

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

April 17, 2006

PRESENT:

Douglas W. Lyon, Chair, Board of Selectmen
Mark Kaplan, Selectman
Ruth I. Clough, Selectman
Jessie Levine, Town Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Wendling, New London property owner
Debbie Cross, Intertown Record
Carolyn Dube, Argus Champion

Chair Lyon called the meeting to order at 8:04 AM.

Meeting Minutes: Mr. Kaplan moved to approve the minutes of April 17, 2006. Second Ms. Clough and approved 3-0.

Planning Board Update: Ms. Clough reported on the Planning Board meeting of April 11, 2006. She said the Planning Board gave approval to New London Hospital's plans for using the former Stahlman building on Pleasant Street for physical therapy and other medical offices. The plan is for three years with an option to extend the lease, and includes provisions for a long-term lease for parking at Accumail. Chair Lyon said he believes the Hospital's hope is to eventually have all offices back on the main campus.

Ms. Clough said the Planning Board also heard requests from PSNH to trim trees on scenic roads, including Camp Sunapee Road. Residents of that road spoke in favor of keeping the trees trimmed and the lights on.

The Planning Board also heard the preliminary application from dentists Gutsell, Phipps and Baker to move across Main Street to the building next to Tracy Library. Ms. Clough said she has recused herself from the Planning Board during the discussion, since her family is an abutter to the properties in question. The application is a joint site plan application from the dentists and McSwiney, Semple, Hankin-Birke and Wood, and includes widening Lovering Lane and formalizing parking behind both buildings. Ms. Clough said there are three primary concerns: accessibility via Lovering Lane as the sole access to the parking lots; the size of the parking lots and appurtenant drainage issues; and the requested wheelchair accessible parking space in front of the building. Ms. Levine said the applicants had requested the wheelchair space when there was not access to the main level of the building from the rear parking lot. She understands that there will now be an elevator, so she is not inclined to create the parking space on Main Street that would look like it serves a private building. Ms. Clough said the applicants would return to the Planning Board for final review in late May.

Ms. Clough said the Master Plan process will move into high gear in September with a public visioning session. The Planning Board will start by comparing the goals of the current Master Plan to actuality. Chair Lyon agreed that was a worthwhile effort, especially because the reality of growth over the past ten years may differ from expectations outlined in the current plan.

Fiber Project: Ms. Levine gave an update on the regional fiber optic project. She will meet with the consultant at his office in Nashua on Tuesday, and the consortium member towns will meet in New London on Wednesday to review the contract terms. She will also appear before the Lebanon City Council on Wednesday to ask for their participation. The project will kickoff on Thursday with a four-hour meeting in New London, where the consultants will meet with the members to guide them through the formation of committees and the two phase process. The Selectmen discussed the benefits of the project and the need to get more communities involved.

Public Works Study: Ms. Levine reminded the Selectmen of the meeting with the Sewer Commission on Thursday, April 18 at 3:00 PM to discuss the public works study and the proposed contract to have the Board of Selectmen oversee sewer operations. Ms. Levine will meet with the Sewer Commission at 1:00 PM today as well.

NH/VT Solid Waste Project: Mr. Kaplan said he will attend the May 4th Project meeting, at which time the transfer of the ash landfill and surrounding land in Newport from the Project to ECON will be voted on. He will see if Don McGuinness can attend as New London's representative, and if Mr. McGuinness cannot attend, Mr. Kaplan will ask Chair Lyon (Ms. Levine and Ms. Clough will both be out of town). Mr. Kaplan explained that the \$1.1 million trust fund for maintenance will also be transferred to ECON, plus a \$250,000 contingency in case the trust fund is depleted earlier than anticipated.

Ms. Levine asked if there had been any movement on the City of Claremont's efforts to take the incinerator property by eminent domain. Mr. Kaplan said that as far as he knows, nothing has happened since notice appeared in the papers.

Karen Welch: Ms. Levine referred to a letter from the UNH Technology Transfer Center (UNHT2) regarding Highway Department employee Karen Welch's achievement of Senior Roads Scholar, having finished the required number of course hours to reach that status. The Board of Selectmen would like to issue a letter of commendation to Ms. Welch.

Building Permits:

- Barry W. Wright, 217 Main Street (Map 073, Lot 081), permit to remodel and reuse quick serve business – Approved (Permit 06-021)
- John and Patricia Tilley, 139 Main Street (Map 073, Lot 072), permit to insulate and dry wall the garage, upstairs will be a playroom – Approved (Permit 06-022)
- Richard and Sue Burmann, 83 Squires Lane (Map 096, Lot 021) permit to enlarge bedroom and TV room, update bathroom – Approved (Permit 06-023)
- Harry Snow III, future owner James Carr, Westside Drive (Map 055, Lot 012), permit to construct new three bedroom home with attached two car garage and 12' x 14' deck plus 4' x 8' entry porch – Approved (Permit 06-024)
- Cathleen Gerwig NH Qualified Trust, 489 Bunker Road (Map 063, Lot 005) permit to install electrical conduit in ground from outbuilding to house 30 x 35' in length – Denied (Permit 06-025) Refer to ZBA for Variance from Article XVI, Section C 2
- Thomas Kohner, 464 Elkins Road (Map 077, Lot 027), permit to install a dispersal field as part of a "Clean Solution" System – Denied (Permit 06-026) refer to ZBA for variance from Article XIII, F, (1) and Article XXII, G, (3)

Sign Permit Applications:

NONE

Other Items for Signature:

- Disbursement and Payroll Voucher for the week of April 17, 2006 – Approved
- Veteran's Credits & Elderly Exemptions

There being no further business, the Board of Selectmen adjourned the meeting at 8:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessie W. Levine
Town Administrator