

**Board of Selectmen  
September 12, 2012**

**Present:** Kenneth S. Paul, Chairperson; Peter M. Kasprzyk; Richard C. Edwards; Teresa A. Williams, Town Administrator; and Toni Bodah, Secretary.

Also present were: Ed & Florence Morrison; Scott Stanton, DASCO Signs; Phil Twombly; Pam Judge; Dave Mankus; Tom Beeler, *The Granite State News*; Jerry O'Connor (videotaping); Jim Miller; and Relf Fogg.

Mr. Paul called the posted meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. Appointments**

**a) Ed Morrison and Scott Stanton** – Mr. Morrison is pursuing the purchase and installation of an events sign for Town Hall. He had noticed a similar sign in front of another town hall and had a design drafted for the Board's consideration. Mr. Morrison stated it would be nice to let people driving by know what is going on at Town Hall. He understands that there are Town regulations to be considered. Mr. Morrison is trying to determine this evening whether there is an interest in such a sign and, if so, where the best location for the sign would be. He is also very much aware that it would require maintenance, including snow removal. The CEO has advised it would be permissible with certain exceptions. The proposed sign would meet the maximum limit of 32sf.

Mr. Paul asked whether the proposed sign could be photo-shopped onto various views of Town Hall. Mr. Stanton advised that it could. Mr. Morrison envisions the sign at the base of the tower, on the Meadow Street side, against the wall. Mr. Edwards is concerned with meeting the Town's regulations. Mr. Paul stressed that it would be helpful to see the photo-shopped version; however, he believes the sign is a good idea. Relocation of the existing vegetation was discussed. Mr. Kasprzyk suggested locating the sign near the back parking lot. The Board members (and several members of the audience) went outside to view the site. Upon their return, it was agreed that Mr. Morrison will provide photos of the proposed sign at the proposed site. Mr. Paul would like to see photos at various locations, with an "ok" from the CEO for each. Mr. Edwards referred to the existing sign at the rec center and suggested that sign be renovated and utilized. Mr. Paul is not in favor of a sign running parallel to the road. Mr. Kasprzyk added that the proposed sign would look much better.

Mr. Edwards does not believe the proposed sign is in keeping with the character of our building. Mr. Morrison noted that the color of the supports would match the brick. He also understands that the sign must be externally illuminated. Mr. Morrison will compile various photos, obtain CEO permission, then bring back his information for the Board's review. Input from neighbors/public will be forthcoming.

**b) ClearView Community Television Services – Jim Miller** – Mr. Miller had previously advised the Board that a group of individuals are meeting to establish a non-profit organization. The group includes Mr. Miller, Relf Fogg, Jerry O'Connor, Nick Scala and Stan Lombara, most of whom have been involved with the PEG channel since its beginning. The purpose of this non-profit organization is to administer the PEG channel for the Town in order to enhance the exchange of community information. According to Mr. Miller, the ultimate goal is to bring the town closer together by facilitating the creation and broadcast of quality public, education and government programming. This would include the acquisition of equipment for use by townspeople, who would be trained, an opportunity for editing and the mechanism to allow for broadcast.

Mr. Miller distributed draft documents (Articles of Agreement and Bylaws). He stressed that this would be a private organization and would not be part of the Town body; however, it would be dependent upon support of the Board of Selectmen in order to meet the goals of both. Mr. Miller is seeking a consensus among the Board members to continue in this direction. He would expect to meet with the Board again in another month.

Mr. Kasprzyk appreciates the efforts of the group and believes it should move forward. Mr. Edwards has heard only good things about this effort. He is pleased with the members of this organization.

Mr. Miller noted that the Town voted in 2010 to create a revolving account (and he read from the relevant article). He stated the organization would need to know what to expect in terms of funding. Mr. Miller added his expectation to file with the State of NH by the first of the year. Mr. Kasprzyk referred to several budget lines for the PEG channel and questioned whether any unexpended funds could be used to cover the filing costs. Ms. Williams reviewed the purposes of both lines, which do not include filing fees.

Mr. Miller stressed the importance of the townspeople understanding that this organization will be separate from the Town. He would prefer not to use tax money from the General Fund. Hopefully, funds will become available through the contract renegotiation with TWC. It will be necessary to establish how CCTS would access those funds, as well as assurances to the Board of Selectmen regarding accountability. Mr. Miller will contact Valley Vision in Conway.

Mr. Miller also envisions CCTS having space not on Town property, as well as providing equal access for everyone and being non-political. Mr. Kasprzyk asked whether the organization will have a liaison with the School in order to determine their needs. Mr. Miller confirmed this would be the case. Discussion followed regarding the need for a second channel.

## **2. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #1**

--Mr. Fogg believes we would need a second channel even if we did not include any other towns, as there are many board meetings to broadcast.

--Mr. Fogg suggested that the existing sign at Turntable Park be turned in order to utilize both sides and externally lit. Mr. Paul stated that is a difficult location, referring to parking and plowing. Line of sight for drivers should not be blocked.

--Ms. Judge is opposed to a commercial sign in front of Town Hall. According to Ms. Judge, ten years ago the Board asked the Heritage Commission for a similar opinion. She noted that the existing Town Hall sign needs work, but it matches many other signs around town. Consistency in the community looks good. The previous Heritage Commission voted unanimously not to support a commercial sign in front of Town Hall. She will bring this proposed sign up at the next Heritage meeting. The sign at Turntable Park has been there for years and the people know to look for it. Many utilize that sign, and it is not obstructing anyone's view. Perhaps the proposed design should be used in place of the existing sign at Turntable Park. Mr. Paul stated the Board will view the photos (when available) and will share same with the Commission. He believes a message board is necessary. Mr. Mankus noted that the sign should not interfere with the business of driving, adding we should be considering more than just aesthetics. Mr. Edwards noted that the CEO will take sight distance into account.

**3. Unfinished Business** – None forthcoming.

**4. New Business** – None forthcoming.

**5. Proposed CRF Expenditures**

**a) Police Vehicles \$4934.69** – This expenditure represents an invoice from 2-Way Fleet Division for set up costs for the new cruiser. **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve the expenditure as presented. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 2-0.**

**6. Correspondence**

**a)** The Siemon Realty Company has expressed their dissatisfaction with the status of the Maple Street Bridge in Union. The letter will be acknowledged, with reference being made to the other nearby means of egress. Mr. Kasprzyk stated he has received complaints about the speed of traffic on that road. Ms. Williams will discuss this with the Police Chief to see if a speed limit sign should be posted.

**7. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comments #2**

--Mr. Fogg asked whether a Town cruiser was recently totaled in an accident. Mr. Paul confirmed this to be the case.

**8. Administrative Matters**

**a) Liaison Reports** – **Mr. Kasprzyk:** The Conservation Commission advises that things are on schedule with the conservation easement in Union. The owner of the property has agreed to extend the term of the Purchase and Sale Agreement, and the federal government has expressed its willingness to work with it. The Commission is working on its 2013 budget. Mr. Mankus stated that they are working on the Natural Resources chapter of the Master Plan. He would like to ask the Planning Board to utilize some of their budget line for professional assistance in completing this section. Mr. Kasprzyk stated that 2 years ago the public voted to appropriate funds, with the understanding that they would also be used by the Conservation and Heritage Commissions. The Heritage Commission is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way finished with their section. The Conservation Commission will consult with the Heritage Commission regarding the amount and use of funds, including encumbered funds and budgeted funds. Mr. Edwards noted that Mike Garrepy has not been available very much; neither has the Planning Board required his services. Planning Board continues to discuss the overlay of Route 16 and has marked from 500' south of the lights at Route 109, all the way to Wilson Road on both sides of the road. That area includes some existing residences; therefore, setbacks for commercial buildings in that area should be considered for protection of those residences. Planning Board may want to consider allowance of a drive-through, such as for a pharmacy.

Mr. Edwards went on to note that Parks & Rec is preparing for its 5<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament. All proceeds go towards the July fireworks display. Also, consultant services will be needed by Planning Board more in the near future and as that Board is considering ten amendments to the zoning ordinance.

Mr. Kasprzyk advised that the Union Village Fall Festival will take place this Saturday from 10-5. The Heritage Commission will participate, and there will be many events. The Railroad Station will close on October 7 for the season. Efforts to keep the station staffed is volunteerism at its finest! The Old Maids' Tavern historical easement has been cancelled by the current owner. The Highway Department has been edging roads.

Mr. Paul reported that we experienced 24% of voter turnout for the primary, with everything flowing well. The November election will be at the Paul School. Election training is coming, with the big new thing being the requirement for voter identification. Mr. Edwards stated that if the voters are required to have an ID, then all the workers should wear an ID as well. Ms. Williams will check to see if the Police Department can assist in that regard. The Budget Committee will meet on September 25 to review the year-to-date 2012 budget.

**b) Administrative Matters**

--The Transfer Station Manager has been approached by an individual interested in purchasing the aluminum BBQ grills located at the transfer station. After much discussion it was agreed the Board would be willing to have the Manager shop for the best return, as long as the grills would be leaving town!

--The ash pile is being removed on September 13 & 14, following which there will be more testing.

--The Land Use Department has purchased a new desk (\$399), expecting to utilize unexpended funds in the supply line. They have no furniture line. The Board has the option to shift funds from the supply line to the Town Hall furniture/fixture line or to over-expend that line. The Board agreed by consensus that over-expending the line would result in a truer picture of use of funds.

--The Road Agent has asked whether the Board wants to remove or retain the island at the entrance of Oak Hill Road during the paving process. Mr. Paul believes removal of the island and reduction in the size of the entrance would be beneficial. The Road Agent is concerned with the "swing" space for larger trucks. Mr. Edwards likes the character of the island. Mr. Kasprzyk suggests checking with the Police Chief. Ms. Williams reported that the Police Chief has no concern either way, nor does DOT. Mr. Paul will discuss with the abutting property owners.

-- Discussed the possible designation of parking spots in the back parking lot for Town Hall business only. The Board agreed it is not necessary to designate parking spots for Town Hall employees. **Mr. Kasprzyk moved to designate 3 parking spots in the back parking lot for Town Hall business only, Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Mr. Fogg would suggest keeping the entrance to Oak Hill Road wide if the island is removed, as he witnessed a near-accident there recently. He also suggested some vegetation should be removed in order to improve visibility. Mr. Kasprzyk noted that a white stop bar painted on the pavement might be beneficial.

Mr. Twombly, speaking as Assistant Moderator, stated there were many comments from the public about only one member of the Board of Selectmen having been present for most of the primary on Tuesday. Mr. Paul noted that two Selectmen were present early in the day to set up. He added that it is his intent to have all members present at the November election.

**c) Building Permit Releases – Mr. Paul moved to approve releases for Bliven on Olde Pine Road and Dropski on Belleau Boulevard, as presented. Mr. Kasprzyk seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Mr. O'Connor referred to the progress of construction of the new food pantry. They have reached their fundraising goal of \$50,000!

**d) Payment Manifests – Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant in the amount of \$674,564.06. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Mr. Paul noted his expectation that the Road Agent was to establish plow routes and drivers, as well as outlaying routes that could be subcontracted. Ms. Williams expects an estimate from Ed Nason regarding those roads that border Brookfield. The contractor who works for Effingham is not interested in taking on Bonnyman Road, as Wakefield uses salt while Effingham does not. However, that individual may approach the Board regarding other possible routes. Mr. Paul stressed that we need to identify the routes to offer to subcontractors, and these routes need to be put on paper. These routes will be discussed on September 19 with the Road Agent. There is also an evaluation scheduled for that meeting. Debate followed as to what time the meeting will start on September 19, with 4 p.m. being the winner.

**e) Minutes – Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve the minutes of August 22, 2012, as presented. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

**Mr. Paul moved to approve the minutes of August 29, 2012, as presented. Mr. Kasprzyk seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

**Mr. Kasprzyk moved to approve the minutes of September 5, 2012, as presented. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

It was noted that a streetlight on High Street is out and should be reported.

**f) Non Public Session – Mr. Paul moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and (c). Mr. Kasprzyk seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Kasprzyk – 'aye'; Mr. Edwards – 'aye'; Mr. Paul – 'aye'. The motion passed unanimously, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.**

The Board returned to public session at 8:50 p.m., at which time the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Toni Bodah, Secretary

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Approval of Minutes:

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Kenneth S. Paul, Chairperson

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Peter M. Kasprzyk

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Richard C. Edwards