

~~Unapproved~~ **Approved**
Candia Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 11, 2008

Attendance: Chairman Fred Kelley, Vice-Chairman Richard Lazott, Selectman Tom Giffen, Selectman Carleton Robie, and Secretary Andria Hansen.

7:00 p.m. Chairman Kelley called the Public Meeting to order and immediately followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board to discuss with Peter Butt and other residents of Forest Road on their concerns with the road. Peter Butt of 22 Forest Road was present. He explained the residents have asked for repairs through out the years and nothing has been done. The road is in poor condition. Some of the hot top is missing and only half of the road is paved. It's dangerous to walk on the soft shoulder. There are lots of pot holes and they get worse in the winter with the plowing. Mr. Butt asked if the road was bonded when the development was built in 1985. Chairman Kelley stated the Road Agent has the information. Mr. Butt thought there was money left over to fix the cul-de-sac. He has spoke with Road Agent Lewis who has done some patch work on the road. Mecah Blum of 37 Forest Road stated up until recently the road has been fair, but last winter has taken its toll on the road. He felt any minor repair to the road at this time would be an improvement. Mr. Blum explained there are large pieces of pavement pulled up which makes it dangerous for his children to ride their bikes. In addition, there isn't a safe place off the road for the children to pull over. Road Agent Lewis explained he spoke with Mr. Butt on this issue and a warrant article would be the best way to go since there aren't any operating funds to repair the road. Road Agent Lewis explained when he took over as Road Agent (about 13 years ago) he had a 15 year plan to repair short roads (subdivision roads) out of the operating budget, but over the past 3 years the operating budget has gone to floods and snow. He also explained when he took over there were 4 unfinished subdivision roads (Forest, Jane, Blevens, and Douglas) and no money left to finish them. Road Agent Lewis noted Forest Road was originally bonded for \$20,000 and it wasn't enough (to finish the road). The man who built the subdivision passed away in 1991. The Selectmen at the time decided not to pursue the estate to finish the road. Road Agent Lewis stated he would write a warrant article and submit it for 2009. Mr. Butt noted in the event the warrant article doesn't pass the residents are stuck with a road in poor condition. Road Agent Lewis said he would fill in the soft shoulders and do some patch work on the road. If the warrant article does not pass and it's a mild winter, they could use money from the operating budget to fix it. A resident of Forest Road asked how much was the cost to fix the road. Road Agent Lewis replied approximately \$48,000 to \$55,000. He would need to grid up the pavement, reshape the road, and then pave it. Selectman Giffen commented the operating budget Road Agent Lewis presents each year is always conservative, because he has a great deal of respect for the tax payers. In addition having a conservative budget doesn't allow the slack that's needed to rebuild a road properly. It's not a reflection of the operating budget being inadequate; it's a reflection of Road Agent Lewis's responsibility. Selectman Giffen felt the warrant article approach was a positive approach to the issue and noted the Jane Drive warrant article

passed with no problem. Road Agent Lewis added they have always had an excellent response with warrant articles. Chairman Kelley noted Road Agent Lewis would take a look at the road and do some repairs. Road Agent Lewis stated he has already patched it once, but he will look at it again once it stops raining. Mr. Butt asked if there was anything that could be done about the large vehicles and 18 wheelers driving on the road. Chairman Kelley asked why are so many trucks driving down a dead end road. A resident of Forest Road replied the trucks use it as a turn around. Selectman Giffen asked Road Agent Lewis if he felt based on the condition of the road it requires a weight limit. Road Agent Lewis replied to get a weight limit you have to prove some type of deficiency; usually the road has to have a bridge on it. Mr. Butt thanked the Board for their time.

The Board to discuss with Road Agent Lewis the Planning Board's recommendation for a bond reduction for Candia Crossing. Road Agent Lewis stated he agreed with Stantec's recommendation from \$152,212 to \$103,769. He stated Mr. Cole would need a new letter of credit for \$103,769 and it should be reviewed by Town Atty. Mayer. Selectman Giffen asked Mr. Cole if he felt this reduction was a fair and sufficient amount. Mr. Cole replied yes. Selectman Lazott motioned to approve the reduction of Candia Crossing's bond from \$152,212.00 to \$103,769.00 as recommended by the Planning Board, Stantec, and Road Agent Lewis. Seconded by Chairman Kelley. All in favor. Motion carried.

Departmental Reports: Highway, Police, Fire, Building, Solid Waste & any other depts.

Highway: Road Agent Lewis read from the attached report. He noted he is almost done with the Patten Hill Road project.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Cartier noted calls were up for the month of July. He explained there have been a couple of inspections at the fire station and some work will need to be done. He just finished doing a roster review. He's only keeping active members on, since it costs \$1,000 to \$2,000 a year. Fire Chief Cartier stated he is trying to increase incentives for the active members, since they aren't receiving anything monetarily.

Police: Chief McGillen read from the attached report. He noted the department has implemented tasers last month and the Officers have been trained. Selectman Duarte commended the department on the recent traffic stop which led to a major drug arrest. Selectman Duarte stated a Thank You letter should be sent to Officer Bowen from the Board. Selectman Lazott commended Officer Bowen on his good recognition skills.

The Board to review and discuss Chief McGillen's proposed detail ordinance. Chief McGillen stated he proposed a traffic detail ordinance in April. There have been recent projects in Town that don't have anyone guiding traffic. He felt it could be a liability for the Town if they don't come up with a policy. Chief McGillen explained the Road Agent and DOT are exempt from the ordinance, but any outside contractor will have to notify

the Police Department. He will then make the determination if they need a police detail. Chief McGillen noted there have been some recent incidents in which he felt implementing the ordinance was necessary. Selectman Lazott motioned to approve the traffic detail ordinance as reviewed and approved by Town council. Seconded by Selectman Giffen. All in favor. Motion carried. Chief McGillen noted there is a four hour minimum for a traffic detail.

Building Department: Selectman Lazott read from the attached report.

Solid Waste: Selectman Duarte read from the attached report. He noted the center is doing a great job recycling.

Health & Welfare: Selectman Lazott updated the Board on recent information he has looked into regarding individual's working for the Town to pay off debt. He noted Raymond doesn't have a written policy. Selectman Lazott stated he was still looking into matter.

Amanda Soares of the Solid Waste Committee to discuss with Board the approval of the opening date of August 30, 2008 for the new facility and to discuss and approve the SWC mailing regarding the public "Walk Through" to tour the new facility site on August 24, 2008. Amanda Soares of the Solid Waste Committee was present. She asked the Board if they found the date of August 30th acceptable for the opening of the new facility. The SWC was told the finish date for the new facility will be August 22nd. They would like the Board's decision that evening, so they can notify the residents as soon as possible of the closing. The Recycling Center will be closed one week for the move. Chairman Kelley noted the date should be noted on the "Walk Through" flyer. Amanda then discussed the mailing for the public "Walk Through". They were proposing to open the new facility for a couple of hours (on August 24th) so the residents can take a tour and have any questions answered. Amanda noted she would add a map with directions on the flyer. Chairman Kelley stated he didn't have a problem with the mailing. Selectman Giffen noted that residents may wish to bring trash the day of the walk through. It should be noted on the flyer that no trash will be accepted that day. Selectman Lazott asked how much would the flyer cost. Amanda replied approximately \$80.00. They will be printing them in black and white. Selectman Lazott asked if that included postage. Amanda stated that was just for the flyer and wasn't sure how much the postage was. Amanda noted that Facility Operator Chuck Whitcher said they have funds set aside for the mailing. Selectman Giffen thought it would be around \$500.00 to \$600.00 and not to exceed that. Selectman Lazott stated he would hate to see \$600.00 being spent when the same thing could be accomplished by putting an article in the paper. Facility Operator Chuck Whitcher replied they budgeted for this mailing last year and a mass mailing is the easiest way to get the word out. He further stated there will be an article in the newspaper and it will be posted at the Recycling Center. Chairman Kelley stated he was fine with the flyer as long as there was a publication as well.

Chairman Kelley asked Facility Operator Chuck Whitcher how much time he would need to move. Facility Operator Whitcher suggested the Recycling Center be closed for 1

week, August 24th to August 30th. He noted only 3 people will be moving everything (with donated equipment) and they will be setting up as well. Amanda Soares stated they would need to put signage up as well so residents know where put recycling. Selectman Duarte felt a week seemed like a long time. Selectman Robie thought it was reasonable. Facility Operator Whitcher stated he has never moved a dump before, so he wasn't sure how much time it would take. Selectman Giffen stated they have been working on the list for months; there is a lot of stuff to move. Chairman Kelley stated they feel they need a week and the Board is okay with the request he would be fine with it (although he didn't think it would take a week). Road Agent Lewis noted a week isn't a lot of time when you're moving large awkward pieces of equipment. Facility Operator Whitcher noted they were using donated equipment to do the move. Selectman Giffen mentioned it was very generous of Mr. Bennett to donate the equipment. It was the consensus of the Board to close the Recycling Center for the move the week of August 24th to August 30th.

The Board to review department heads suggestions for economizing the 2008 budget. Chairman Kelley stated he received a written suggestion from Facility Operator Whitcher and thanked him for taking the time to do it. He stated it was asking a lot of the Department heads to come up with suggestions. Chairman Kelley asked the Board for their thoughts. Selectman Lazott asked if the Budget Committee could be a little more open to budget lines. Selectman Giffen stated they were meeting Wednesday night and encouraged all of the Selectmen to come to the meeting. He added the Budget Committee was trying to be flexible by moving the budget deadline by two weeks. The Board should pay attention to being flexible. Selectman Lazott noted the Budget Committee has been known to be inflexible in the past. Selectman Giffen proposed to the Board try to go for zero growth, look at a default budget. His rationale is the economy is terrible and the tax payers will suffer. Selectman Lazott didn't see where it is feasibly possible to level fund the budget. They would have to cut back on services (i.e. close the Town offices/ Recycling Center 1 day during the week). Selectman Giffen stated he wishes the Board will maintain a spirit of cooperation during this process. Selectman Lazott asked Chief McGillen for his thoughts. Chief McGillen stated his officers are on a matrix plan which is a guaranteed increase. He could possibly make cuts elsewhere in his budget. Selectman Giffen stated a default every year is proven to result in an increase of 4 – 5%. He noted that have a budget that's 100 % accurate is not feasible, prior Boards have been successful by allowing a 2% cushion. This especially works when you're working with August/September information and trying to figure where you will be December. Selectman Lazott agreed. Fire Chief Cartier mentioned the department recently had their fuel tank tested and it failed. The cost to replace/fix the fuel tank would be approximately \$3,000 - \$4,000 and it needs to be done in 90 days. He was trying to work with DES to try to get an extension. Selectman Giffen asked if there was any grant money to take care of it. Fire Chief Cartier stated only if it's leaking.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Selectman Lazott motioned to approve the public minutes of 7/28/08 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Robie. All in favor. Motion carried.

Any Other Business:

Old Home Day Committee Request: Amanda Soares of the Old Home Day Committee explained the raffle for Old Home Day. Chairman Kelley stated he didn't have a problem with the request. Selectman Lazott asked if the funds would go towards Old Home Day. Amanda confirmed they would pay for additional costs. Selectman Giffen motioned to approve the raffle request as presented by the Old Home Day Committee. Seconded by Selectman Lazott. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chief McGillen (with Selectmen) to meet with DOT: Chief McGillen mentioned he spoke with Mr. Sharman of DOT regarding the intersection off of exit 3. Mr. Sharman would like to meet with the Chief and a couple of the Selectmen. Chairman Kelley and Selectman Lazott told Chief McGillen arrange a time and they would be there.

Announce Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting Date: The next regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting is August 25th, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andria Hansen, Recording Secretary

The Board will consider holding a Non-Public Meeting in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c).