

**TOWN OF BELGRADE  
PUBLIC HEARING / 2009 TOWN MEETING WARRANT  
BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS MEETING**

**TUESDAY/ JANUARY 20, 2009 / 6:30 P.M. / CENTER FOR ALL SEASONS**

**Public Hearing opened at 6:30 p.m./ Public Hearing closed 6:45 p.m./  
Selectpersons meeting opened 6:46 p.m./ Adjourned 8:30 p.m.**

Officials in Attendance:

Melanie Jewell	Selectperson, Chair	Jack Sutton	Budget Committee
Ricky Damren	Selectperson, V. Chair	Gayle Finkbeiner,	Budget Com.
Dan Newman	Selectperson	Tom Streznewski,	Budget Com.
Chris Mellow	Selectperson	Marcia Haigh ,,	Librarian
Richard Carey	Selectperson	Loyce Hayslett,	Library Trustee
Dennis Keschl	Town Manager		

**Note:( Richard Carey did not arrive until 7:30 p.m.)**

**Others in attendance:** Renee Randazzo, (Children's Center), Linda Sprague (Belgrade Health Center) John Dyer, (Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center), Peggy Sidegle, (Kennebec Behavioral Health) Katherina Burdet, (Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area) Ted Mackenzie (Belgrade Lakes Region Business Group)

**Boy Scout Troop #453** members: Robert Klein, Eben Lenfest, Ziggy Streznewski, Kyle Bernier, Cameron Wight (badge:"Citizenship in the Community")

**Boy Scout Troop leader:** Julie LaRou

**Parents:**Anne Bernier, Paul Lenfest and Lisa Klein

**Public Hearing on the 2009 Town Meeting Warrant Referendum Questions  
(Please see the attached articles)**

Ricky Damren made a motion to open the Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m.. Dan Newman seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**

Melanie Jewell read through the articles individually and asked if there was any discussion.

**Article # 3.** – No discussion

**Article # 4** - No discussion

**Article # 5** - Marcia Haigh spoke on Article #5. She informed those present that there had been a 17% increase in the use of the library over the past year. There will be an additional staff member added on to the 2009 budget for eight hours a week. The library is adding audible books that can be downloaded to ipods and mp3 players.

**Article # 6** – No discussion. Ted McCarthy was present from the Belgrade Lakes Region Business Group.

**Article # 7** – No discussion. Linda Sprague was present from the Belgrade Regional Health Center

**Article # 8** – Renee Randazzo was present from the Children’s Center. Renee said that the money that is received from the municipality helps to provide programs to children which saves money throughout the entire life of the child. **(Please see the attached pamphlet)**

**Article # 9** – Peggy Siegel was present from the Kennebec Behavioral Health. Peggy said they served 57 residents with 4,060 hours of service provided. They appeal to the municipalities to help support them, because they handle those with no insurance as well as those who are under insured. They rely on municipal funding also because of the state cutbacks. They cover a complete spectrum of mental health care. They are the major provider of psychiatric medications for the State of Maine. Gayle Finkbeiner asked how they received referrals. Peggy said that most of the referrals are self-referral as well as referrals from primary care physicians.

**Article # 10** – Katherina Burdet was present from Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area. She said they provide services to those both in the hospital and those at home.. There are programs in the area available for grieving children. There are six trained residents in Belgrade. The group supported twenty-five families last year.

**Article # 11**- There was no discussion

**Article # 12** – John Dyer was present from Sexual Assault & Crisis Support Center. He said the request was based on the average statistics that one in four is assaulted. According to these stats there is 750 potential assaults in Belgrade. The amount of the request works out to approximately \$1.50 per person.

Ricky Damren made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:45 p.m.. Dan Newman seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**

Ricky Damren made a motion to open the regularly scheduled board meeting. Dan Newman seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**

Ricky Damren made a motion to accept the referendum questions to be placed on the 2009 Town Warrant. Chris Merrow seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**

### **Order of Business:**

1. The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of the January 6, 2009 meeting. Ricky Damren made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Dan Newman seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of the January 13, 2009 budget meeting of the Selectpersons and the Budget Committee. Ricky Damren made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Dan Newman seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY) / 1 ABSTAIN (CHRIS MERROW)**

## Unfinished Business:

1. The Town Manager informed the board that the Town Clerk had sent certified letters to both of the residents for their past due property taxes. The Clerk has yet to hear back from either of them. There was some discussion about if the residents were aware of all their options. Melanie Jewell would like to set a time limit. Ricky Damren made a motion to table the agenda item until the next meeting, on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, at this time he would like to be provided with a copy of the letter the Town Clerk sent out along with requesting the Clerk follow up with a phone call. Dan Newman seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**
2. The Town Manager informed the Board that the Town Clerk has attempted to contact the business concerning the past due personal property taxes. They have not responded. The Board Secretary contacted them and they did come into the office to make a \$50.00 payment. They will also be in touch with the Town Clerk to make a payment arrangement. Ricky Damren made a motion to table the agenda item until the February 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to see if they come in to make a payment arrangement. Chris Merrow seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**

## New Business:

1. The Town Manager informed the Board that there are no requirements for the business on the West Road to go before the Planning Board, because this is considered a home business and therefore does not fall under the Commercial Development Review Ordinance. The Town Manager asked if the Board would like him to send a letter to the business addressing the board's concerns and request some sort of remediation.

Melanie Jewell said that she would like to see the Planning Board amend the ordinance, she feels that there is an issue with the ordinance, if there can be two businesses at one location and they do not have to comply the same way a regular business does. Melanie requests that the discussion be brought to the attention of the Planning Board.

Ricky Damren said he preferred to work out the problem with the business owners, without going any further at this time, as he is not ready to move forward with a request to the Planning Board to review home business parking. Ricky further stated that amending the ordinance at the same time as sending the letter, may send the wrong message.

Dan Newman said the parking is not adequate and there is a safety issue. He would like to request the Planning Board consider looking at the issue of parking associated with home businesses.

The Town Manager said he felt there is a safety issue, but he feels it can be managed and to not create a problem, there may be no need to amend the ordinance, as it can be looked at on a case by case basis.

Ricky Damren made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter to address the concerns of the Board to the business owners. Chris Merrow seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**

### **New Business:**

1. Ricky Damren asked why the resignation had come from Roger Pelletier to the Dam's Committee. The Town Manager said he had resigned because the individual felt the way the dam were being managed was inconsistent with the requirement of the dams management plan. Ricky Damren made a motion to accept the resignation of Roger Pelletier with regret and to send a letter and a certificate to him, thanking him for his many years of service. Chris Merrow seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**
2. The Board reviewed the bids received for the Town owned property on the Smithfield Road. The Town manager said that this is a 12 and ½ acre parcel of land for sale and the reason it was placed back up for sale was at the request of a resident. He was recommending the board not accept any of the bids submitted as they were extremely low and did not come near the assessed value. Ricky Damren made a motion to not accept any of the three bids that were submitted for the RFP on the Town owned property on Rt. 8/Smithfield Road. Dan Newman seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**
3. The Board reviewed the "Dispatch Services Agreement" with the City of Waterville. The Town Manager informed the Board that there is no increase in costs of the contract and he recommends the Board authorize him to sign the contract. Ricky Damren made a motion to authorize the Town manager to sign the contract with the City of Waterville for dispatching services for the Town of Belgrade for the 2009 calendar year. Chris Merrow seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**
4. The Board reviewed the request for a background check for a concealed weapons permit for Christopher Luther. There were no objections.
5. The Board reviewed the Supplemental Tax to Ralph Sinclair & Pamela Wilcox for the amount of \$80.20. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the supplemental tax to Ralph Sinclair & Pamela Wilcox for the amount of \$80.20. Dan Newman seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**

6. The Town Manager informed the board that he had been approached about non-profit volunteers who are performing community service by working for residents. They requested the town manager consider waiving fees on items that may need to be taken to the Transfer Station, as they were performing a service to the community. They would call the Town Manager first and he would then authorize a waiver on the fee. This would be on a case by case basis. The Board was ok on this and there was no vote taken.
7. The Board reviewed the contract with the Waterville Area Humane Society. There were no changes. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the contract with the Waterville Area Humane Society and the Town of Belgrade for the contractual year of 2009 – 2010. Dan Newman seconded the motion.  
**CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (RICHARD CAREY)**
8. The Town Manager informed the Board that the input for the streetscape plan is due by July, so this is something that needs to be moved on fairly quickly. He asked the Board if this is something that they would like to contact Rome about to see if there would be any interest as a joint venture and then it may be seen in a more positive light.

Jack Sutton said that the original streetscape improvements extended up to the West Road and to the former recreation center. The plan needs to be revised as the town no longer owns this recreation center and the plan should extend up Rt. # 27 to the new recreation center. When the new bridge was rebuilt, the sidewalks were extended up into Rome with the neck down and Jack felt this provided improvement to Rome, he was not sure now, what the level of involvement would be if we included Rome.

The Town Manager will contact Rome to see if there is any basis for getting their input, and he will gather more information from DOT and bring it back to the board.

9. The Town Manager told the Board he had made a couple of offers on the property adjacent to the Transfer Station, and they were not accepted. He wanted to make sure the Board was still in agreement on moving forward with the purchase of the adjoining property.

Dan Newman asked whether or not the Town could consider a trade for the property, and if the Town property on Rt. #8 could be traded for the property next to the Transfer Station.

The Town Manager said that he would look into the article to see if this is possible.

Jack Sutton asked if the board could update and review why we want to spend the money on this piece of property next to the Transfer station.

The Town Manager said the reason the board had agreed that the land should be purchased is because of the GEO studies that show a potential for well contamination or gas migration which could become a problem to the town if someone else other than the town acquires the property. There is a letter from DEP reaffirming that whoever buys the property, there is a chance of well contamination. The board agreed that the reason the town needed to move forward, is to add a larger buffer as an insurance policy.

Jack Sutton said perhaps the town should consider registering the letters in the registry of deeds, so that anyone interested in the property would see clearly there is a potential problem.

Melanie Jewell said she felt that it made common sense the town acquires the property if the opportunity allowed.

10. The Board reviewed **Municipal Warrant # 4** for the amount of **\$73,964.58**. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of **Municipal Warrant # 4** for the amount of **\$73,964.58**. Dan Newman seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSTAIN (RICKY DAMREN)**

Melanie Jewell commented that she would like to have the newspaper shipments for the Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts looked into, as they have not received any compensation since September.

11. There was no Manual Warrant.

12. The Board reviewed the information regarding a suggestion to provide a plaque to former employees of the transfer station. After further discussion, Ricky Damren made a motion to authorize a certificate of appreciation be sent to both Harold Tripp and Mike Burnham for their work at the Transfer Station. Chris Merrow seconded the motion. **CLOSED 5/0**

#### **Updates & Announcements:**

- Melanie Jewell requested the Board be updated as far as the addition of the transfer station and what the timeline for completion of the project will be. The Town Manager stated there have been some problems that have slowed the process down and since this became a town project the timeframe was not the same as if it had been bid out. Melanie said she would like to be kept updated on what is going on at the transfer station and would like to have the minutes of the meetings or just a blurb on what is going on.

- Jack Sutton asked if there is a Planning Board agenda in advance. Jack told the Board that he had recently attended a three day session for energy improvements and he had spoken with newspaper correspondent, Colin Hicky.
- The Town Manager told the board there would be a PSAP hearing on the rates and he would be attending the hearing.
- The Manager reported there are a couple of processes and approaches to awarding the Boston Post Cane and he would be looking into it and bringing this information back to the Board at the next meeting.
- The manager reported he had two individuals in for fuel assistance. One was denied as he did not want to provide any information.
- There was some discussion in regards to the sound system for the town meeting and if Harley Smith should be contacted to see if we could work something out for the use of his system.

Ricky Damren made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m... Dan Newman seconded the motion. **CLOSED 5/0**

Respectfully Submitted

Mary J. Vogel, Executive Secretary to the Board of Selectpersons