and that she needed to understand where their numbers came from. She has great appreciation for schools but felt there are other considerations in relationship to the town's taxpayers. Mrs. McDermott thought that the School Committee

will be very upset by this action. Mr. Leavitt explained that people have said to him that they felt unrepresented in the school budget process. He continued that he didn't feel informed by their public hearings. Mr. Leavitt hoped that this would stimulate better communication for future budgets. Mrs. Brown said it was time to look at the school budget. She needed to know in detail where the money was being spent.

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

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard asked whether the Selectmen's intent is to have each school article not recommended. Mr. Leavitt responded that definitely Articles 4 and 5. He said the intent was to cover the school budget. Mrs. Lester reiterated that their motion was to not recommend the school budget in its entirety. The Selectmen agreed that all school budget items would be noted "not to recommend".

4. Proposed Raymond Roadrunner budget article for Selectmen approval – Selectman Charles Leavitt.

DISCUSSION: Ada Brown said that the article was well written and factual. Mrs. McClellan commended the work and thanked Mr. Leavitt for his effort.

MOTION: Christine McClellan motioned to endorse the Raymond school budget article by Charles Leavitt for publication identifying their concerns about the school budget. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous.

5. 2003 Annual Town Meeting Warrant for signature.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cooper reported that there are several ordinance changes in this warrant which includes in general: the phosphorus control section has been lightened; a back lot will be able to have a right of way of 40 feet instead of 50; the travel area will remain 12 feet; a private campground stay will go from 90 days to 120 days and more than that they will need a septic system for it which now coincides with the State regulations; ADA regulations on handicapped ramps can now go within setbacks if there is no other way of building them, and the cluster subdivision ordinance has some minor changes.

Mr. Leavitt noted a change from the draft warrant of separating the Technology Director/part-time CEO position from the overall Technology Department article. He felt this would lend clarity between the personnel involved and the department as such. Mr. Willard said that this has been accomplished which entailed changing the totals in the Administration, Insurance, and the Technology Department budgets. Changes were made to the budget summary as well as the warrant articles because they run parallel. Mr. Leavitt noted that this will allow the true values in each part to be known. Mr. Willard said that Mr. Olsen, Chairman of the Budget/Finance Committee, didn't believe it affected the Budget Committee because the values remained the same. However, he did say that it would create a precedent in changing the warrant articles after the Budget Committee voted on them.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to approve the warrant for May 17, 2003, including the Technology Department split into two articles – one for the Technology Director/part-time CEO Officer, and one for the Technology Department. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: Unanimous.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to sign the warrant for the election of officers on May 16, 2003. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous.

6. Consideration of whether to request bids for municipal solid waste curbside pickup and curbside recycling services.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard introduced the discussion by saying that as of June 2003 a 2 ½ year contract with BBI Waste Industries would be finished. He continued that he has had talks with them about a 3 year contract which will have a CPI increase in the first year of 5%, the second year 4%, and the third year 3%. He added that though complaints are always involved with this service, the continuing complaints from residents are a concern. He asked whether the Selectmen wanted to renew BBI's contract or go to bid. He added that the question of where the recyclables end up is a problem. Mr. Hammett noted that Raymond has a contract with Lewiston to take our recyclables and that we get a rebate for tonnage delivered. He was not impressed that some of our recycling went to New Hampshire. He also noted that there were long gaps when Lewiston didn't get deliveries. There were 7 or 8 tons found missing. He encouraged going to bid with an RFP which would have specific wording. He also felt that they might use two different companies splitting the recycling and trash removal. This would alleviate any possibility of comingling the refuse. He wanted recycling to be stable. Mrs. Brown advised that she had seen comingling of trash and recycling several times. Mr. Hammett acknowledged that BBI has been very responsive to inquiries but felt that the town shouldn't have to go through this corrective effort. Mr. White asked if the Recycling Committee had discussed Raymond taking the recycling back. Mr. Hammett replied that creating a recycling program would entail labor costs and a truck. Mr. Willard suggested getting competitive proposals. Mr. White acknowledged that they would need two employees and a truck. Mr. Hammett said the Committee hadn't looked at this seriously. Mr. Willard asked if the Selectmen wanted the Recycling Committee, Mr. Hammett and himself to form a recommendation for them. Mr. Leavitt asked if BBI had any previous experience with recycling. Mr. Blow replied they have been doing it for other towns for several years. He explained that they have had a problem with unloading the product at Lewiston and had to go elsewhere with it which was in New Hampshire. He said that they would pay Raymond the difference in tonnage to compensate. Mr. Gervais understood the concern with totals in Raymond's annual report to the State. He felt that a quarterly meeting with Mr. Hammett a good idea. He continued that they keep records of trash and recycling. He also said that they will be working on promotion with Kathy Gillis at the Raymond school as well as flyers to the residents in their recycling and trash bins. He suggested that if they decide to write a RFP they include a question about the age of the equipment. He said that BBI's recycling truck is a 1999, the trash truck is new, and the smaller truck is a '99 or '98. He said that they had some concern with their employee turnover but also had some very good employees who have been with them quite a while. Mr. Desjardins said his only peeve is that the small truck wasn't covered last summer and it left a lot of debris behind on the roadways. Mr. Blow replied that all trucks are covered now. Ken Walker asked why they are comingling the recycling with the trash. Mr. Gervais replied that on the camp roads the small truck may pick up both but when it meets a big truck it unloads and separates the refuse and recycling. Mr. Leavitt had concern about safety equipment and employee safety. Mr. Blow said that they recently had purchased a great deal

of safety equipment and that they comply with OSHA and MDOT safety records. Mrs. Lester asked why the trucks move to the other side of the road when picking up trash and recycling on Route 85. She felt it was worrisome when an oncoming car met a truck head-on in traffic. Mr. Gervais said this should not happen. Mr. Willard asked if the Selectmen wished to have separate bids for trash pickup and recycling or accept BBI's new contract. Mr. Hammett asked that there be included a clause in the new contract for stability if they go with BBI to be sure that all items are recycled. Mr. Desjardins asked about the value of wet cardboard. Mr. Blow replied that sometimes the transfer of cardboard especially wet cardboard costs BBI to get rid of. He said that the price for good cardboard is between \$10 and \$30 per ton but if the recycling facility can't take it BBI has to pay to dispose of it. He said that they would work with Raymond in any way that they can. Mr. Leavitt asked if they discussed the contract with BBI but then decided to go to bid would there be time to go through an RFP before the end of their present contract. Mr. Blow felt they could come to terms. Mr. Hammett was willing to look at their contract and negotiate some changes. Mr. Willard asked if they might include some performance guarantees.

MOTION: Charles Leavitt motioned to direct Don Willard and Phil Hammett and the Recycling Committee to expedite the process with BBI to explore an extension of their contract as discussed. A three year trash contract and a recycling contract of 1 to 3 years to be considered if the Recycling Committee so recommends. Seconded by Betty McDermott.

VOTE: Unanimous.

NOTE: Mr. Willard announced that other companies interested in a contract so far are Pine Tree Waste and J&T Waste. He noted that this will appear on the Selectmen's agenda for May 6, 2003.

MOTION: Dana Desjardins motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss scholarships and a land use issue. Seconded by Christine McClellan.

VOTE: Unanimous.

NOTE: Charles Leavitt recused himself from the scholarship deliberation and Betty McDermott recused herself from the land use issue.

RECESS: Ada Brown recessed the meeting at 8:28 pm.

7. Executive Session for:

- a. Consideration and award of 2003 Raymond Town College Scholarships
- b. Land use legal issue.

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

VOTE: Unanimous.

RE-OPEN MEETING: Ada Brown re-opened meeting at 8:50 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Mrs. McDermott announced the awarded scholarships saying that this was a very bright group of students who applied.

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| • Grace E. Leavitt | George Wood | \$500 |
| • Julia M. Bruno | Alva Clough | \$500 |
| • Shayla R. LaMotte | George Wood | \$500 |
| • Christopher W. Knight | Collins Day | \$500 |
| • Valarie J. Martin | Carleton Edwards | \$500 |
| • Danielle A. Hanson | Carleton Edwards | \$500 |
| • Benjamin J. White | Collins Day | \$500 |

8. Communications and other business.

a. May Roadrunner articles

Mr. Willard reported that there would be two articles in the next Roadrunner: 1) 2003-2003 budget overview and 2) a financial analysis.

There will also be a page devoted to the Bicentennial Founders Day Celebration.

b. Dispatch

The Dispatch office will be moving to the new Public Safety Building by the end of April to be completed in May. Presently Denis Morse, Fire Chief, is on vacation and Jack Cooper will be in charge of Dispatch until his return.

c. CDBG Grant.

Mr. Willard announced that with the diligent work of Caroline Allum of GPCOG the grant application was revitalized but then turned down because of the fact that we couldn't prove sufficiently the level of low to moderate income people in Raymond for which this grant would benefit.

d. Dispatch Center talks

Mr. Willard said that discussion with Naples was continuing saying that a cost analysis was being created. To keep Dispatch here would be about \$100,000, joining with Naples about \$60,000 and to be with Cumberland County possibly \$30,000. Cumberland County is not ready to include us. Mr. Desjardins asked about dispatching for the school buses and public works. Mr. Willard replied that was a great concern because the other dispatching offices wouldn't do that. He continued that we may finish with a hybrid service because having our own is too expensive. This would mean there would be someone in Raymond dispatching for just those services which the Center can't do. Naples presently dispatches for Casco and Sebago. Their office has newer equipment and better trained personnel. Mr. Desjardins said our job is to sell the idea to Cumberland County to put their office in our building instead of renovating the bunker in Windham.

e. GPCOG

Mr. Willard announced that GPCOG will be hosting a meeting on April 28, 2003 at 1:45 pm at their new building on Marginal Way. Governor Baldacci will attend.

f. Cable broadcast.

Mr. Willard announced that after a Selectmen's meeting when Mrs. Brown was absent, a young person who watches the televised Selectmen's meetings when visiting the live meeting asked his mother where the queen was.

g. Bicentennial Celebration

Mrs. McDermott announced that the 2003 Bicentennial Founders Day Celebration will be Saturday, June 21, 2003 with road races, a parade, game and food booths, plus much more. The historical society will have an exhibit for which they would like donations. If anyone has historical items to display, please call Mrs. McDermott at 655-4646.

h. Street American flags.

Mrs. Lester reported that the brackets and up for the nine American flags to be over Route 85 near the Town Office. The flags will be furled this week.

i. Annual Town Meeting

Mr. Leavitt announced that our Annual Town Election will be Friday, May 16, 2003 at the Jordan-Small Middle School gymnasium and the Annual Town Meeting will be Saturday, May 17, 2003 beginning at 10:00 am at Jordan-Small Middle School gymnasium. He encouraged everyone to come and vote.

9. Review and authorize April 15, 2003 Treasurer's Warrant.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to approve the Treasurer's Warrant in the amount of \$220,630.57. Seconded by Christine McClellan.

VOTE: Unanimous.

10. Adjourn.

MOTION: Charles Leavitt motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: Ada Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:06 pm.

Louise H. Lester
Town Clerk