

COUNCIL MEETING

January 8, 2002

Present: Bob Fay, Doug Foglio, Sr., Willis Lord, Nancy Brandt, Pam Witman, Donald Boilard, John Littlefield, Steve Wentworth, Nichole Tracy, Scott Hamilton, Bob Gobeil, Tom Cyr, Paul Kussman, Wendy Warren, Teresa Lowell, Ernie & Marybeth Roberge, Steve Everett, Larry Jacobsen, Mike DeAngelis, Fred Fay, Dave Benton, Dale Witman and Richard Sevigny.

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Bob reported that Mrs. Stevens of Custom Transfer has agreed to enter into a contract to expire June 30, 2003. Discussed the mercury storage shed. Scott Hamilton reported that they need to discuss a fee structure for the mercury products and get this on line as soon as possible since the state is working towards banning disposal of mercury added products. Reviewed the stickers and fees for the Transfer Station. Dave Benton reported that fiberglass and plastics will not be accepted. They will have an area to store refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners for the removal of the freone. All stickers will be vehicle specific and will have a registration number on them. The summer renters sticker will be for household trash disposal only. Discussed non-resident taxpayers. Doug stated that you can't look at this as though everyone is going to cheat. Most people are honest and will do what's right. There are no fees for the burn pit. Stumps and wood over 4' will go into a separate pile to be ground and used on road construction. Steve Everett expressed concern that they are going to be charging for almost everything brought into the Transfer Station. Very concerned about illegal dumping. Questioned beefing up enforcement. Bob stated that illegal dumping is breaking the law and they can be prosecuted. He also understands that a municipality can impose an additional fine on top of what they receive in court. Mr. Boilard encouraged everyone to report if they see anyone dumping on private property. They landowner can also charge an offender for the cleanup. Suggested that the town adopt a fine policy. Bob stated that they have not set an effective date for these fees yet.

Dale reported on the make up of the county budget committee. They have been meeting since late October. Tomorrow night they will be casting their preliminary votes on the budget. The Public Hearing is tentatively scheduled for late January. The coastal communities have garnered quite a few seats this year. They are opposed to the rural patrol of the Sheriff's Dept. and their budget request is in great danger. Reported that the votes will be split and very close. Stated that generally there are very few changes that occur between the preliminary and the final vote. Reported that he would anticipate a significant increase in county tax this year, the proposed is a 30% increase and it was 67% last year. Have been talking about twice a year tax billing. Discussed the communications dept. and the strong concerns over their proposed budget. Discussed the new jail being bid out without a heating system. Doug questioned if there is a prisoner by town report. Dale stated there is such a report and he can get it. The current cost is \$70. per day per prisoner.

Selectmen's Report: Willis reported that the road crew is doing a good job plowing and sanding. Bob reported that the Selectmen will be meeting with the auditors this week. They postponed the interviews for school board representative until next wee. Will be appointing Wendy Warren as the RWS Representative tonight.

Motor Vehicle Agent Report: Report attached.

Town Clerk: Report attached.

Tax Collector: Report attached.

Code Enforcement Officer Report: Report attached.

Planning Board Report: Report attached.

Parks & Recreation: Reported that they have four basketball teams up and running and the January newsletter will be out tomorrow. January 19, 26 and February 2 will be holding a Kinder-clinic which is free for ages 3-5. Will be selling t-shirts. Holding the Child drop-off again this Friday at 6:30 p.m. The Foxwoods trip is filling up very quickly. He has put together a wish list for the old fire barn and has opened an account for donations. Has also received the donation of a lot of materials such as skylights. Will be holding public skating 6-8 p.m. at Shakerland which is across from the state police barracks in Alfred. This was supposed to be the first night but the weather is not cooperating. Hopefully next week will work out better. Cribbage is ongoing at the fire station and they love playing there. The Senior luncheon will be held on Thursday at 11:30 at the snowmobile club. The monthly Parks & Recreation meeting will be held on Monday and he will be attending a SMART meeting, which is for Parks & Rec. Directors, two weeks from today.

Old Home Days: First meeting is scheduled for January 24th at 7 p.m. here at the town hall. They are still looking for more volunteers.

Road Commissioner: Reported that he has been busy sanding and salting with very little plowing so far but that will change. Discussed clearing sidewalks. Will be an article on the town meeting warrant regarding this issue.

Recycling Committee: Reported that they will be visiting at the elementary school very soon to kick off the banner contest. The theme this year is Reduce, Reuse and Recycle and how you do that at home. Committee is looking into pay per bag again and have revised their publication. Requested to work with Parks & Recreation on a recycle skate park. Mike reported that Windham got their park done for \$10,000 by getting volunteers and donations of money and materials. Bob suggested having a sledding area in town and Mike reported that there is one in Lake Arrowhead on Crystal Lane which is off Old Portland Road. Will have a map in his next newsletter to the sledding area.

Conservation Committee: Reported that they are currently working on a 50 acre lot on Moody Pond. If they can come to an agreement with the owners they will present an article for town meeting. Still working on the 75 acre piece on Ossipee Mtn. They are working on a management plan for that property and are currently working with a forester. The majority of the cut will be the hardwoods to open up the canopy. Have filed an intent to harvest. This will entail no cost and if there is any profit it will be turned over to the town.

Fire Dept. /EMS: Reported that they had 38 fire calls in December making it 375 year to date which is a 25% increase over last year and 47 rescue calls making a total of 475 year to date which is a 3% increase. Have 5 enrolled in the Fire Fighter One class and 4 enrolled in EMT Basic. The next bean supper will be held on Feb. 2nd. Discussed electric cars and any training they might be doing as it has been reported that they are causing a lot of fires. Requested that people clean their chimney once a year as this is chimney fire season. Ernie Roberge reported that he has had six burning permits this year and each time the Fire Dept. gets called out. This is costing the town a lot of money each time they roll out and it is unnecessary. John explained that he agrees that it should not be happening

except that the calls are going into York County Dispatch and they are then toned out. Any time they are toned they have to go because you don't know if it's real or not. Suggested that this be turned over to the Sheriff as this is a law enforcement problem. John and the Selectmen will both report it to Sgt. Chauvette.

Saco River Community Television Corp.: Reported that the rebuild is complete and the town should receive a larger check from franchise fees. They are increasing it from 3% to 5%.

Water District: Reported that they are now up to approximately 100 customers.

Finance Committee: They are holding a meeting tomorrow evening at 6:30 p.m. and hope to have the budget requests and to start reviewing them.

Charter Commission: Reported that they are meeting bi-weekly, the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month and are now looking towards town meeting. Nancy will be attending the next meeting to explain election laws.

Primary/Conditional Use Committee: Reported that they have not met since the public hearing.

Council Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.