

Selectmen's Meeting
July 24, 1990
Upper Town Hall

7:30PM Open Session

Present: Selectman Jones and Selectman McKinney, and Tim Higgins
Executive Secretary Absent: Chairman Slarsky:

Selectman Jones called the meeting to order, the first item of business was to review the minutes of 7/10/90, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Selectman McKinney, seconded by Selectman Jones and passed. The review of the Emergency Meeting minutes of 7/18/90 was waived until the next meeting of the Board.

Selectman Jones complimented Mr. John Caruthers for his work in installing the PA system wires and equipment used at the the meetings, and that this work was done at no expense to the Town.

The Board signed the weekly warrant. Selectman Jones noted that \$175,000 on the expense warrant was due to County Retirement Assessment.

The Board reviewed a one-day beer and wine license for the Ayer Gun and Sportsman Club. A motion to approve the license was made by Selectman McKinney and seconded by Selectman Jones, and passed.

Ayer Ice House - Mr. Philip Horgan/Supt Redfield

Mr Horgan presented the Board with his statistics on the Ice House, noting that the area comprised approximately 14 acres, and 1530' along the Nashua River, also that the lot is 200' deep. He noted that it could be used as a hydro site in the future.

Supt Redfield noted that purchasing the area had come before the Board about 2 - 3 years ago, and that he would recommend that the Town purchase the property for a future water supply. He continued that there is fractured rock which would produce a good yield, that in the future the Town may be drawing water from the Nashua River, he also noted that the site was upstream from the

Waste Water Treatment Plant and that Clinton's plant was the furthest site upstream

He asked that the Board have Mr. Higgins check on a bill currently before the Congress, which states that no development should be done within 150' of a River Bank. He added that the Town should make sure this bill wouldn't be restrictive, and that the Town should look for protection of the ice house property, it was also agreed that Tim would check into the status of this Bill, with the representatives and Senators. Also, The Board agreed that a committee should be formed to discuss capital expenditures and prioritize the need for potential use of the ice house property.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:(SEE TIM'S REPORT DATED 7/24/90)

Tim asked that the Board review and then sign a memo regarding the reserve fund, it was agreed to wait and sign the memo at a later date. In regards to light duty policy, Tim noted that he had sent a memo to the IBPO requesting continuing discussions, and also he presented the IBPO response. He added that he would schedule an executive session on this matter on the next agenda. In another issue regarding the IBPO, Tim noted that he had asked for an update about having a separate bargaining unit for COs, and that they had responded, he stated that he would schedule an executive session on this matter also for the next agenda.

Tim noted that Pat Rockwood would be leaving and that he had discussed this possibility with the Board and that he had two options to present. 1) Transfer Mrs. Lewis back to Secretary to the Selectman and fill the Clerical Pool with a part-time person. 2) hire a new secretary. In a discussion, it was determined that Mr. Higgins should contact the Boards involved in the Clerical Pool, and that Mr. Higgins should make the final determination which would be in the best interest of the Selectmen's office.

In other matters, Tim advised the Board that the Chief had submitted the hours of the Reserve Officers, Selectman Jones asked that the Chief clarify the report and that he be invited to the next meeting. Mr. Higgins advised the Board that the DOR would probably not have the free cash figure before October and that Cherry Sheets would not be available until late October. He noted also that a Special Town Meeting would be held after that to determine expenditures from state aid funds. Selectman McKinney reminded members that the Citizens for a Limited Taxation Bill passed, this action would have considerable impact on the Town. He asked that the Tim and the School Committee get together as this could become a tempetuious issue with the CLT. Tim reminded the Board that Congressman Atkins would be at the Town Hall August 16th, The Board suggested a meeting with the Financial Advisory Board, the Selectmen and School and solicit

the Congressman's support for PL874, they asked Mr. Higgins to set this up with the Congressman's office beforehand. Tim noted that the Treasurer would be going out to Bond in August for 1.3 million for various projects approved by prior Town Meetings. He noted that the last Moody's rating for the town was the lowest investment grade bond rating possible, a BAA. He continued that since June of 1989 the Town has made significant progress to improve the rating, and that recently a letter had been sent to Mr. Dineen at the Bank of New England (letter on file) and that he will be meeting with Mr. Dineen next week, and that a meeting has been scheduled to meet with a representative on Moodys regarding the Bond rating.

Chairman Jones noted that Congressman Atkins had informed the Board that money was available for the W. Main Street Bridge reconstruction, but that the roadway has to be designated a military access. He asked that Tim contact the Ft. Devens Commander.

PUBLIC HEARING - BOSTON GAS CO. PETITION

Selectman Jones read the notice of the Public Hearing as published.

Present: Mr. Francis X. O'Leary

Mr. O'Leary explained that Boston Gas would be putting in a line on Samantha Lane, a new development off Sandy Pond Rd., with seven duplex houses to be built, and the gas would be for cooking, heating, hot water, and dryers. He informed the Board that James Quigley is the developer. Noting that the abutters had all been informed, but none were at the hearing, Selectman Jones asked Selectman McKinney for a motion. Selectman McKinney made a motion to approve the petition, seconded by Selectman Jones, and the motion passed.

Chief Connors/Tim Higgins Signing of the Contract/Agreement for the Study and Design of the new Police Station.

Tim noted that the agreement had been reviewed by the Chief, Town Counsel, Supt Redfield and himself. That this company had done the most research on the Town including a mock drawing of the Police Station. Selectman Jones asked about the feasibility of the Fire Department and Police Department expanding into one department, Tim advised him that the Consultant had looked into this but that this design was too small to accommodate the fire department. At this point, the members signed the agreement with DiNisco Kretsch and Associates, Inc. 87 Summer St., Boston MA 02110 for \$15,000. (it was noted that a vote need not be taken in order to sign, since it was voted to award the company the contract at a prior meeting). Tim advised the Board that UDAG funds will be the funding source.

Selectmen McKinney asked that a committee be set up to study the best possible uses for the UDAG money, and that the Committee consist of a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Department

Heads, the Treasurer, Murray Clark, Bill Marshall, a Town resident and Fran Cloonan from HUD. He asked that this Committee would review all priorities, expenses should be justified and that the money should be put to the best possible use. Tim noted that he had generated a memo to department heads, indicating that they should prioritize capital needs for a period of five years. Tim stated that he had asked the Treasurer about spreading out expenditures, whether it would be advisable to pay one note and avoid 5 or 6 other projects, using UDAG funds for payment was suggested for a topic of discussion for the above committee.

SUPT REDFIELD'S REPORT(see report of 7/24/90)

Supt Redfield advised the Board that he had been to the State House in regards to the Home Rule Petition. Bill #5424, which will now be attached to House Bill #5632. going to the ways and means committee. He stated that the bill would have a better chance of passing if it could be combined with a State wide Water Protection By-Law.

In other matters, he noted that a vote would be taken for funding regarding a Community with a hardship case and the utility companies. The bill would state that the utility would have to pay for an investigation. He noted that this would give the utilities a reason to raise rates.

He continued that any possible Water Protection District By-Law should be at the Town level.

He advised the Board that he had investigated the causes of the why a trailer from the transfer station had tipped over Sunday July 22nd, and explained that the operator had been attempting to reposition the trailer on the scales, and that the fifth wheel was defective causing the trailer to tip, he did not think it was that the cab was undersized for the load, but that there was a problem with the fifth wheel, which will be corrected. He notified the Board that he had not yet received the bills for the wreckers which had to come out to the scene

Mr. Redfield presented the last sewer tie in application for the Sandy Pond Rd/Snake Hill Rd sewer project begun in 1986. He noted that there would be a \$50,000 payback on this.. A motion to approve the hookup application for #6 Sandy Pond Rd., was made by Selectman McKinney, seconded by Selectman Jones, and passed.

Mr Redfield noted that he had addressed his concerns on the DEIP presented by McCarthy Assoc for the Park Sq., project. Mr Redfield recommended the firm of Jones Chemicals of Merrimack New Hampshire be awarded the contract to supply Compressed Chlorine Gas in one ton cylinders. A motion to award the contract was made by Selectman McKinney and seconded by Selectman Jones and passed. Mr Redfield also recommended that the Board award the firm of Carlisle Chemical Corp of Cambridge Mass., a contract to

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supply Polymer to the Ayer Wastewater Treatment Facility. Based on Supt Redfield's recommendation Selectman McKinney made a motion to award the contract, seconded by Selectman Jones and passed.

Mr Redfield presented a draft agreement, allowing CPF Corp., to discharge sludge from their 50,000 gallon wastewater equalizing tank and settling tank, into the sewer system. In return for this, CPF would pay up to \$12,000 of the cost for updating the Town of Ayer's Wastewater Industrial pretreatment Program report as required by EPA. In a discussion it was determined that the agreement should be written up to increase the amount of the fees since the cost would increase in the future. The Board then agreed that they would not have a problem with Mr. Redfield drawing up an agreement pending review by Town Counsel.

Mr Redfield advised the Board that he was in receipt of a bill from Mr Maxant for his work associated with the changes to the current regulation of Sewer Use for the the Town of Ayer, and inconsistencies involved which were pointed by EPA. He continued that he would pay the bill from the wastewater accounts. Mr Redfield presented the Board with a copy of a letter from EPA and notice for Public Comment.

Mr Redfield noted that he had requested that the Town Accountant to check with the Bureau of Accounts to determine if the Town can utilize \$15,000 to clean and redevelop the new Spectacle Pond Well Account, he added that this procedure would take place during the winter months. Selectman Mckinney made a motion that this money be allocated for the cleaning and redeveloping of the new Spectacle Pond Well, (in the amount of \$15,000) seconded by Selectman Jones and passed.

Supt Redfield advised the Board that any illegal dumping at the Transfer Station could result in fines up to \$1000 and that citizens should be aware of the new hours of operation at the Transfer Station. He also noted that the State had installed new signs on Main Street informing motorists that it is a State Law to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks.

9:30PM ADJOURN

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles H. Jones", written over a horizontal line.