

TOWN OF BELGRADE
BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS MEETING
TUESDAY / MAY 19, 2009 / 7:00 P.M./ TOWN OFFICE

Meeting Convened 7:00 p.m./ Adjourned 9:21 p.m.

Officials in Attendance:

Dan Newman Selectperson, Chair
Ricky Damren Selectperson
Melanie Jewell Selectperson
Bruce Plourd Selectperson
Dennis Keschl Selectperson
Marcia Haigh Librarian

Jessica Moore Recreation Director
Loyce Hayslett Tree Com./Library Trustee
Mike Barrett Library Trustee./ Appeals Board
Jack Sutton Transfer St. Com./Budget Com.
Scott Damren Facility Maintenance
Pat Pow Library Trustee

Others in attendance: Ernie Rice, Kathy Brown, Leanne Court and Lewellyn Ashland

Order of Business:

1. The board reviewed the meeting minutes of the May 5th meeting. Melanie Jewell made a motion to approve of the minutes as presented. Ricky Damren seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

The board reviewed the meeting minutes of the Board of Selectpersons/Building Committee Organizational Meeting. Melanie Jewell made a motion to approve of the minutes as amended. Ricky Damren seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)** There was some discussion on taping meetings that may contain a great deal of discussion and opinions.

Unfinished Business:

1. The Town Manager informed the board that there is no requirement by law, concerning when the term of a selectperson begins and ends. Most towns do not swear in their new board members until after their town meeting has ended. The Town Manager has revised Section III of the current bylaws of the Board of Selectpersons. Melanie Jewell made a motion to approve of the amendment to the Board of Selectpersons bylaws for the Town of Belgrade. Bruce Plourd seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

New Business:

1. The Recreation Director, Jessica Moore provided an overview of the second quarter review of the recreation department. **(Please see the attached overview)** Jessica provided highlights of the report.
 - The Center received a grant of \$6,000. The money was used to purchase an indoor batting cage.
 - The Easter Egg Hunt was well attended

- There have been 100 camp registrations – the committee will put a deadline on the application next year.
- The Lobster Bake will be held at the Center this year.
- A grant through the Badges for Baseball & Healthy Choices was applied for, and the community center received \$10,000, of which \$5,000 will go towards the maintenance of the ball field and \$5,000 to buy new helmets and bats for the ball teams. The money will be released to the Belgrade Recreation Association after they have submitted receipts to the recreation director.
- By the end of August the Board of Parks & Recreation should have their budget proposal for 2010.
- The Building/Grounds Community workers did a lot of work around the grounds at the Center. Jessica said she would like to use them more.
- Fred and the Board of Parks & Recreation have been looking at all the parks in the community as a whole.
- The Board of Parks & Recreation has been working on a checklist for the Alcohol Policy. (they will bring this back to the board for their review)
- Jessica has been looking at Hillard Cleaning Services Company to compare supplies and to see what kind of cleaning supplies they should be using at the facility.
- The Green Hatter Hoe Down is on May 30th.
- Jessica is in the process of putting together flyers for recreation and events that organizations in the community may be putting together. This will let visitors from away know what is available for programs.

The Town manager stated he has asked facility maintenance to review the parks on an annual basis. Currently Scott is updating the Town Manager on items that have recently come before him that need to be resolved.

2. The Town Manager drafted a charter for a new building committee. There are seven elements to the draft charter. **(Please see the attached document)** Currently there is not a recommendation for Chair of the committee, but the charter recommends the committee meet prior to May 29th. The Manager would like to have the draft finalized and then put out to the committee members to set up a meeting prior to May 29th to develop a schedule of meetings with a deadline of September 1st to provide the Board of Selectpersons with an estimate of cost.

Jack Sutton stated he had briefly reviewed the proposed charter and he believes the ground rules are flawed and relate only to a multipurpose building and do not look at other options. He feels this sets the new committee up for failure. Jack made a referral to Article #20 at the 2009 town meeting. He asked where else in town affairs are taxpayers being asked to lump items together. Jack read a document and then submitted it to the secretary for the meeting minutes. **(Please see the attached document)**

Melanie replied to Jack and encouraged him to take a position on the building committee. Melanie stated she was not sure where he was getting his information and the numbers that were supplied by the building committee.

Jack stated that the numbers he had came directly from the Ad-Hoc Committee report and the building committee report and they were not numbers he had generated on his own.

The Town manager stated that the numbers from the Ad-Hoc Building Committee were numbers he had supplied through estimates; this is something he developed himself and not derived from the building committee.

Dan Newman said the group looked at different pieces of property and buildings. They felt it was more efficient to build one building.

Ernie Rice stated he really had wanted to be on the new building committee, but he disagrees with what is being looked at. He supports Jack Sutton and believes that voters would also support Jack. He would like to see this brought to a town vote in November to find out exactly what the people want. He feels there should be options with a dollar amount attached so people can have a choice on what they want and how much they are willing to spend. He recognizes that a lot of work had been done, but he does not believe what is being proposed is in the best interest of the town. He wants the town to have a choice. He supports building a new municipal building and food pantry; he does not support building a library or a historical society.

Kathy Brown stated she questions the need for a multipurpose facility. She feels that the majority of people support a municipal office and believes that the food pantry belongs in the town office as part of the municipal office. She questions as to where the grants and the fundraising commitments for the library and the historical piece of the building will be coming from, as there is not a lot available. She has concerns about building such a large building.

The Town manager stated that there are only two of these entities that are actually town functions, the library and the historical. The Food pantry is not a town function; it is a private function with the use of the space through an agreement. The Library is a town function that is approved annually as is the history portion. The town manager stated that there were six different plans looked at.

Melanie Jewell said that the building committee was asked to put forth one plan, and the building they chose is the same size as the Center for All Seasons, with two floors instead of one.

Ernie Rice said yes there may have been six options, but was there no option for just a municipal building. Ernie stated that he believes that there is a need for more space for the library and believes that they will get their building.

Dan Newman replied that there was not an option for just a municipal office, because the Friends of the Library had approached the board, because they were moving forward with building a library, and the town was asked if they would like to join in. He said if the town decides no in November, then the Library Committee intends to move forward.

Ernie reiterated that he supported Jack Sutton's statement and that his best efforts will be put forward with a petition to express what the people would like to do as voters. He said he did not want to be put through on the new building committee or want to set up a second building committee, as he feels that his concerns will fall on deaf ears and it would be a waste of time. He withdrew his request for a second building committee.

The Town Manager addressed Jack Sutton and stated that there were four final separate options and currently the Board took a vote to look at a downsized multipurpose building. He asked if this fit within his plan. Jack stated that he is not against any one component but knows that each comes with significant costs, and feels the town should be able to weigh in on each individual function.

Ernie stated he would like to put this to a vote to solve the issue, by placing a dollar amount next to each individual component of the building. He is not against the library and knows they need more space, but he does not support the size proposed. He would be willing to serve on the committee if everyone had an open mind.

Dan Newman said that the committee is going to take a look at downsizing the building can come back to the board of selectpersons and take a look at the cost.

Ernie said he does feel that now is the time to move forward with the building, but there should be some restrictions. He feels we can build something for a million and a half and then add on if needed. The building in Sabattus cost approximately \$10,000 annually to maintain.

Dan said the committee will go back to each entity and find out what each group can get by with for space.

Kathy Brown stated she felt that town office government is changing and the need may not be the same in 25 years.

The Town Manager said that when this building was looked at it incorporated space for fulltime code enforcement, assessing as well as the population projections.

Ernie Rice thanked the board for their time and recommended if they wanted to go green that they should visit the Magna Coaster Motor Company website.

Melanie Jewell made a motion to approve of the new building committee members listed, contingent on their acceptance to the committee and the charter for the committee. **(Please see the attached charter and list of committee members.)** Ricky Damren seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

3. There was no action taken on setting up a second building committee.

4. The Town Manager stated that the agenda item on the Dam's Violation was information only, and it is relative to a complaint filed by Bruce Trumper. The Town Manager has responded to MDEP. Dennis Purington has taken over the operation of the Dam since January and feels we are fulfilling the requirements. Ricky Damren said he thought that the Salmon Lake Dam was owned by all the surrounding towns. Dennis said because it is in Belgrade it is owned by the Town. The Dam's Committee has recently met with an engineer for the work to be done on both the Salmon Lake Dam and the Dam in the Village.

5. The Town Manger said that the Senior Citizen Committee is a volunteer service for tax relief for senior citizens. This will have to be done through an ordinance. The work done by seniors would aide in lowering their taxes. Mike Barrett is willing to accept the chair to this new committee, but it will be left up to the committee to vote a chair. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the Senior Citizen Committee members listed and the charter set up for the committee. **(Please see the attached list of members and the charter)** Melanie Jewell seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

6. Melanie Jewell made a motion to approve of the request to remove the property of Rudy Heintz from the property tax rolls. Ricky Damren seconded the motion. Dan Newman stated that he feels maybe the taxes should be prorated on the building only, but not completely as he still has the land. Melanie Jewell stated she did not see that the request was in writing and feels that perhaps it should be submitted in writing. Ricky Damren rescinded his second. Melanie Jewell rescinded her original motion. Bruce Plourd asked if this has ever been done before and in doing so may set precedence. Melanie Jewell made a motion to table the agenda item until the request is submitted to the board in writing. Ricky Damren seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

7. The Board reviewed the Town Alcohol policy. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the Town's Alcohol policy. Melanie Jewell seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

The Board reviewed the Town's Abatement policy. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the Town's Abatement policy. Bruce Plourd seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

The Board reviewed the Town Fuel Assistance policy. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the Town's Fuel Assistance policy. Melanie Jewell seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

The Board reviewed the Return Check policy. There was some discussion on increasing the fee for a returned check. It was decided not to increase the fee at this time. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the Return Check policy. Melanie Jewell seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

8. The Board reviewed the resignation of John Shilken to the Transfer Station & Recycling committee. Ricky Damren made a motion to accept the resignation of John Shilken to the Transfer Station & Recycling Committee and to award him with a certificate of appreciation. Melanie Jewell seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

9. The Board reviewed the abatement to Sally and Howard Downing for the amount of \$136.98. Ricky Damren made a motion to approve of the abatement to Sally and Howard Downing for the amount of \$136.98. Bruce Plourd seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

10. The Board reviewed the information on the Memorial Day Service planned for the Town.

11. The Board reviewed the information on the 'Clean up Day' at the Transfer Station. The Town manager reported that it was a very successful day. The committee chair, Bruce Galouch expressed that the committee should consider holding the "Clean up Day next year, as it was very positive. The board agreed and expressed they felt it was good public relations.

12. The Board reviewed **Municipal Warrant # 22** for the amount of **\$449,772.13**. Melanie Jewell made a motion to approve of **Municipal Warrant #22** for the amount of **\$449,772.13**. Ricky Damren seconded the motion. **CLOSED 3/1 ABSTAIN (DAN NEWMAN) /1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

13. The Board reviewed **Manual Warrant #13** for the amount of **\$7,900.14**. Melanie Jewell made a motion to approve of **Manual Warrant #13** for the amount of **\$7,900.14**. Ricky Damren seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

Add – On Agenda Item # Scott Damren:

Scott Damren reported to that Thayer Engineering is laying out grave stakes to find out the actual locations of gravesites and roads for Plan 5. They are also looking at the best placement of the new garage.

The Cemetery Committee has voted to not house the bulk fuel tank at the cemetery.

The Cemetery Committee has voted to not allow for any more lots to be sold in Woodside Cemetery. This will be on the agenda for the next Board of Selectpersons meeting.

There have been some issues with trees within the cemetery. They need to be addressed as the bulk truck as taken out several trees and hit some of the gravesites. The committee has reviewed it and has spoken with members of the tree committee, some of who have reviewed the area, and it has been determined that they need to remove some trees and would like to place this on the agenda for the Board of Selectpersons next meeting. The committee is working on finishing up Plan 4 so they can open up into Plan 5. The committee is looking at the cost of the trees being cut down for the price of the trees. The Town Manager feels the cemetery committee already has the approval to do make these decisions for the cemetery.

Updates & Announcements:

- The Town Manager is working on a grant for the Fire Department. They are placing the grant for pagers, a portable pump, a thermal imaging camera and some scuba equipment.
- The Town manager will move forward with support for an RFP for dispatching services.
- There has been a complaint about kayaks launching from the Rt. #27 boat ramp here in Belgrade.
- The Town will not have to have the porta-pottie remove from Peninsula Park for July 4th. The Fire Marshall's office has approved the site and it will only be shut down for a short period of time. The Central Maine Pyrotechnic's have a signed contract with BLRBG, who is insured, and must name the town as an additional insured.
- Melanie Jewell noted that there has consistently been a number of home invasions and would like to see something in the newsletter.

Melanie Jewell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m. Ricky Damren seconded the motion. **CLOSED 4/0/1 ABSENT (CHRIS MERROW)**

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Vogel, Executive Secretary to the Board of Selectpersons

