

MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF PEMBROKE, NH
Wednesday, September 26, 2007
6:30 PM

Present: Vice Chairman Fred Kline; Selectman Larry Preston; Selectman Cindy Lewis; Selectman David Sheldon

Excused: Chairman Brian Tufts

Staff: Geoff Ruggles, Interim Town Administrator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Fred Kline called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

2. MEETINGS

Public Hearing - Route 3/Pembroke Hill Roundabout

Vice Chairman Fred Kline called the Public Hearing to order at 6:31 P.M. and reviewed a brief history regarding the roundabout issue and the State's decision and recommendation on the intersection. He explained that the State is requesting that the Selectmen write a letter as to whether they are for or against the roundabout. Vice Chairman Kline also stated that this public hearing is to get feedback from residents prior to drafting the letter.

Mr. Ruggles read four letters into the record that were submitted by residents. Those residents include; Janet Anderson, 469 Pembroke St. (in favor); John & Barbara Lewis, 6 Bow Lane (opposed); John Theuner, 44 Sherwood Meadows (opposed); Dianne Schuett, 522 Pembroke St. (opposed). Additionally there were several residents present to voice their opinions.

The following residents in attendance were in favor of the roundabout:
Ms. Grandmaison, 4 Central St.; Mr. Grandmaison, 4 Central St.; Robert Fortnam, 25 Sherwood Meadows; Curt Edmonds, 375 Rowe Ave.

The major opinion of these residents was that a roundabout will create a smoother flow of traffic and that maneuvering large vehicles shouldn't pose a problem. Some felt that the slow down in traffic caused by the roundabout will enable vehicles to enter and exit Route 3 more safely and easily.

The following residents in attendance were opposed to the roundabout:
Bruce Lawler, 428 Pembroke St.; Mark Beaulieu, 408 Deerpath Lane; Larry Perron, 229 Dearborn Rd.; John Bullock, 97 Glass St.; Chris Bova, 424 Pembroke St.; Jeff Furlotte, 6 Donna Dr.; Marc Lessard, 448 Terrie Dr.; Jeannie Woolf, 246 Pembroke Hill Rd.; Jack Lewis, 6 Bow Lane; Bill Nafranowicz, 418 Terrie Dr.

The majority of these residents feel that a roundabout will make the problem worse. Some felt that maneuvering large vehicles, including busses, through the roundabout would be difficult as well as the slow down it would cause to traffic flow. There was concern as to emergency vehicles getting through the roundabout especially during peak traffic times. Also discussed was whether or not drivers would actually "yield" in the roundabout and the extra noise levels from vehicles slowing down to enter the roundabout. Some options suggested to the Selectman were; alternate bus routes, adjustment of school times, center/turn lanes with a blinking yellow light, timed or pressure traffic light that only operates at peak times or a police officer directing traffic at peak times. It was also suggested that all resources and ideas be exhausted before making a decision on the roundabout.

The following residents were neither in favor or opposed or did not state an opinion:
Rick Mulcahy, 17 Melissa Dr.; Lisa Gilbert, 472 Fourth Range Rd.

Vice Chairman Kline closed the public hearing at 7:24 P.M.

The selectmen briefly discussed the roundabout. Selectman Preston gave his position as being in favor of the roundabout but knows of several people who are opposed. Vice Chairman Kline is opposed and stated that the majority of the people on the three committees he is involved with are also opposed. He requests that the Selectmen's correspondence to the State encourages them to continue research and other options.

Action: Selectman Sheldon moved that the Selectmen write to the State informing them that the majority of the townspeople have voiced an opinion of opposition to the roundabout and that Pembroke continue to pursue alternate resolutions. Selectman Lewis seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Ruggles will draft a letter to the State.

Vice Chairman Kline called for a brief recess at 7:30 P.M.

Vice Chairman Kline recalled the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M.

Ann Bond, Resident

Ms. Bond was present to inform the Board who to address their correspondence to regarding the request for review and consideration for a crosswalk at Route 3 and Donna Drive. Correspondence should be addressed to Eric Healey, Pavement Marking Supervisor, Traffic Bureau and a copy sent to Bill Lambert, Administrator and Toby Reynolds, Assistant.

Action: Selectman Preston moved that the Board send a letter to the three gentlemen that Ann mentioned asking them to investigate the possibility of creating a crosswalk from Donna Drive to the opposite side of Route 3 and perhaps incorporate that into the Pembroke Hill intersection. Selectman Sheldon seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Ruggles will draft a letter.

Chief Scott Lane - Central NH Special Operations Unit

Chief Lane, Sergeant Bob Cormier, Plymouth Police Department, Commander of the Central NH Special Operations Team and Mr. Butch Burbank, Local Government Center, gave a presentation to the Board. Chief Lane stated that last fall he spoke with the board about his interest in participating in the program and that it has been proposed in their budget. Sergeant Cormier has been involved in the program since 1988 and explained that the Central region consists of communities north of Boston to the NH border and includes the participation of 42 towns and cities with 72 people on the roster. The Team enables towns to handle critical incidents that may require additional officers and includes four physicians, a nurse, a trained psychologist and people who specialize in search and rescue. It is a unique group of people who care and put the communities first. Two Pembroke police officers would participate in the program. Training for the officers will equal approximately \$2,500 and the yearly dues to participate in the program is \$2,500.

3. CITIZEN'S COMMENT

Alan Topliff was present to speak as a member of the Planning Board and made it clear that he was not speaking "for" the Planning Board. He has been on the Board for approximately 18 months and feels that one of the more intimidating things has been the issue of keeping the ordinances current, organized and without conflict. There are several areas that need to be reviewed and possibly brought before the voters in March. He stated that one significant issue is growth management due to the planned expansion of I93. There is anticipation of more commuters on the wider road and he feels that the Town will see that more people will want to move to Pembroke. The Planning Board feels it is important that the ordinances, policies and procedures are in place to manage that effectively in a way that benefits the town. Mr. Topliff feels that the proper way to accomplish the results that the Board is looking for is to have the advice and counsel of a professional Planner whose specialty is working with ordinances and regulations. The Board would present ideas and concepts to this person who would then go to work on Pembroke's current ordinances and regulations and come back to the Board with changes to the language that would achieve the results the Board requires. He suggests that the present Planner vacancy affords the Town an opportunity to look at the position and make a decision on what the job skills should be. He feels the Town should consider hiring a Planning Administrator to perform day-to-day tasks at a lower rate of pay but to also hire a professional Planner on an "as needed" basis.

4. OLD BUSINESS

Planner Position

A letter was received from Bob Bourque, Vice Chair of the Planning Board. The Planning Board is requesting to meet with the Selectmen to continue discussions on the format and structure of the future planning of Pembroke. Vice Chairman Kline opened discussion for the short term plan. Some of the temporary options discussed were employing Ms. Laura Scott one to two days per week or going to CNHRPC or MRI to hire a temporary Planner. The Planning Board feels that the Selectmen should retain the services of Ms. Scott.

The Selectman discussed needing more information on how much time is actually required of a Town Planner and the importance of not only a short term plan but a long term resolution as well. Selectman Preston suggests meeting with Ms. Scott to determine how much time would be required for the position and what her rate of pay would be. Mr. Dana Carlucci was present and discussed Ms. Scott's work with the Zoning Board.

Action: Vice Chairman Kline moved to request that Mr. Ruggles approach Ms. Laura Scott regarding covering the Planning position one day per week starting as early as next week, and Mr. Ruggles to report back to the Board of Selectmen at the next BOS meeting on October 3, 2007. Selectman Sheldon seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

It was clarified that a decision to hire Ms. Scott will not be made until the next BOS meeting. Selectman Sheldon emphasized that along with the Planning Board, the Conservation Committee and the ZBA should also be included in the meeting. Selectman Lewis stated that the Zoning Board's issues should be covered by Mr. Everett Hodge but that the Conservation Committee should be included for their input. Selectman Preston suggests e-mailing members of the Planning Board, Conservation Committee and ZBA informing them of the meeting and asking for their input regarding the short term resolution and to meet with the Planning Board at the next BOS meeting to discuss the long term.

Action: Vice Chairman Kline moved to invite the Planning Board to meet with the Board of Selectmen at the BOS meeting scheduled for 10/3/07 and at the same time, send communications to the other boards and committees that the Town Planner interacts with, soliciting feedback on the future of Planning. Any feedback should be sent to Mr. Ruggles. Selectman Preston seconded. Motion passed 3-1. Selectman Sheldon was opposed.

Perry Eaton Building / Mr. John Graziano

Mr. Ruggles drafted a letter, with the assistance of the Town Attorney, to Mr. Graziano to make sure there was no confusion on the terms that were decided at the last BOS meeting. Selectman Preston requests that #3 begins as follows; "The Town agreed to accept the amount of \$4,400 in full payment for all rent owed as of September 1, 2007. This amount is due and payable in six equal payments over six months (180 days) from the date of the notice referenced in paragraph 1".

Action: Selectman Preston moved that Mr. Ruggles make the above change and send the letter. Selectman Lewis seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Minutes

September 6, 2007 non-public

Action: Selectman Sheldon moved to approve the public minutes of 9/6/07 as presented. Selectman Lewis seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

September 12, 2007 public and non-public

Action: Selectman Preston moved to approve the public and non-public minutes of 9/12/07 as presented. Selectman Lewis seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

September 19, 2007 public

Action: Selectman Preston moved to approve the public minutes of 9/19/07 as presented. Vice Chairman Kline seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Selectman Sheldon abstained.

Vice Chairman Kline commented on the 9/19 minutes suggesting that Mr. Dan Crean be involved in the follow up that Mr. Ruggles is planning with Ms. Judy Kelley regarding alternative energy suppliers.

Budget Review

Mr. Ruggles goal for this review was to answer any questions the Board may have and to set up a schedule for the required department heads to come in to answer additional questions. The possibility of all departments not having to come in was discussed as was the agenda for the BOS meeting next week. The Selectmen reviewed portions of the budget including dispatch services and health and dental insurance. Mr. Ruggles informed the Selectmen that most departments came in with reasonable increases in their budgets with the largest being the Police Department at a 13% increase. Mr. Ruggles also informed the Selectman that there is an extra payroll in 2009 amounting to approximately \$72,500 which includes wages, retirement and taxes. He believes that the majority of this amount can be taken out of the Fund balance. Mr. Ruggles had made changes to the budget for the Roads Committee cutting Fourth Range Road out of the plan which decreased that budget by \$83,000. Selectman Sheldon discussed the police cruiser.

6. OTHER / CITIZENS COMMENT

None

7. ADJOURNMENT

Action: Selectman Sheldon moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 P.M. Selectmen Preston seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Accepted by the Board of Selectmen

Fred Kline, Vice Chairman