

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the April 11, 2000 Meeting

Attorney Client session, pursuant to RSA 91-A:2 I (c) from 7:05 p.m. - 8:20 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Vice-Chairman Shawn N. Jasper at 8:25 p.m.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Selectman Ann Seabury

3. **ATTENDANCE**

Selectmen: Shawn N. Jasper, Rhona Charbonneau, Ann Seabury and Terry Stewart. (E. Lorraine Madison was on vacation.)

Staff/Others: Priscilla Boisvert, Executive Assistant; Steve Malizia, Finance Director; Kevin Burns, Road Agent; Mike Gospodarek, Town Engineer; David Yates, Recreation Director; Gary Rogers, Hudson Lions Club; Cary Gladstone and Sara Verela from MicroCredit--NH; John Drabinowicz; John, Derry News

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Presentation by Cary Gladstone and Sara Verela of MicroCredit-NH Mr. Gladstone, the Outreach Coordinator for MicroCredit, said their definition of a micro enterprise is anything up to and including five employees, such as the person selling a product out of their home, or a child care provider. MicroCredit provides help in peer group settings, the area in which Sara Verela works. She helps them process loans, network with one another and help them learn what is involved in running a business. They offer a 20-curriculum package as part of MicroCredit's membership and they offer loans that start as low as \$500. Benefits derived from participation in MicroCredit-NH include networking, access to credit and business skills development. Selectman Charbonneau, who heard this presentation at County level, thought this was a great program. Vice-Chairman Jasper thanked Mr. Gladstone and Ms. Verela for their presentation.

Denise True, 81 Bush Hill Road, said she'd like to see the Town do a formal study on limiting the residential growth in Hudson in order to get something on the ballot for next year, adding that Susan Snide advised her to come before this Board. Vice-Chairman Jasper said that is possible, and citizen input is helpful, but she needs to go to the Planning Board. The Selectmen were hopeful there would be something on the ballot this year, but that did not happen. Selectman Seabury said next Thursday, there is going to be a combined Planning-Zoning-Conservation workshop and encouraged Ms. True to attend that meeting.

Wendy Roystan, 81 Bush Hill Road, wondered if the Town considered the possibility of purchasing the Shepherd's Hill property, a big-ticket item, but if 400 units go in, it will cost the taxpayers a lot more in the long run. It could be developed into a park with hiking trails, a new recreation center, etc., since it is right next to Benson's. It has been zoned for 400 units and that variance will never leave the property. Eventually, somebody will build there, even if it's not the current company. Selectman Jasper thinks her suggestion is an excellent idea and if the land does become available, he's sure the Board will take that under advisement. They are pursuing all avenues with regard to this project, noting that the variance says *up to* 400 units. Selectman Charbonneau said the Town wanted to buy that parcel years ago, but someone offered \$5,000 over the amount the Town was authorized to pay for it.

Anthony Washburn, 117 Walnut Street, Nashua and Trina (not discernable), Greeley Street in Nashua said they were the new taxi owners at 46 Derry Street. They wanted to meet with the Board of Selectmen to see what they need to do to comply with all of the necessary regulations in order to continue to operate their business in Town. The Selectmen weren't aware of them being in Town and didn't know what they were talking about. Vice-Chairman Jasper asked the Executive Assistant for an explanation. Ms. Boisvert said she didn't realize that the cab owners were going to come in tonight. This issue is currently with the Town Administrator, who has been discussing it with the Zoning Administrator. Vice-Chairman Jasper said there was nothing the Board could tell them tonight, other than staff was looking at it. When a decision has been made, either the Executive Assistant or Zoning Administrator will call them and they can come back to the Board at the appropriate time. Mr. Washburn said they are a struggling taxi cab company, but they are fully insured and have been effectively covering the region with cab service. They hoped they would be able to fit in and remain in Town. If the Town lets them, they want to stay here and they will do everything they need to do to stay. Vice-Chairman Jasper said he had no knowledge of the issues, so he can't comment; the Selectmen are in a quandary because they don't have any information on it.

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5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

A. From: Kevin Burns, Road Agent

Re: Sidewalk Snow Removal

10-Wheel Dump/Plow Trucks

Refer to: New Business

B. From: Mike Gospodarek, Town Engineer

Re: Water Main Extension, Thurston's Landing South

Refer to: New Business

C. From: Robin Rodgers, Scholarship Chairman, Lions Club

Re: Request to waive Fee for use of Lions Hall

Refer to: New Business

D. From: Jim Michaud, Assessor

Re: Various Assessing Items

Refer to: New Business

E. From: Coleman Kelly, Cable Committee Chairman

Re: Cable Franchise Extension

Refer to: New Business

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to receive Items A-E, with appropriate referral, carried unanimously.

1. NEW BUSINESS

A. Sidewalk Snow Removal (Highway Department)

Road Agent Kevin Burns said they maintain eight miles of sidewalk in the winter. The existing 12-year old MT Trackless is no longer functional and would cost \$10,000 to fix. In the last three years, they've spent \$9,600 on it. They could do sidewalk snow removal with a front-end loader and trucks but that is labor-intensive, time-consuming and costly. The third option is to purchase a new machine. Most towns buy a MT Trackless, but they cost \$57,600 and are only used for sidewalks in the winter. The Bombardier is the same thing, but Skid Steers now makes a unit small enough for Hudson's sidewalks, which is what he was recommending--a new Bobcat for \$22,231.96. Because of the mild winter this year, he has money left in his Salt account that could be transferred into Small Equipment for this purchase.

Vice-Chairman Jasper asked for an explanation of Skid Steers. Mr. Burns said they are little 4-wheel drive tractors you see on job sites, with multiple attachments, such as bucket loaders, brooms, augers, snowblowers, etc. It comes with a bucket and he's asking for a snowblower. Additional attachments will be requested through the budget process. During the off-season, this would be used as a small, third loader which would be idea for cleaning up the parks. Someday, he'd like to put a broom on it to sweep the sidewalks instead of using three men with blowers. Mr. Malizia concurred with the recommendation.

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to authorize the Road Agent to transfer \$22,231.96 from 5552-308 Salt to 403 Small Equipment and purchase a Bobcat 763 High Flow Skid Steer Loader for \$22,231.96 for sidewalk snow removal and other purposes carried unanimously.

B. 10-Wheel Dump/Plow Trucks (Highway Department)

Road Agent Kevin Burns said the budget process authorized a five-year lease purchase of four 10-wheel dump/plow trucks. It was put out to bid and they received four. He recommended accepting the bid from Manchester Mack, the lowest bid that meets specifications. These are quality trucks, good for at least 20 years, and a fantastic bid. Selectman Charbonneau concurred with the Road Agent.

(Start Tape 1, Second Side)

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to award the bid of four 10-wheel dump/plow trucks to Manchester Mack Sales, for a total of \$445,915.75 with annual lease payments of \$89,183.15 for five years, as recommended by the Road Agent and Finance Director carried unanimously.

C. Water Main Extension, Thurston's Landing South, Map 21, Lot 6

Town Engineer Mike Gospodarek said the Thurston's Landing subdivision was approved some years ago. The water lines, at that time, were part of Consumers Water. They had negotiated a contract with the developer to install and extend the water mains to Thurston's Drive East and a portion of Thurston's Drive South. When this came before the Planning Board for Thurston's Drive

South, he saw that there was not a clear cut method of handling the water line extension for Gates Lane. The developer came forth with a proposal, and a bond request, to go through the cross-country sewer easement. This prompted an engineering review. He referred to his memo dated March 23, which discusses the pro's and con's of this request. The developer had to go before Consumers in order to present a legitimate subdivision plan to have water and sewer, so the whole approval process with Thurston's Landing West, South and East relate to a water line extension. Now that the Town owns the water line, the Town controls it. There is no contract for Thurston's Landing West or for this section of South. He didn't know how of if this obligates the Town to supply water. He doesn't necessarily agree that a cross-country sewer is the best way to get to this property, however, if they don't go cross-country, another method would be going down Bush Hill Road to Speare Road, which is about 1½ miles. He didn't think the developer or consumers would have taken that path without some sort of contribution because it does benefit the water department by picking up new customers. When they do that with sewer, they pick up some of the costs of the line because there is a benefit to the Sewer Department. He wanted input from the Board on how to proceed with the extension.

Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to deny the request.

Selectman Seabury referred to the Town Engineer's memo and said she, too, was concerned that the Town would have no way of determining leaks in the proposed cross-country lines as they are not monitored, and that not enough circulation will occur, requiring extra flushing to keep the water quality at an acceptable standard. Last summer, water had to be purchased from Pennichuck because the Town exceeded their daily maximum safe well yield. The Town does not have a master plan yet, so extensions are hard to analyze. Vice-Chairman Jasper agreed with Selectman Seabury. They worked on the sewer issue over the past year, and now they should address the water issue. This is the first request they've had for an expansion of the system. The developer may wish to come in and talk with them. It is not a high priority on his list to extend the water main and pick up a few customers in that area. Selectman Stewart agreed with the previous two speakers. She opposes booster pumps, which cause problems, headaches and confusion when they fail. If a pump fails, it is the homeowner's responsibility, but they often think it's the Town's, and it isn't.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

D. Request to waive Fee for use of Lions Hall

Gary Rogers, Lions Club President, said they were holding their second annual scholarship night dinner at Lions Hall on June 5. Last year, over \$70,000 worth of scholarships were awarded. The larger, full scholarships will be given out at graduation, but the smaller ones are given out at the scholarship dinner. The Lions Club won't make any money off of this event. Local businesses are donating money to help offset the cost of the meal. Last year, there were some problems with the stairs attached to the small stage at Lions Hall. The woodworking class at the school will build new stairs for each side of the stage, which will be left at the hall for anyone to use, and the Lions Club will pick up the cost of that. The Lions Club is also doing the setup and cleanup of the event, so no custodial costs will be involved.

Motion to waive the fee by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Seabury, carried 3-0. Selectman Stewart, as a member of the group, abstained.

E. Assessing Items

1. **Tax Credit Applications** (Map 24, Lot 39, Sublot 85; Map 46, Lot 67)

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to grant, as recommended by the Assessor carried unanimously.

2. **Disabled Tax Deferral Application** (Map 28, Lot 28)

Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to sign, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.

- 3) **Excavation Activity Tax Warrant** (Map 30, Lots 09 & 20)

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to sign the warrant, as recommended by the Assessor carried unanimously.

Selectman Seabury asked if the money derived from this could go into the fund to purchase land. Vice-Chairman Jasper said there was specific enabling legislation for what they did with regard to

land coming out of current use, but this is something they can look into.

A. Cable Franchise Extension

Vice-Chairman Jasper recognized the Chairman of the Cable Committee, Coleman Kelly, who said the Committee recommends that the Selectmen extend the franchise, which expired in November 1997, until June 2000 in anticipation that by that time, they will have a new franchise agreement.

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to approve the extension through June 30, 2000 carried unanimously.

B. Legal Services Contract

Vice-Chairman Jasper said at this time of the year, they either renew the legal services contract, or put it out to bid. He recommended holding off on this until the Chairman comes back from vacation.

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to defer this until a full Board is present carried unanimously.

1. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Recent Rash of Bomb Threats in Hudson Schools

Selectman Seabury said she was getting awfully tired walking down to the lower field from Memorial School three days in a row. She hopes the bomb threats stop soon, or the kids will be in school through the Fourth of July. This is not a pleasant experience to go through. Selectman Stewart agreed, saying she didn't like having to rush down to Memorial to pick up her child. She hoped the Police Department and school officials are working very hard to find out who the culprit is and press charges to the full extent of the law.

B. School Board

Selectman Charbonneau said that it was brought to her attention that yesterday, when the School Board met, they voted in Nonpublic Session to award a bid for the school at Alvirne. She does not feel that bid should have been approved in Nonpublic Session, as the public had a right to know what the bids were and who the bidders were. The Selectmen couldn't get away with doing something like that and she thinks it is wrong for the School Board to have done that.

1. LICENSES AND PERMITS

Request by the Hudson Lions Club to hold a Fundraiser to benefit the Scholarship Fund

Vice-Chairman Jasper pointed out that Selectman Stewart had a bright pink flamingo with her. She said it was part of a fundraiser to benefit the scholarship fund, running from May 1 - June 30. For a \$10 donation, someone can send a flock of 30 flamingos to someone's yard, and it will arrive during the night. She hopes everyone will support this unique fundraiser. Selectman Seabury said she'd love to send the flock to Lorraine's front lawn.

Motion to approve by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Seabury, carried 3-0. Selectman Stewart, a member of the organization, abstained.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Minutes of the BOS Meeting of March 28, 2000

Minutes of the BOS Meeting of April 3, 2000

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to accept as presented and refer to file carried unanimously.

3. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

4/12 7:00 Planning Board Meeting in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.

4/13 7:30 ZBA in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.

4/17 7:30 Conservation Commission in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.

4/20 7:30 Budget Committee in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.

4/25 7:30 BOS in the BOS Mtg. Rm.

Selectman Seabury asked when the NHHFA public hearing on Shepherd's Hill was going to be held. The Executive Assistant stated that NHHFA rescheduled the hearing from April 24th to the 26th at Lions Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Vice-Chairman Jasper asked where the Planning Board was going to meet tomorrow night. With Shepherds Hill on the agenda, he thought they were going to meet at Lions Hall, but it is posted for Town Hall. Selectmen Seabury and Stewart said they are holding the meeting at Lions Hall.

4. REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Vice-Chairman Jasper said some of them already made their remarks under Other Business, but wondered if they had any further remarks.

Selectman Stewart thanked Coleman and the Cable Committee for all their hard work to bring the Selectmen to life on TV. He is commended for the great job he is doing.

Selectman Seabury agreed, saying he also did Cabaret Night at school. He is doing a good job and is appreciated.

Selectman Charbonneau advised all of the viewers and their friends and neighbors to attend the Planning Board meeting tomorrow night to speak on the Shepherd's Hill project.

5. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion to enter Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee; (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself and (e) litigation issues by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Stewart, carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

Nonpublic Session was entered into at 9:15 p.m. and was terminated at 9:45 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to seal the Minutes carried unanimously.

- A. *Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to hire Gilles Dube and John A. Dowgos as Truck Driver/Laborers in the Highway Department at a rate of \$12.25 per hour, Labor Grade VIII, Step Minimum, effective April 16, 2000 carried unanimously.*
- B. *Motion by Selectman Stewart, Seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to hire Jim Dobens as Babe Ruth Baseball Director for \$600; John Hall as Softball Director for \$850; Cheryl McDonough as the Summer Program Director for \$4,800; and Lisa Terwilliger as the Tennis Instructor for \$10 per hour carried unanimously.*
- C. *Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to deny the hardship abatement for the sewer utility tax for Map 28, Lot 28 carried unanimously.*

Carnival at SAM's Club

Alan Chesnulevich asked to speak to the Board about his request for an Outdoor Gathering Permit for a carnival to be held at SAM's Club that he expected to be on tonight's agenda. Vice-Chairman Jasper asked the Executive Assistant about it. Ms. Boisvert said that it has been noticed for the April 25 Board meeting. It wasn't submitted in time to be on this agenda because there are posting requirements that must be complied with. Vice-Chairman Jasper asked if the Board would agree to let them set up prior to the approval, as long as they don't start before the 26th. Mr. Chesnulevich promised that there would be no activities before that date. Selectman Charbonneau didn't have a problem letting them set up early. Vice-Chairman Jasper said they would o.k. it, provided all of the requirements of the permit are met and advised him to bring in the request at least a month in advance of the start date next year.

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to allow the setup of the carnival prior to the permitting carried unanimously.

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to adjourn at 9:53 p.m. carried unanimously.

Recorded and Transcribed by Priscilla Boisvert

Executive Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Chairman E. Lorraine Madison

Rhona Charbonneau

Shawn N. Jasper

Ann Seabury

Terry Stewart