

FINAL

___Bob
___Joanne
___Keith
___Betsy

Draft _____
Accepted __jmr kac rb_____
Accepted as Amended _____

TOWN OF EPSOM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES

JUNE 9, 2008

Present: Bob Blodgett, Chairman; Joanne Randall, Vice-Chairman; Keith Cota

Other Attendees: Carole Brown; Lee Bartlett; Penny Graham; Joni Kitson; Gary Perry; Dick Verville; Mike Verville; Andrew Walton; Herb Bartlett; Nancy Wheeler; Mary Frambach; Wayne Preve; Dick Frambach; James Bowen; Julia Cotter; Cheryl Arvanitis; David Fiorentino

Bob opened the meeting at 6:15 P.M., asking Mike Verville to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bob stated they would be minimizing with public input as the Board has a long agenda.

Gary Perry met with the Board to discuss issues at the swimming beach at Webster Park. Gary said people are swimming at the beach even through it is posted. They are using the other side of the river due to the posting also. The Police Department is trying to monitor the situation. Gary discussed the issues and suggestions to eliminate some of the problems. He suggested fencing and cables be installed to eliminate swimming in certain areas.

Bob asked if the water was okay to swim in. Gary said he could have it tested, but it would not be the same water there when the town receives the results. Discussion ensued as to how to discourage people from using the area.

Keith noted it would be faster to open the beach once the water has been tested. He requested Gary check with the Road Agent for snow fence to use to block off the problem areas. Gary will get cable, etc. to put in the water to eliminate swimming in certain areas. Gary has a friend who will dive and check the bottom for debris.

Bob asked Gary to call him with the water test results; Bob will contact the other Board members. Keith suggested the Board authorize the opening of the beaches soon as Gary receives the test results. The Board was in agreement.

Joni Kitson requested her name be removed from the Website as Selectman. Joanne noted the new Website Committee will meet tomorrow to learn how to change the information.

Nancy Wheeler noted each Board member has a packet from Donna Lane for the public hearing next week. Nancy suggested they read it prior to the hearing. It was discussed Donna Lane is willing to conduct the public hearing with a Board consensus to have Donna conduct the public hearing.

FOR SIGNATURE

- 1. Accounts Payable Manifest**
- 2. Intent to Cut**
- 3. 3 Abatements**
- 4. LGC Multi-Year Contract**

Keith asked if the Board would be signing off on this contract, noting it does not include workers comp as the town has a contract with Primex for one more year. **Joanne made a motion to accept and sign the Multi-year Contract with the LGC for property liability and health trust insurance for the Town of Epsom with Keith seconding the motion.**

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Pole License

Keith noted they should not be signing the pole license until they have all the information, i.e. the distance of the pole from the pavement. Keith suggested the Board should consider sending a letter to the companies stating they need to obtain licenses before the poles are set and also to review the statute for setting poles.

Mike Verville – Eagle Scout Presentation

Mike had come to the Selectmen in May 2006 to have his Eagle Scout project approved. It was to build a pavilion in the woods adjacent to the Legion. Mike displayed a photo album of the work being done as the project progressed. The pavilion is a 20' X 30' post and beam building. The only nails are in the roof with the building being pegged with 1" birch dowels. Most of the lumber was cut from the park in the pavilion area.

Mike discussed how the project was constructed and people who assisted with equipment and labor.

Keith made a motion for deep appreciation for the pavilion at Webster Park and for a great job with Joanne seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Dick Verville noted Gary Perry has been the Scout Master for a number of years with Mike being the 15th Eagle Scout in 10 years from Epsom.

Joanne asked if Keith and Bob to review the applications for the office position by Wednesday as the interviews are to be held next week.

Police Chief Preve gave the Board a newspaper with ads from other towns for police officers noting the salaries being offered. Keith noted the Chichester Police Chief has requested a copy of the floor plans for the Epsom Police Department, as Chichester is considering building a police station. Chief Preve will contact him.

Keith asked about an inquiry about one of the cruisers being taken out of service. Chief Preve said he had received the call from the town of Mason Police Chief. The sale price of the car was discussed with Chief Preve to discuss with the other department.

FOR DISCUSSION

A. Waivers to Bid Policy

Joanne summarized the items the Departments felt should not be sent out to bid and had also created a list of what they thought should be put out to bid. Keith questioned the ditching and mowing for the Highway Department. Keith understood the concerns with grading. Bob had thought the Road Agent was coming to the meeting tonight and will ask him the questions. Joanne will put the list in a format for adding to the policy.

Julia Cotter/Millican Nurseries Re: Traffic Circle

Ms. Cotter brought information for the Board regarding the proposed landscaping at the traffic circle to add to the memorial for the two police officers honored there. She was approached by Bob McKechnie and Tracy Briggs about doing something.

Ms. Cotter has contacted Pellettieri Associates who have volunteered to do a design for free. She has also contacted Pam Mitchell, Department of Transportation District 5 Engineer for permission as the circle is owned by the State. Mrs. Mitchell is thrilled to have something. Ms. Cotter said she would also request approval from the Town of Epsom even though it is not required.

Several companies in the area are willing to assist. Ms. Cotter discussed it is a special needs site due to the lack of water. Joanne asked the time frame. Ms. Cotter said if it is approved they should be able to plant in the fall if all goes well.

Keith noted it was indicated the State is looking for town approval. The circle is owned by the Department of Transportation, the town can only endorse the plan,

not approve it. Keith asked once the design is implemented who would be maintaining the site. Ms. Cotter hoped the design would be with material not needing maintenance after the initial plantings, DOT is to do some maintenance.

Bob asked if all the plants, etc. would be done with donations, Ms. Cotter said yes. Joanne asked if those involved in the work would request signs indicating such on the site; Ms. Cotter said that was not a concern at this time.

Ms. Cotter felt there should be a dedication ceremony once the plantings are completed; they want it to be special. Keith invited Ms. Cotter to return once she has the design renderings.

Keith made a motion to endorse the memorial landscape design by Julia Cotter of Millican Nurseries with Joanne seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Attachment to Auto Salvage Yard Application

Joanne noted she had mentioned the attachment last week but Keith was not present. She discussed a number of town officials have attended the classes for auto salvage yard applications. She summarized this attachment was something between the town and the auto salvage yard owners to clarify items. Most of the items are from the training classes. Attorney Soltani has reviewed it saying it is nothing new and it might be a good idea to attach it to the application.

Keith asked if the action plan was spelled out by the BMPs. Joanne noted it was a plan the town could take if there was an infraction so the town and owner could work together to keep the business going.

Keith noted the only thing he would add is what the zoning regulations have and discussed under the zoning ordinance it was under the authority of the Board to do this attachment. He said it gave the owner an opportunity to address items. Keith noted the planning Board may want to add this to the zoning ordinance.

Joanne felt it clarified the relationship between the town and business owner. The only thing not included is an acknowledgement line.

Keith noted now the Board has the authority to say an auto salvage yard is not in compliance, according to this a conditional license could be signed with the business to comply within a time period. Joanne agreed saying the Board could also consider hardship issues. If the owner is willing to work with the town then the town has the responsibility to work with the owner.

Keith recommended adding in the action plan is to be approved by the Board of Selectmen as the inspector and owner may disagree and could come to the Board

for resolution. The attachment would be for renewals, not applications for new salvage yards.

Joanne made a motion to accept the auto salvage yard application attachment as discussed with Keith seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Information Concerning Route 4 Sidewalk Maintenance

Keith noted the agreement removed all responsibility from maintaining the sidewalks from the State. He said the town is in a default budget and also has a lack of staff. Keith stated the town had received one complaint, not concerning winter maintenance of the sidewalks. Keith noted if the Board signed the agreement the town would become responsible. He explained DOT enters into this agreement for new sidewalks. It indicates the town is responsible for summer and winter maintenance.

Keith noted some towns adopted a policy to do summer maintenance but not winter. The Route 4 project is an older project. There may be findings in the layout that DOT will construct the sidewalks but not maintain them. He is cautious about entering into an agreement without the ability to maintain the sidewalks.

Keith suggested the town consider a sidewalk policy that states it does not maintain sidewalks. There was a consensus to not sign the agreement.

D. Federal Surplus Property Program Agreement

Joanne made a motion to renew the agreement with the Federal Surplus Program with Keith seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Heating Oil for 2008-2009 Season

Joanne noted there was nothing in the folder for this item. Bob discussed a Barnstead Selectman had suggested to him towns go together for the purchase of fuel. He also wanted to talk about keeping the fueling station in Pittsfield the State is moving to Alton. It was noted the town gets the same discount as the State for fuel.

F. Welfare Lien (non-public)

Joanne made a motion to go into non-public session per RSA 165:20 for discussion of Welfare with Keith seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed with Bob, Joanne and Keith voting yes.

The Board went into non-public session at 7:40 P.M. returning at 7:52 P.M.

Joanne made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session with Keith seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed with Bob, Joanne and Keith voting yes.

James Bowen asked if an item under confidential was due to Old Home Day and if it was open to the public. Joanne said the Board would read it and then it would be open to the public.

G. Fire Department Inspection

Joanne has had discussions regarding employees coming to her about the Fire Department doing inspections of an auto salvage yard. She thought they should wait a month or two but they do not need the Board's approval. This is a separate inspection from the zoning inspection.

Keith said in light of the continuation of one junkyard getting its renewal he felt they could look at it anytime. The Fire Department is looking at life safety codes but he agreed to suggest they wait. There was a Board consensus to have the Fire Department wait to do their inspection of the auto salvage yard.

The Board took a break from 7:58 P.M. to 8:06 P.M.

H. Mortgagee Notice

It was noted the Board had already reviewed this item.

MINUTES OFR REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

Final Minutes of May 19, 2008

Joanne made a motion to accept the final minutes of May 19, 2008 with Keith seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Draft Minutes of June 2, 2008

The Board reviewed and amended these minutes.

Joanne made a motion to accept the draft minutes of June 2, 2008 as amended with Keith seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Draft Minutes of May 27, 2008

The Board reviewed and amended these minutes.

Joanne made a motion to accept the draft minutes of May 27, 2008 as amended with Keith seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

CONFIDENTIAL

One Item for Review

The Board individually read this information.

Joanne had received a telephone call from Kevin Reeves. She explained to him the board would review the agreement Attorney Soltani had drawn up and she would get back to him. Joanne said the agreement is specifically for Old Home Day activities, they could pass it on to Kevin once the Board approved it.

Keith noted they had had discussions about an insurance rider, Bob noted Nancy said they could not obtain a rider on the town insurance.

David Fiorentino noted that last year the Board said they got extra insurance coverage for that weekend. Joanne noted the Board acknowledged Old Home Day as a town event so it was covered under the town policy to her knowledge no additional insurance was added. David asked why they didn't do that this year. Joanne said if they did it this year and a third party gets hurt the town could be held responsible. She gave David a copy of the agreement.

Mary Frambach noted there is an Old Home Day committee meeting tomorrow.

James Bowen noted he rented a booth last year, asking if they were saying people with booth rentals needed to provide insurance or provide a waiver. Joanne indicated this was correct. James asked about non-profit organizations having insurance, Joanne said they did need it.

David felt it would be wise for the Board to ask Kevin for a list of official members of the Old Home Day Committee.

Joanne said they could pass the agreement; ask Attorney Soltani to revise it due to a spelling error and get a copy to Kevin tomorrow.

Keith made a motion to approve the insurance waiver as presented by Attorney Soltani with the spelling correction for use at Old Home Day with Joanne seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

LIAISON REPORTS

Joanne noted her suggestion of the board meeting every other week in July and August with the payroll dates being July 3 and 18, August 1, 15 and 29.

Joanne reiterated the Website Committee would be meeting tomorrow to decide upon a format to train people and direct members as to who would be overseeing the building of the site.

Nancy had e-mailed the Board members the expenditures to date.

Attorney Soltani is waiting for the Library Trustees to get back to him. Barbara was asked to provide the Trustees with a copy of the current insurance for the old library.

Dick Verville is looking for dates to meet with the Board for the buyout program; June 23rd or 30th was suggested. Joanne will have the office contact him as to the preferred date.

Joanne reiterated the other Board members needed to go through the applications for the office position. She noted Nancy and Barbara would like to sit in to answer questions the applicants may have, but not be involved in the interviews. Keith had a request from the Police Department asking what the Board would like to sell the cruiser for if the Town of Mason wants to purchase it. There was a consensus to allow an offer between \$4,500.00 to \$5,500.00 and work out what can be afforded.

Keith noted DES has inquired about a meeting with other communities, legislators, etc. He suggested they allow DES to set up the meeting. There was a consensus to allow this.

Keith will be investigating further information about the \$50,000.00 set aside by Washington toward the river restoration.

Joanne read a letter from the Miscellaneous File from Attorney Soltani thanking the town for the cooperation by Mr. Hickey and Mrs. Blackwell and the Board during his illness.

Joni Kitson had questioned last week about Center Hill Road being closed before school being out for the summer. Bob said the date has been set back until June 22nd or 23rd. Joni wanted to note Center Hill Road looks terrific with the work that has been done.

Joni said at the beginning of the meeting when the Board started talking was difficult for the audience to hear. Joni noted it was mentioned with no discussion about going to every other week in July and August. Keith said no decision has been made.

Penny Graham noted the town band had asked about using the office at the Town Hall, being told Joanne was checking with Attorney Soltani. Discussion ensued as the issue is a key being given to a non-town employee. Penny noted in the past the band signed out a key when they wanted in the building. Joanne read Attorney Soltani's e-mail to her. He noted the town could not insure the band's items and the town band would be accepting full responsibility for any damage to their property including thief and fire, he did not address the key issue.

It was discussed the band could use the room and not have to request the use of a key every time they wanted to go into the building from the Board, but could go to the office and sign one out. Joanne noted the Board could approve this based upon the minute notes and have Attorney Soltani draw up an agreement.

Keith made a motion to close the meeting with Joanne seconding the motion.

Bob asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being no discussion on the motion, Bob called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Bob adjourned the meeting at 9:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Bosiak
Recording Secretary