

## Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting

20 May 2008

Members present: R. Stephen Leighton, Chairman, Lynn Sweet and Stephanie Gray.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Among those attending were Moira Campbell, General Manager, Jeff Drapeau and Sheri Sirois (Metrocast Cablevision) and Chris Bane and Jason Grant (Strafford School Board members).

Moria Campbell and other representatives for Metrocast Cablevision attended to initiate discussion pertaining to renewal of the town's cable franchise agreement with Metrocast. Among the concerns noted were the inconvenience to people associated with the process/timeframe for installation of service when requested, and the density requirements. Renewal process was briefly discussed. Actual renewal date for the franchise is in January of 2009. Tentative date for first public hearing on the above is set for June 17<sup>th</sup>. A second public hearing will be held at a later date. Notice will be published in the newspaper and posted at various locations around town well in advance of the public hearing. Intent of the hearings is to receive input from the general public and provide information to the same.

Chris Bane and Jason Grant attended as part of an effort to continue to keep the lines of communication open between the Selectmen and the School Board. They intend to meet with other boards and groups for the same purpose. They are in the process of gathering input on the School "need to have" and "wants", and will be developing a "charge" for the School Facility Needs Committee that is yet to be formed. They would like a Selectmen representative to be part of the committee. Both Ms. Sweet and Mr. Leighton expressed interest in serving. They will also be inviting input from the Energy Committee, Tax Payers Coalition and the public sector. There was discussion regarding the failure of both, last year's vote at School District Meeting and the reconsideration vote that followed. Although their project received a great deal of support (61% approval) at the initial vote, it did not meet the 2/3 majority required. Consensus of the Board was that reconsideration votes are generally not well received. Although it was noted that there is no control over many of the costs included in the budget for the School District, Board suggested that thought might be given to restructuring/staff taking into consideration the number of students in certain grades. Necessary repairs and improvements for the school were discussed. School Board is not sure what repairs/improvements to proceed with, without jeopardizing the building project. It was suggested that one of their areas of concern might be addressed by designating year end surplus, if any, to help retrofit the existing Town Office space for use by the School. There was also the suggestion that the plan they present next year include changes from the plan presented last year showing areas of compromise/options. The Board gave the Town Office project as an example.

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Correspondence was read, including copies of letters directed to DES by several property owners in Bow Lake Estates, pertaining to docking structure on Map 23, Lot 29. nment to cut forms were reviewed and signed.

After review and consideration, a motion was made, seconded and voted to accept the minutes taken at the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board.

Parade Permit for Memorial Day was signed.

Board reviewed and signed letter to the NH Fish & Game Department requesting assistance on project for the dock located on Water Street. Town is asking State to donate the labor and equipment, while town is responsible for materials and permits required. This is similar to what was done on construction of the boat ramp on Water Street. NOTE: In checking prior records, it was noted that then the reserve fund was created for this project by Article 18, in 2007, the Selectmen were designated as agents to expend. Because they were designated as agents to expend, these funds can be made available if and when the State is willing to proceed with the project.

Letter from "E-911" Liason regarding a driveway off Province Road, was read. State is requiring that driveway be named as it will now serve 3 lots (Map 1, Lots 9-3, 9-3-2 and 9-3-4). After discussion, a motion was made, seconded and voted to name the road "French Meadow Way", as it is directly across from land known as the same. Board also noted concern over construction of this driveway. Will request Road Agent visit site.

There was a short discussion regarding funding and donations and the limits/legalities involved.

"E-911" signage was discussed. Fire and Rescue is concerned over the number of homes not marked. Although the Selectmen were reluctant to go forward with enforcement immediately, notification of pending enforcement will be included in the July calendar, and posted at various places around town. Police Department will be giving warnings in July and the intention is to go forward with enforcement beginning in August.

There was also concern voiced over the islands. Although "E-911" numbers are attached to docks, sometimes there is no indication of which camp the dock belongs to. Board suggested Camp Owners Assoc. be contacted for ideas to address this type of situation.

It was noted that Dave Palmer and Doug Hayes organized a clean up of the Beach. Their hard work is appreciated and it was a job well done.

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After discussion, a motion was made, seconded and voted to accept the agreement from Randall Telecommunications for voice and data installation/phone system for the new building. It was noted that a generous allowance was given by Mr. Randall for the antiquated system he installed nine years ago. His commitment and excellent service in past years was also noted.

After over 20 years of dedicated service to the Town, as Building Inspector, Stephen Smith will be leaving the position as of June 24<sup>th</sup>. Dave Copeland will be serving as "Interim Building Inspector". He is currently a Building Inspector in the town of Northwood.

There was a short discussion regarding progress on new building. After discussion, Board members were in agreement that Mr. Copeland should be authorized to do the inspections on the new Town Office as the project will be continuing after Mr. Smith's resignation takes effect.

At this time a motion was made by Mr. Leighton to enter into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) to discuss personnel issues. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Sweet. Roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Leighton – Aye, Mrs. Sweet – Aye, and Mrs. Gray – Aye. The Board entered into nonpublic session at 7:15 P.M. At this time a motion was made by Mr. Leighton to come out of nonpublic session and seconded by Mrs. Sweet. Roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Leighton – Aye, Mrs. Sweet – Aye, And Mrs. Gray – Aye. The Board came out of nonpublic session at 7:25 P.M. No votes were taken.

Mr. Leighton made a motion not to release the minutes of the nonpublic session. His motion was seconded by Mrs. Sweet. Roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Leighton -Aye, Mrs. Sweet – Aye, and Mrs. Gray – Aye.

There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made, seconded and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.