

**TOWN OF MORRISTOWN
SELECTBOARD
MINUTES**

DATE: June 2, 1997

PRESENT: Brian R. Greenia, Chair, Steven G. Leach, Philip L. Locke, Kenneth E. Grimes, Lee Sturtevant, Carole D. Kissinger

DEPARTMENT HEADS PRESENT: Bill Moulton, Richard Keith, Wayne Camley

OTHERS PRESENT: Scott Corse, Amy Kobl Noyes, Wally Reeve

SELECTBOARD MEETING

The Chair opened the Selectboard meeting at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES: Steve made the motion, seconded by Phil to approve the minutes of the Board meeting on May 19, 1997 as presented. Steve asked that the minutes show that Gary Nolan said that the DRB requires a 25 ft. setback on all the permits they issue. Passed. Ken-Absent.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT

Carole reported having worked 40 hours last week, 30 of which were devoted to **DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION**. She received the Official Warrant from the Town Clerk with 266 names amounting to a total of \$365,803.39. \$9140 was in Interest and \$26,419 in Penalty. On Wednesday, May 28, 1997, some 248 Delinquent Notices were sent out and the response has been mixed with some people being quite apologetic for forgetting their payments and others being irate because they were only a few days late, or only owe a "measly" \$3.01. Most of the bills are being taken care of in the Town Clerk's Office, even after the taxpayer comes upstairs to the Office and complains. Carole spent another four hours on Monday on tax collection.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

FIRE: Brian thanked the Fire Chief for hosting the Selectboard Meeting. Wayne said that they are not experiencing any problems right now. He told the Board that they will be installing three or four new **DRY HYDRANTS** this summer, one at Leo's on Rt. 15, another at Patnoe's on Mud City Loop, and a third on Stagecoach Rd. at Bernhardt's. There are some others that are being considered on Rt. 100 and on Randolph. The dry hydrants will be installed by contractors, and hopefully put in this year. The Department will flush them in the spring, but the owners must maintain them and keep them open. Patnoe's will be dedicated to the Lepine girls.

POLICE: The Police Department have been kept busy. Richard reported that there were 180 incidents, 10 arrests and 4 detox transports during the past two weeks. Eric Dodge is at the Academy for an **INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE**. We can expect delivery of the **NEW CRUISER** either Friday or Saturday, depending on where Richard will pick it up. It is just about ready. The junk car has been moved by the renter, but there is still scrap metal piled against the garage, which is the landlord's responsibility. Brian said that the Selectboard must sit down and decide what to do about getting an **ENFORCEABLE ORDINANCE AGAINST JUNKYARD**. The Board then discussed the Neuland letter they received at the meeting re: **EXCESSIVE SPEED AND ROAD SIGNS FOR HORSE CROSSING** near their property. Richard received a call from her last week and he put a cruiser in her front yard and found no speeding per se during the time they spent there. The Police will go continue to monitor the situation. The Board said that the road signs she requested are the responsibility of the landowner. If she wants to purchase signs, they must adhere to MUTCD standards as to color and size. Carole will send a letter giving her the information. For placement of the signs, the Neulands should get in touch with the Highway Department. Three signs were recommended, but that is to be left to the landowners.

NEW BUSINESS

Wally Reeve was on hand to present preliminary info to the Board on a **EMERGENCY APPARATUS PROPOSAL**. The Fire Department is planning on going to the Town on Town Meeting Day to request replacing their two old trucks with one new one, a more heavy-duty one. They are considering a 13 ft. rescue body with a crew cab body. The number of rescue calls is up and they need a reliable emergency vehicle. At present, they will probably take one truck off the road and use the other one for in-service practice and for carrying Indian pumps for ground fires. The information presented was just a rough draft of what they would like to do. By the beginning of September, the committee will have preliminary cost estimates together. They will have the Article for the Warning ready for the Board in October. Lack of space to house the emergency equipment is another reason for consolidation. Also Wally thinks that in the future, there will be need for a mini-pumper because large houses are being built to which the other trucks have no access. This too would take the pressure off the other pump. He said that there is not much value left in either of the fire trucks. The Fire Department will keep the Selectboard informed. In response to a question from the Board, Wally made a guess that the cost of a new truck could be \$97,000 for the body, plus another \$45,000 for the Chassis. They are looking at a two-wheel drive as a four-wheel drive would add \$15,000 more to the price.

Brian moved and it was seconded by Steve that the Board sign an agreement with **R.L. VALLEE**. This is a continuation of the same agreement made last year with Sweet & Burt after the bid process. By this agreement, R.L. Vallee will provide the Town with unleaded gasoline and diesel fuel at six cents over the rack price. Passed.

HIGHWAY CONCERNS: Ken reported that he went up to Keith Walker's house on the back road to Johnson. Keith complained about the grader widening the road. Ken said that he seemed more concerned that the road is nice and people tend to speed on the road now. He was also very concerned about his trees and hedges. Bill said that if Keith keeps them trimmed back out of the way, there should be no reason for the Town to cut them. Brian and Steve listened to Gene Blake's concerns about his road, his losing land and the water running onto his property. Bob Lefevre has put bales of hay on the side of his pond.

Steve brought to the Board's attention that David Lowe has been having trouble getting in to wind the **TOWN CLOCK**. The clock has run down several times lately. David is working on a solution to the problem.

Lee has been involved in keeping track of the **COMMUNITY GARDEN**. They had a day of planting last Sunday. They have received donations of tools, and W&L assisted in bringing water to the area. Lee would like to see something in the News and Citizen about the work being done. Amy said that she is working on some articles for the paper.

The Board discussed a verbal request from the School that the Town and/or Recreation supply supervision at the school gym during the hours that it is left open and unattended. The Board was not enthusiastic about this idea. Some members will attend the meeting with the School Board and the Recreation Department.

Steve moved and it was seconded by Ken that the Board along with the Police Chief and Carole go into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** to discuss a Personnel Matter. Passed.

Steve moved and Lee seconded his motion to come out of Executive Session. Passed. No action was taken at this time.

Steve made a motion, seconded by Ken, to adjourn. Passed. 8:05 p.m.