

Selectmen's Meeting
May 8, 2006

The Selectmen met for their weekly meeting at 7 p.m. Present were Selectmen James McGarr, Jon Homer, Charles Cheney and Charles Wheeler. Selectman Davis was not present tonight. The Board spent the first half hour reviewing and signing the manifest. They signed a large number of Intents to Build, and several residency applications. They also signed one Intent to Cut.

At 7:30 p.m. the Board met with Tim Scanlon, owner of the Sunset Grill Restaurant on US Route 3. Tim recently turned his restaurant into a completely non smoking facility, and wanted to add a small area on the side of the bar where patrons could go out and have a cigarette. He had set up a small deck with a lattice work wall with a table and a few chairs and referred to it as Cafe Funnee, which means for smoking. He indicated that this area would keep the smokers from standing around the entrance to the restaurant so patrons coming in would not have to go past a cloud of smoke to get into the restaurant. Tim needed a letter from the Board for the State saying that they had no problem with this set up. The Board inquired as to whether the State had an issue with its proximity to the state road (NH Route 49). He indicated that since it was only built to be temporary until the early fall, it would not interfere with the winter plowing. The New Hampshire State Liquor Commission will have to give final approval to this area as the bar patrons would most probably be taking their drink with them when they went out for a smoke. The Board agreed that they would give him a letter. Selectman McGarr suggested that in order to prevent the Town from any liability, the wording of the letter should say the Board has no problem with the area "pending approval of the State Liquor Commission".

There being no other business on the agenda tonight, the Board continued with the review of their weekly correspondence. Ann Marie indicated that she had a couple of department matters to discuss first. John Timson is taking on a lot of the Cemetery responsibilities as his father, Woody is not well. John had gone to Home Depot, and found that the fencing that they had purchased last year was discontinued, and he was hoping to get what they had left to finish the job so all the fencing will match. He needed 120 pieces at approximately \$4,800.00 and another \$1,000.00 for additional hardware. He wanted to know if money from the logging revenue could be used, and perhaps the money set aside for cutting trees. The Board agreed that he could use the money for cutting trees, and what was left for fencing, but they did not want to use any money from the fund set up from the logging revenue on this project. They agreed that he should do what he could with the approximately \$4,500.00 remaining from the budget for this work. Selectman Wheeler mentioned that he had spoken with Lester Mitchell recently about the sale of Cemetery lots, and where that money goes. Ann Marie indicated that the lot money goes into the General Fund, but the perpetual care money goes into the Cemetery Trust Fund. Lester mentioned an old deed that specified that the money must go towards the maintenance of the Cemetery. Ann Marie commented that in the past the auditors have told her that if the Town raises more money than they collect for something, i.e. revenue of \$1,2000 for sale of lots versus \$46,000.00 for maintenance of the Cemetery that we are following the intent of the deed, but she will look into it further. Ann Marie also mentioned to the Board that the annual Memorial Ceremony at the Cemetery will be coming up soon, and that Mr. Berg will be looking for a Selectmen to speak at it as we do every year. Selectman

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McGarr mentioned it would be nice if we could have local veteran speak. Ann Marie will confirm the time and date with Mr. Berg to be sure it remains the same.

The Highway Department was the next subject matter. Road Agent Butch Bain sent his regrets that he could not attend tonight's meeting, but had wanted to give the Board a chance to review the roads he was considering doing paving work on this year, before he came to see them next week. Butch had gotten quotes for Eastern Corner, Bog, Perch Pond, Pulsifer, Mason, Deer Run, and Bumps Intervale roads. Due to the sharp increase in oil, the paving prices had gone up substantially. He had to eliminate some roads from this list, and decided on Bog Road, Perch Pond Road, and Pulsifer Road. Both Butch and Makie had traveled over all the Town roads, and felt that these three needed the most work. There was some agreement and disagreement on these choices by the Board, and both Selectmen Cheney and Homer will go out and look over some of the roads themselves, and discuss it further with the Road Agent next week. Ann Marie indicated that Butch had the Grafton County prisoners coming tomorrow and Wednesday to pick up trash on the roads, and they will do this on Bog, Beech Hill, and Lower Beech Hill tomorrow, and then see if they have time to do some other areas on Wednesday.

The next subject that Ann Marie brought up for discussion with the Board indirectly involved the Highway Department. She explained that our Road Agent, Butch Bain was under the New Hampshire Retirement System when he worked for the Town of Plymouth, and has seven years of contributions invested in the plan. He had gone to speak with our Retirement Specialist, RJ Dragon, about converting to our simple IRA plan, but he would lose a substantial amount of money by doing this. Ann Marie had spoken to NH Retirement System, and the Town could elect to participate in their program. Existing employees would have the option to either stay with the simple IRA or become part of the Type 1, NH Retirement. Any new employees in the future would have to participate in the NH Retirement plan. Police Officers are mandated to be in the Type 11 Police section of the NH Retirement Plan. This would mean maintaining an additional retirement plan, but Ann Marie indicated that she did not have a problem doing this because of the amount of loss that Butch would incur. The Board needs to take a vote to elect to participate in the NH Retirement Plan. Selectman Cheney made a motion to agree to participate in the NH Retirement Plan for full time employees, and this was seconded by Selectman McGarr, and voted in the affirmative by all.

A letter from the Campton Historical Society was the next piece of correspondence. Walt Stockwell had requested that the Board review and approve some actions they wanted to take in the parking lot and around the grounds at the Old Town Hall. They need to have some work done to the parking lot, and they are going to hire Leigh Johnston to put down some bank gravel. The letter mentioned about 3-4 inches which the Board wondered if this would cause drainage problems, but after further discussion, felt confident that Leigh would know how to avoid that from happening. They also wanted to put some barriers in front of part of the parking lot to avoid big trucks from turning around in the lot. In the past, this practice has caused a lot of the parking lot's deterioration. They also wanted to put some stumps and brush out behind the building where the bank was eroding, but the Board objected to this plan of action. They

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requested the assistance of the Road Agent with some of this work, and former Road Agent Ray Mardin had done some work for them in the past. The Board agreed that they will discuss this proposal further with Road Agent Butch Bain when he comes in next week. A letter was received from property owners on Meadow Lane about the deteriorating condition of the pavement on their road. Ann Marie had discussed this with the Road Agent, and he had been out to look at it, but did not feel that it was at the point where he could put this road on the paving schedule this year. He will have Eddie Pattee go out and fill the potholes to help resolve the problem for now. Another piece of correspondence was from a gentleman who owns a five acre piece of land behind the Campton Commons and would like to offer four acres of it to the Town to consider purchasing for their Town Office. The asking price for 4 acres is \$320,000. The Board suggested that this information be forwarded to the building committee.

The minutes from the May 1st meeting were reviewed. Selectman Wheeler mentioned that he had spoken to Derek Hill from Pike again, and that the paperwork is in the hands of their attorney, and they anticipate being able to meet with the Board within the next two or three weeks. Selectman Wheeler made a motion to approve the minutes, and Selectman Homer seconded it, and they were approved as written.

Under other business and Selectmen's input, Selectman Wheeler inquired as to whether we had heard from the Court about their decision on the Spritzes case yet. Ann Marie explained that our attorney, Tim Bates has been on vacation, but she will call him this week to see if he has heard anything. He also mentioned that David Dearborn had spoken to him about some old grave stones that are on his property. There is no indication that there are any bodies buried in the area, but Dave thought it might be nice to place the stones in one of the Town Cemeteries. Selectman Cheney offered to talk with Dave to find out more information about the stones. Selectman Wheeler also brought up the meeting that he will be attending tomorrow at the Department of Revenue Administration in reference to the sales ratio study and why they included the Owl's Nest sales which the Town had requested be disqualified due to the intangibles. Selectman Wheeler indicated that any of the other Board Members were certainly welcomed to attend as well. Selectman McGarr mentioned that he will be attending a meeting that the New Hampshire Task Force is holding in reference to methamphetamines, and these meth labs being located in properties that have to be clean up afterwards in relation to health issues. He also mentioned that he had received a few calls about the grading of the Town roads, and that they are being graded flat instead of with a crown on them. Selectman Cheney mentioned a few similar comments as well. Selectman McGarr requested that Ann Marie check and see if there is any organization that offers training in the running of a grader.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Foote
Town Administrator