

Selectmen's Meeting

November 6, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Present: Tammy Jo Girard, Dennis Abbott, Evan Grover, Cindy Moore, Jon Gale, Pam Witman, Dave Lowe, Todd Abbott, Frank Allen, Matt Bors, Dave Woodsome, Jack Seery, Ed Doggett, Bob Fay, Ron Perro, Doug Foglio, Alisha Fisk, Nancy Bean, Bruce Lambert, Dwayne Woodsome, Jim & Judy Carll, Fred Fay, Willis Lord, Betty Mitchell, John Brock, Ginny Day, Pam L'Heureux, Ruth Blake and residents for the Public Hearing with the Land Trust.

Opened meeting at 7:00 pm with pledge.

Announcements

Selectman Abbott announced that the Town Clerk asked that he announce that dog licenses are now available for 2008. Also announced that the polls will be open until 8 p.m. and that at last count just under 900 residents had voted.

Appointments

7:00 –Selectman Abbott opened the Public Hearing with the Land Trust. Stated that communications were received from the legal community questioning ownership of the lot on Middle Branch Pond so that will not be addressed this evening. Alan Nelson, Attorney representing Janice Jarosz regarding property in question asked what the steps will be from this point. Selectman Abbott stated that it needs to have further research and be sent to the town's attorney and then either Nancy, the Board of Selectmen or the Attorney will respond to the letter. Selectman Girard stated that before the Public Hearing begins she wanted to state that she is an officer of the Land Trust and after several discussions with the board and having checked with the attorney regarding Conflict of Interest he has responded that she will be receiving no financial gain so there is no conflict. Selectmen Grover and Gale are also members of the Land Trust and Selectman Abbott's son is also a member. Selectman Abbott reviewed the six remaining lots on the list and gave some background on each. Selectman Gale questioned what the process is and stated that he would like to see any stipulations attached before transferring the property. Questioned if this is going back to Town Meeting and Selectman Abbott stated that it will go through legal review and can put stipulations in but need to trust the Land Trust. Bob Fay felt that it should be stipulated that if the land Trust fails it comes back to the town. Stated that we need to trust the Land Trust people to do what's right but have to preserve this land for the future. Dwayne questioned if there are sample deeds for these properties and Selectman Abbott responded that they have not done that yet. Doug stated that he felt that the town meeting vote indicated they wanted these lots turned over to the trust to be preserved, also it has been agreed that each deed will stipulate to be returned to the town if they fail. Also stated that the vote tonight would be to proceed then will hold joint meetings with the Board of Selectmen to decide on any provisions to be included in the deeds. Read a letter from Mike DeAngelis endorsing the land trust taking over these parcels and Ossipee Pines in particular. Doug also explained that they are working with Maine Coastal Trust on evaluating the properties. Dave Woodsome questioned if they would be receiving public input throughout the steps of transferring the property and Selectman Abbott explained that this is the place for the input but they will not be going to public hearing this to death. Stated that once the hand-off takes place the Land Trust is responsible for how the land is used and managed. John Brock questioned if the Land Trust would be able to trade or sell the land and Doug stated that they want very strong language in any deed that it can never be sold, traded etc. Suggested that we allow a 30 day window for people to give input while continuing the process then can take those comments into consideration when writing the deeds. Frank stated

that he is in favor of the land trust but was involved with the Nature Conservancy and that also is a land trust and it came with it's problems. Also stated that Ossipee Pines should be maintained by the trust and not leased back to the town for the town to maintain. Selectman Grover requested that the final meeting be with the full board and a public meeting. Also requested that recreational use be more clearly defined. Selectman Gale noted that if nothing is written in the deed about uses then you can't protect in years to come. Stated that he is willing to vote to convey the property provided the language is in the deed. Selectman Abbott stated that they will be writing the deed so that language will be in it. Doug stated that there will be two votes, one to convey the land and a second to accept the deed and covenants. Motion by Selectman Moore and seconded by Selectman Gale to close the public hearing at 7:50 pm.

7:30 - Todd Abbott addressed the board regarding the new ATV clubhouse and reviewed the process to this point. Stated that it is only 13' from the salt shed but there is nothing in the Zoning requiring it to be a certain distance away. Provided copies of insurance, a lease, liability insurance and survey as requested in the last meeting. Selectman Grover questioned if the salt shed is covered in their policy and Todd stated that it is not at this time. Selectman Grover stated that they were given permission to the move to the location for storage and was not pleased to see a building permit. Also expressed concern that if their building catches fire what prevents the salt shed from burning. Just felt that this is not what was agreed to. Todd stated that at the last meeting a building permit was one of the requirements as was proof of insurance so he came right in and applied. Selectman Abbott stated that he spoke with Patti, Code Enforcement Officer and a building permit had to be issued to move the modular. Selectman Grover stated that residents watch these meetings and have certain expectations of the Selectmen so if we say it's only to be move and then it's put together then it's an issue. Selectman Gale suggested that Nancy contact our insurance about it being only 13' from the salt shed and if there is a concern of fire and an increased cost then we will negotiate with the ATV club to pay the difference. Bob stated that the snowmobile club has done a tremendous amount to help with problems with snowmobiles and the town should nurture and work with the ATV club so perhaps they can do the same for ATV's. Selectman Grover stated that he is not against the club but when we receive calls we must respond. Selectman Abbott stated that it took a long time to work things out originally with the snowmobile club and the issues with the ATV club will also be worked out over time.

8:00 - Mike DeAngelis addressed the board regarding the attempted donation from WAB of an ice rink of some sort. Had worked with the Treasurer to research potential power usage and has concluded that it is potentially \$300 in electric usage. Stated that Parks & Rec. will absorb the electric usage and oversee the rink and WAB will donate the rink and do a lot of the work. Doesn't see it being an expense more than \$300 and some departmental time. Selectman Grover stated that he is in favor of the rink but is concerned about the cost of spraying down etc. Mike stated that there are six committed members of WAB to help maintain. Explained that the lights would go off at 9 pm on Friday and Saturday and would not be on Sunday. Frank stated that if volunteers are taking care of the ice where's the expense. If they don't maintain then there's no ice. Doug stated that we do all these other sports so there should be year round programs. Selectman Grover stated that he loves the idea of the rink but it is not a budgeted item this year. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to put this on the agenda as the first item under Old Business and vote on it. Vote 5-0-0. Mike reported that the last Senior Luncheon will be held on Thursday and this is a WAB sponsored event. Will commence again in the spring but over the winter they have low participation because most of those who do attend go away during the winter months.

Reports

Selectmen's Report

1. Selectman Girard reported that she spoke with Dep. Conger and he did a speed detail on Roberts Ridge Road this week. Did make a number of stops and issued some summonses.

2. Selectman Girard reported that she spoke to Nancy Johnson and she is receiving requests for Thanksgiving and a lot for fuel. At this point she is desperate for funding. Frank suggested collecting bottles at the Fire Station as well as the Transfer Station for fuel as it is a more central location.

Committee Reports

1. Willis reported that he attended a recycling meeting last week and we are currently at 17.86%. Need more people to recycle to increase these numbers. Stated that when we recycle for every ton recycled we save \$88.00. Also stated that with Pay Per Bag we saved over \$200,000.
2. Dave Woodsome reported that the Transfer Station/Recycling Committee is very discouraged with the amount of recycling. Stated that we are doing the best we ever have but need to do a better job. Discussed an anti-freeze tank for the Transfer Station. Stated that this would help to prevent it from being dumped on the ground or into the oil which then requires Clean Harbors to come in. Total cost to set this up is \$794.00. Committee recommends not charging for disposal to encourage people to use it. Selectman Grover questioned if they should restrict between residents and business. Selectman Abbott suggested charging businesses and have it free to individuals.
3. Dave reported for Clint that the water line is in and hooked up so there is water at the compactor, a new set of stairs has been built from the upper level of the household waste compactor to the lower area as required by the insurance underwriters. All electrical boxes have been checked and all empty breaker spaces have been plugged and installed per the insurance. A DSL line has been run and is now hooked to the new office, both cable and designated phone lines are in and working if the town decides to use debit cards. Also has email and internet and all computers are hooked up and running and also has a new cash register that is programmed for all uses. There is a slightly different traffic pattern which is working well, waiting to see what signage may be needed. One of the retention ponds is complete, dug down another 1 ½ feet so it will hold more water and the seconded pond has the trees cut and will be ready to be dug out shortly. Should be ready for paving in the spring.

New Business

Motion by Selectman Grover and seconded by Selectman Moore to move the Land Trust up on the agenda, then the Library Building Committee, trees at the Library and the sign for the new library. Vote 5-0-0.

7. Motion by Selectman Grover and seconded by Selectman Moore to move forward with the process of transferring the property to the Land Trust with the exception of the lot on Middle Branch Pond. Vote 5-0-0. Selectman Girard will take the ball for the Land Trust.
2. Jack Seery addressed the board with the news that since the last meeting a month ago in which he made a plea for help with fundraising he has found a couple of people who have a lot of fundraising experience. Sent out 3,300 letters to residents the end of October and in one weeks time received \$1,900 and 53 respondents. Jack questioned what to do now with only 2 members and their work is done. Recommended that they acknowledge the good work of the Building Committee and the Friends become the soul fund raisers for the new library. Selectman Abbott suggested giving the Friends a spot at the Council Meeting. Selectman Gale stated that the fundraising effort is great but the number of gifts is very important in requesting grants.
3. Ruth addressed that board stating that they have issues at the library with some trees. There are some trees that need to come down as soon as possible. They are rotted and are leaning towards the library. Gave four quotes to Nancy. Need to find the septic system on the property before anyone brings in the equipment to take down the trees. Motion by Selectman Grover and seconded by Selectman Moore to accept the lowest bid for tree removal and to work with Nancy to get the necessary references before awarding the bid. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Ruth stated that she did get more bids for the sign at the site of the new library as requested. RSD Graphics is \$400 plus \$300 for installation, Black Bear is \$910 plus \$150 for installation and Superior is \$700 plus \$300 for installation. Motion by Selectman Moore and seconded by Selectman Grover to have RSD Graphics install for a total of \$700. Vote 2-2-1 with Selectmen Gale and Girard opposed and Selectman Abbott abstaining. Selectman Girard stated that she would prefer to see a donation made to pay for the sign. Selectman Gale stated that he is very much in support of the library but thinks they can get a sign not as costly. Motion failed. Ruth stated that she feels this will help to raise money for the new library once people know where it will be located. Motion by Selectman Girard and seconded by Selectman Gale to take 30 days to see if they can get a donation for the sign and if not then approve that they spend the money from the building fund. Vote 3-1-1 with Selectman Moore opposed and Selectman Abbott abstaining. Motion carries.
1. Opened bids for the Municipal Parking Lot Snowplowing as follows: McCoy Trucking & Excavating – \$16,700 if providing the sand/salt and \$8,900 if the town provides the sand/salt, C & L - \$9,500, Union Falls - \$8,500, C. Pierce Construction - \$7,200. Nancy to bring back with her recommendation. Opened bid for Sidewalk Snowplow Contract as follows: McCoy Trucking and Excavating - \$8,450 if he provides the sand/salt and \$6,500 if the town provides the sand/salt.

HEARING OF DELEGATION

Sandy Binette addressed the board stating that the Binette Family will donate the sign for the library and RSD Graphics will install at no charge.

Motion by Selectman Girard and seconded by Selectman Grover to go past 9:00. Vote 5-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS (Cont.)

6. Discussed the appointments to the Hiring Panel and Selectman Abbott reported that he has talked with four prior members and they have agreed to serve. Requested that applications be sent to Pam L'Heureux, Jon Tufts, Jim Carll and Brenda Edgerly. Will make the appointments next week. Have chosen 6 candidates to interview.
5. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Grover to accept the goals assessment so it can be posted on the web-site. Vote 5-0-0.
8. Motion by Selectman Moore and seconded by Selectman Grover to sign the abatements. Vote 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to accept the gift of the ice rink from WAB. Selectman Grover amended to limit to \$300 in labor and electricity of town's expense. Amendment seconded by Selectman Moore. Vote on amendment 3-2 with Selectmen Girard and Abbott opposed. Motion carries. Vote on original motion 3-1-1 with Selectman Grover opposed and Selectman Moore abstaining.
2. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to accept the boiler plate Contractor's Contract. Vote 5-0-0.
3. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Grover to accept the Code of Ethics as presented with one addition, "Conduct of Public Officials – No elected or appointed official shall speak/write offensive, insulting, threatening, insolent, slanderous or obscene remarks while engaged in the business of the town." And that in lieu of creating another board that the Fair Hearing Committee serve as the board of ethics. Vote 5-0-0.
4. Tabled the discussion on the ATV agreement.

OTHER

1. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Girard to sign the warrants for bills and payroll. Vote 5-0-0.

Agenda Items

1. Clint to discuss anti-freeze collection under Committee Reports
2. Committee resignation
3. Committee appointments
4. Discuss North Station Building Committee
5. Auditor’s Report under Town Administrator’s Report
6. Quarterly Reports under Town Administrator’s Report

Discussed North Station Building Committee. Selectman Abbott felt it should be a sub-committee of Public Safety.

Selectman Abbott read reminders

Selectman Gale read the election results:

- Question #1 – 498 Yes - 403 No
- Question #2 – 379 Yes – 518 No
- Question #3 – 366 Yes – 536 No
- Question #4 – 507 Yes – 390 No
- Question of Term Limits – 245 Yes - 651 No
- Total of 908 votes cast

Adjournment

Motion by Selectman Grover and seconded by Selectman Girard to adjourn at 9:29 p.m.

Signed:

Warrants for Bills and Payroll
Abatements

Approved:

Date: _____
