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**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

June 1, 2009

7 The Board of Selectmen held a meeting on Monday June 1, 2009 at Salem Town Hall, 33
8 Geremonty Drive, Salem, NH.

9
10 **PRESENT:** Chairman Arthur E. Barnes III, Vice-Chairman Michael J. Lyons, Secretary
11 Elizabeth A. Roth Selectman Everett P. McBride, Selectman Patrick Hargreaves and Mr. J.
12 Sistare (Town Manager)

13
14 **CALL TO ORDER**

15 Chairman Barnes began by calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He joined the Board in the
16 Pledge of Allegiance and introduced the Board and Town staff.

17
18 **1. Meeting Minutes**

19 **MOTION:** by Selectman Roth

20 *Move to accept the sealed minutes of the Non-Public session on April 8, 2009 as amended*

21 **SECOND:** Selectman McBride

22 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

23 **The motion carried unanimously.**

24
25 **MOTION:** by Selectman Roth

26 *Move to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 4, 2009*

27 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

28 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

29 **The motion carried unanimously.**

30
31 **MOTION:** by Selectman Roth

32 *Move to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 11, 2009*

33 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

34 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

35 **The motion carried unanimously.**

36
37 **MOTION:** by Selectman Roth

38 *Move to accept the minutes of the sealed Non-Public session on May 11, 2009*

39 **SECOND:** Selectman McBride

40 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

41 **The motion carried unanimously.**

42
43 **2. Chairman Comments**

44 Chairman Barnes thanked the members of the Board for their assistance during his recent
45 absence.

3. Request to Purchase Town Land – Theresa Avenue

Mr. Sistare introduced the topic, explaining the Town had received a request from Joan Blondin to purchase town owned property on Theresa Avenue and the various departments had reviewed the request, with only the Department of Public Works voicing concern as they may wish to use the land in future for a sewer lift station. Chairman Barnes explained the location of the land being discussed for the benefit of viewers. The Board discussed the request.

MOTION: by Selectman Hargreaves

Move that the Board of Selectmen hold a Public Hearing on the request from Joan Blondin to purchase town land on Theresa Avenue

SECOND: Selectman McBride

VOTE: 4-0-0

The motion carried unanimously.

4. Property Assessment Values

Mr. Sistare introduced the topic, handing over to Mr. Norm Pelletier, Town Assessor, who explained that properties lost approximately 4% of their value in the first quarter of 2009. He further explained properties are being assessed at approximately 125% and provided a status on the sale of commercial properties to date in 2009. Mr. Pelletier informed the Board it would be necessary to have an outside company perform the work to make any changes at this point which would cost the town money and he outlined the advantages and disadvantages of making changes at this time. There followed a discussion between the Board and Mr. Pelletier. It was the consensus of the Board that they should not make any changes to the assessed values until 2011.

5. Director of Engineering

Mr. Sistare explained what Mr. Puff, Director of Engineering had come before the Board to provide status reports on, and then handed over to Mr. Puff.

a) Update on Road Program

Mr. Puff explained the topics he would cover. He began by explaining the purpose of the Road Program and provided some historical background and information on how the program has evolved. In response to a request from Selectman McBride, Mr. Puff agreed to obtain figures for what the town has spent on roads since 1990. Mr. Puff provided definitions for Capital Rehabilitation and Operations and Maintenance under pavement rehabilitation techniques, providing examples of each technique and when they would use them. In response to a query from Selectman Roth, Mr. Puff explained the reasons for pavement deterioration and the methods now available to reduce this deterioration. There was a brief discussion with Selectman McBride regarding various options to reduce deterioration. Mr. Puff also indicated the condition of the current road system in town, pointing out the categories of roads which require work. He then illustrated when various roads had been worked upon, and explained for Selectman Hargreaves what would constitute a 'proper maintenance program' which would slow down the deterioration process of the roads. Mr. Puff also spoke briefly about the asset management database, and the investment made by the town in the Road Program between 2005 and 2008, highlighting the fact that more money needs to be spent on road maintenance as the roads are deteriorating faster than they can be rebuilt due to lack of maintenance. There followed a discussion to clarify what action would be required by the town to change current

1 trends, make the roads last longer, save money over the long term and reach the optimum
2 situation. Selectman Lyons suggested having one person oversee both the engineering and
3 maintenance of roads. Mr. Puff then spoke about future goals and objectives for the program
4 regarding finances, maintenance and prioritization. He provided some examples to demonstrate
5 possible savings when maintenance is combined with capital spending on construction, and there
6 was discussion on what the town can do to begin the process of improvement. Chairman Barnes
7 suggested allowing the PCI index to slip to 67 until the economy begins to stabilize, asking Mr.
8 Puff to come back with figures showing the Board what investment would be required by the
9 town during this time to maintain the PCI at 67. There was further discussion by the Board with
10 further input from Mr. Puff to clarify some points raised, and the Board discussed options for the
11 future. Mr. Puff suggested the Board consider initiating some workshops to address needs, and
12 he requested guidance from the Board as to whether gravel roads should be paved and whether
13 the Board has a policy on unaccepted roads. Selectman Hargreaves requested maintenance costs
14 for gravel versus paved roads before he could comment.

15
16 ***b) Update on Roadway Capital Reserve Funds***

17 Mr. Sistare brought up the subject of removing the appropriation for the Plaisted Circle project
18 due to the fact the project has never been completed as residents in the area are unwilling to
19 allow the town to align the street in the right-of-way.

20 **MOTION:** by Selectman McBride

21 ***Move to place the \$100,000 set aside for the Plaisted Circle project into the Roadway Capital***
22 ***Reserve Fund, and further that the town not do any further work on Plaisted Circle***

23 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

24
25 ***Discussion:*** In response to a query from Selectman Roth, Selectman McBride provided
26 additional information on the situation with the residents, and Mr. Puff clarified that it is quite
27 possible that the \$100,000 which had been set aside would not now cover the cost of the project.
28 Selectman Roth suggested that the town notify the residents of the Board's decision before they
29 take any further action as the last neighborhood meeting had taken place in 2006. Mr. Puff
30 provided further historical information on the difficulties relating to the project for the benefit of
31 members of the Board. The Board held further discussion on what action they should take
32 regarding this project.

33 **VOTE:** 4-1-0 (Selectman Roth opposed the motion)

34 **The motion carried.**

35
36 The Board discussed their concerns further and Selectman Hargreaves moved the following:

37 **MOTION:** by Selectman Hargreaves

38 ***Move to reconsider action by the Board of Selectmen on the Plaisted Circle project***

39 **SECOND:** Selectman McBride

40 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

41 **The motion carried unanimously.**

42
43 **MOTION:** by Selectman Hargreaves

44 ***Move to table the Plaisted Circle project until further information has been received by the***
45 ***Board of Selectmen from the Town Manager and Mr. Puff***

46 **SECOND:** Selectman McBride

1 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

2 **The motion carried unanimously.**

3

4 **MOTION:** by Selectman Hargreaves

5 *Move that the Town Manager inform the residents of Plaisted Circle of any future action the*
6 *Board of Selectmen intends to take in relation to this road*

7 **SECOND:** Selectman McBride

8 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

9 **The motion carried unanimously.**

10

11 Chairman Barnes recessed the meeting, calling the meeting to order again at 9:24 p.m.

12

13 *c) Discussion on Canobie Phase II*

14 Mr. Sistare explained the options before the Board on how they could proceed if the State
15 informs the town they are eligible for grant money for Canobie Phase II. In response to a query
16 from Selectman Roth, Mr. Sistare explained the town would receive 50% of the funding, and
17 Selectman Roth clarified that accepting the stimulus funding would save the town \$1.25 million
18 for a project which will need to be completed. She further clarified for viewers that the town is
19 required by statute to hold Special Town Meetings before they can accept this funding.

20

21 **MOTION:** by Selectman Lyons

22 *Move to authorize the Town Manager to inform the State that it is the Board of Selectmen's*
23 *intention to go back to Town Meeting to ask for authorization to borrow, should Sewer*
24 *Stimulus be favorable for Canobie Phase II*

25 **SECOND:** Selectman McBride

26

27 **Discussion:** Selectman McBride provided some clarification on the cost to the town, stating he
28 would support another Town Meeting for this particular purpose. Selectman Hargreaves
29 explained why he would not support the motion.

30 **VOTE:** 4-1-0 (Selectman Hargreaves opposed the motion)

31 **The motion carried.**

32

33 The Board agreed to go back to complete discussion of agenda item 5 (b).

34

35 **MOTION:** by Selectman Hargreaves

36 *Move to remove from the table the matter of Plaisted Circle*

37 **SECOND:** Selectman McBride

38 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

39 **The motion carried unanimously.**

40

41 Mr. Puff handed out for the record a copy of the 2003 Town Meeting warrant article 35, which
42 placed Plaisted Circle in the Unpaved Road Program. Selectman Hargreaves read the article for
43 the record, and the Board noted that this was a Selectman's article which did not name a specific
44 road. Selectman Roth stated she would support the Board's earlier suggested motion to remove
45 the funds back into the Roadway Capital Reserve.

46 **MOTION:** by Selectman Hargreaves

1 *Move to place the \$100,000 set aside for the Plaisted Circle project back into the Roadway*
2 *Capital Reserve Fund, and to inform the residents of Plaisted Circle of the Board of*
3 *Selectmen's action.*

4 **SECOND:** Selectman McBride

5 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

6 **The motion carried unanimously.**

7
8 Mr. Puff was then invited to update the Board on the Roadway Capital Reserve Funds. He began
9 by referring to his memo regarding replacement of the bridge at North Main Street over Widow
10 Harris Brook. He stated he had a proposed contract to design the bridge and was requesting
11 \$106,400 to cover the cost of the design from the Roadway Capital Reserve.

12 **MOTION:** by Selectman McBride

13 *Move to authorize the expenditure of a sum not to exceed \$106,400.00 from the Roadway*
14 *Capital Reserve Fund to cover the costs associated with engineering services for the design of*
15 *a replacement bridge at North Main Street over Widow Harris Brook.*

16 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

17 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

18 **The motion carried unanimously.**

19
20 Selectman McBride confirmed with Mr. Puff that they intended to have the North Main Street
21 and Emerson Road bridges designed for the March 2010 Town Meeting.

22 23 **6. Community Development Director**

24 25 *a) Update on Bike Ped and Efforts to Establish Southern NH Rail Trail Alliance with* 26 *Windham and Derry*

27 Mr. Scott, Community Development Director, introduced himself and spoke about a pending
28 grant application which would cover work from McKinnon's up to the Windham line which he
29 pointed out on a map of the area. He explained the town was looking at establishing a Southern
30 NH Rail Trail Alliance with Windham and Derry as there is work to be completed in those towns
31 to complete the bike/pedestrian path. He spoke about the advantages of the towns working
32 together such as coordination of advocacy, as well as the next steps in the process to proceed as
33 an alliance. Members of the Board thanked Mr. Scott for his work.

34 35 **7. Request to Place Signs in the Right-of-Way for Relay for Life Event**

36 Mr. Sistare reported he has received a request from the organizers of Relay of Life to place signs
37 in the town's right-of-way to advertise the event.

38
39 **MOTION:** by Selectman Hargreaves

40 *Move to authorize Relay for Life to place signs in the Town's right-of-way to announce the*
41 *event scheduled for June 27th and 28th, 2009 at various locations in the Town's rights-of-way*
42 *as directed by the Town Manager, conditional upon the signs being removed within five days*
43 *after the event*

44 **SECOND:** Selectman McBride

45 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

46 **The motion carried unanimously.**

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8. Appoint Museum Committee Members

Mr. Sistare reported there are some terms of members of the Museum Committee which have expired and re-appointments are required.

MOTION: by Selectman McBride

Move to appoint Patricia Good as the Historic District Commission representative to the Museum Committee with a term to expire April 2012 and further to appoint Jeffrey Barraclough and Jonathan Smith as representatives of the Historical Society to the Museum Committee with terms to expire April 2012

SECOND: Selectman Hargreaves

VOTE: 5-0-0

The motion carried unanimously.

9. Town Manager's Report

In response to Mr. Sistare's query as to whether the Board would like to schedule another meeting with the Legislature, it was the consensus of the Board that the next meeting should be scheduled for July.

Mr. Sistare requested a Non-Public Session to discuss legal matters.

MOTION: by Selectman McBride

Move that the Board of Selectmen reject the SPAA Fact-Finder's report

SECOND: Selectman Hargreaves

VOTE: 5-0-0

The motion carried unanimously.

10. Selectmen Reports/Correspondence

Selectman Roth spoke about traffic cutting through Corinthian Drive which is causing a danger to residents and made the following motion.

MOTION: by Selectman Roth

Move that the Board of Selectmen ask the Town Manager to place stop signs at Damascus and Lazarus as they egress onto Corinthian Drive

SECOND: Selectman Hargreaves

VOTE: 4-0-1 (Selectman Lyons abstained)

The motion carried.

Selectman Roth raised an issue regarding a right turn red arrow (north on R28, turning onto R111 east) which does not turn green and is therefore holding up traffic. She requested that Mr. Sistare inform the state about this problem and request they resolve the matter.

In response to a query from Selectman Lyons regarding whether Cluff Crossing Road would be re-engineered to account for the removal of a stop sign at Kensington, Mr. Puff explained he would be coming before the Board regarding this issue in the future. Selectman McBride stated he had also received a number of calls from residents on the same matter.

MOTION: by Selectman McBride

Move that the Board of Selectmen ask the Town Manager to put stop signs at the intersection

1 *of Artemis Road and South Shore Drive, making this a three-way stop*

2 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

3 **VOTE:** 4-0-1 (Selectman Lyons abstained)

4 **The motion carried.**

5
6 In response to a query from Selectman Hargreaves, Mr. Sistare reported he had responded to the
7 queries from the Budget Committee.

8
9 Selectman Hargreaves requested that Mr. Sistare follow up with a resident of North Main Street
10 on the status of the repair to their lawn following winter weather operations.

11
12 Selectman Hargreaves confirmed with Mr. Puff that he was dealing with the matter of a
13 complaint from a resident on North Shore Drive regarding the difficulty he has getting onto his
14 driveway.

15
16 Selectman Hargreaves provided information on the Field of Dreams summer concerts and
17 thanked the Salem Exchange Club for their assistance. He also announced that the tree stumps at
18 Hedgehog Park would be removed at the weekend. He put out a call for volunteers to pave
19 Hedgehog Park, stating volunteers should call the Recreation Director, Mr. Chris Dillon.

20
21 In response to a request for a status update on outstanding issues on Shore Drive, Mr. Puff
22 reported the matter is in hand.

23
24 Chairman Barnes reported that the Senate would be voting on a sub committee recommendation
25 to allow expanded gambling at Rockingham Park and that he had prepared some letters for the
26 Board to sign to make the Senate aware of Salem's position on this matter.

27
28 Selectman Hargreaves thanked Captain Bill Teuber who is retiring for his service to the
29 community. In response to Mr. Sistare's answer to his query regarding whether the town has a
30 promotion freeze in place, Selectman Hargreaves suggested instituting a procedure where there
31 is someone to temporarily fill a position of leadership when a person retires, without involving a
32 change in salary.

33 34 **11. Old Business/Table Pending**

35 There was no old business tabled or pending.

36 37 • **Additions and/or Requests by Public or Board by Vote**

38 Mr. Bill Carter, Chairman of the Conservation Commission reported the Commission has
39 managed to fulfill their goals with respect to the Hawkins Farm. He announced that anyone
40 interested in a community garden spot at the farm should call Maureen in the Planning office at
41 890-2080. He explained these would be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

42 43 • **Upcoming Meetings**

- 44 ○ June 8, 2009 (Regular meeting and workshop with Budget Committee)
- 45 ○ June 22, 2009 (Regular meeting)

1 • **Upcoming Events**
2 There were none mentioned.

3
4 **MOTION:** by Selectman Lyons
5 *Move to adjourn to a Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (e)*

6 **SECOND:** Selectman McBride
7 Chairman Barnes polled the Board

8 **VOTE:** 5-0-0
9 **The motion carried unanimously.**

10
11 Without further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m. and the Board moved to Non-
12 Public session as mentioned above.

13
14 Notes/Minutes Taken by: Sandra Maxwell

15
16 Approved: Board of Selectmen

17
18 Date: June 22, 2009