

TOWN OF DURHAM

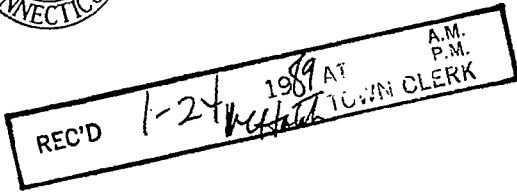
Office of the First Selectman

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Maryann P. Boord
First Selectman



BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING January 19, 1989

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. Present: Maryann P. Boord, First Selectman; Francis E. Korn, Selectman; Hugh A. Curley, Selectman. Townspeople also present as mentioned in the minutes. Representatives from the press in attendance.

Motion M. Boord, second F. Korn, to approve the minutes of the January 13, 1989, with the following correction: "David Road pending litigation" should read instead "David Road trial;" 3 ayes.

M. Boord noted the unemployment rate for November 1988 was 2.4%.

Correspondence:

- 1) Notification of Freedom of Information complaint filed by Karen Avitabile, The Middletown Press reporter; hearing date is 2-15-89.
- 2) Fuss and O'Neil Consulting Engineers letter noted re Saw Mill Bridge project. M. Boord said we should decide if it's a project for the upcoming year. March 1, 1989 is the application deadline.
- 3) Letter from Connecticut Conference of Municipalities asking if the town is interested in becoming involved in municipal software program.

Update from the First Selectman:

- 1) Recent minutes from the Board of Education reported on a proposed study on the population trend in Regional School District #13 indicated an increase in the elementary population; also noted that the teachers are going to contract arbitration, but the administrators are not.
- 2) January 28th is the date for "Breakfast with our Legislators" Representative Lavine and Senator Sullivan, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Durham Town Hall. An article is appearing in this issue of the Durham Gazette.
- 3) Re constable training question: Middlefield cannot train the constable trainees to the extent the state expects; we are going to have the two remaining trainees, Ken Dale, Jr. and Rob Monday, go to the Middletown Police Department to receive further training.

The Town of Durham will provide indemnification papers and insurance.

4) Janet Muraca has been invited to a retirement dinner for Steve Hintz, Dept. of Income Maintenance, and as she is Treasurer of CALAGA, she is interested in attending and questions if the town will pay the \$25.00 fee. The Board of Selectmen agreed it could come out of her Social Services budget.

5) Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce nomination for distinguished citizen: Agreed to go with Middlefield's nod toward Joe Carney; H. Curley said that the Regatta Committee of MCCC is also endorsing Mr. Carney's nomination.

6) Board discussed news media coverage of town meetings. H. Curley has submitted a letter suggesting the town deal with the issue before any problems arise; he also suggests adopting a firm policy and dealing with it legally so the Freedom of Information Commission can be informed. Two items agreed upon by the Board are that the media equipment would be set up prior to the meeting and the equipment would remain stationary. H. Curley will check on the media policies established by neighboring communities. M. Boord added that a 24 hour notice to media is a reasonable request; the Board also felt it not necessary to mention interviewing in the meeting time.

7) The Board agreed to invite the Planning and Zoning Commission and Attorney Thomas Byrne to the Selectmen's meeting of 2/2/89 relative to the new road policy to confirm the final draft of the fee ordinance. Water and Sewer Agreements re form and content only, will also be signed at the next meeting.

Motion M. Boord, second F. Korn, to go into Executive Session re Real Estate Site Selection; 3 ayes. Time: 7:35 p.m. Present: Board of Selectmen, Carl N. Otte, Patricia Paganetti, Carl Heck.

Motion M. Boord, second F. Korn, at 8:20 p.m. to go out of Executive Session; 3 ayes.

Public Comments:

1) Kurt Bober:

a) questioned the status of Ridge Road because he is now plowing both ends of it; understands that residents receive a 5% discount on their taxes because they do not receive the normal town services because the road is considered "private"...and now they ARE receiving services.

b) suggested revisions be made to the design of DiNatale's boulevard because emergency vehicles are unable to pass by traffic on the road. Also noted that some town cul-de-sacs, with an island in the middle, are not posted one-way for direction and the plows can not make the turn (Salted Lane and Woodland Drive.)

M. Boord said she will discuss this with the Planning and Zoning Commission.

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2) Richard Parmelee:

a) noted the Board of Education has signed the contract with the Administrators and requested that a town meeting be called by the district for discussion. M. Boord replied she will do it.

b) asked who is paying for snow removal on unaccepted town roads in new subdivisions. M. Boord explained our system of giving the owners/developers the option of taking care of it themselves or contracting with the town to provide the service. If they contract with the town, a contract is signed and a \$1,000 deposit is left with the Selectmen's Office to be settled in June. We presently have contracts for Park Place, Sumner Woods Road, and Green Lane at \$96.00/hr. (we are using the state billing price) which the Road Foreman keeps track of and presents his figures for billing when the season ends. R. Parmelee feels our method prevents private industry from being given the opportunity. F. Korn explained we have given developers the options of how to provide for the safety of the residents. Mr. Parmelee asked if all monies were collected from last year's plowing and it was responded to affirmatively. M. Boord offered to gather the complete information on last year's billing/hours/time frames from the Road Foreman and furnish them to Mr. Parmelee; he reminded the board members that it is, of course, public information.

c) expressed his displeasure with the stop signs at the intersection of Parmelee Hill Road and Williams Drive. M. Boord explained that the Department of Transportation had studied the area and for the following reasons the signs were erected:

1. speeding
2. accidents
3. low visibility
4. school children safety
5. requests from residents
6. consultation with D.O.T.

The Board had therefore decided it was appropriate since the stop signs on Maiden Lane are working. F. Korn reminded Mr. Parmelee that he attended and made comments at the Selectmen's meeting that determined the decision about the stop signs and Mr. Korn expressed his confidence that the decision was made on sound judgement. H. Curley stressed that the visibility issue was the deciding factor for him. M. Boord said Mr. Parmelee's comments will be noted in the minutes. Mr. Parmelee requested he be informed of any more sign and road work proposed for Parmelee Hill Road.

d) asked if any plowing bills were negotiated so the developer paid less than originally agreed upon. M. Boord responded that the only bill for plowing that was negotiated was the Anthony Terrace bill and F. Korn stated the Board is satisfied with the settlement.

e) asked for a full accounting of the expenses incurred by the David Road trial. It will be available when all bills have been received.

Hugh Curley reported that new Recreation Committee member Wendy Manemeit pursued the fire company to flood the skating rink and it will be taken care of. M. Boord acknowledged that Kurt Bober has organized the effort of pulling it all together. Bob Melvin, Chairman Conservation Commission, asked if the Recreation Committee was taking charge of the skating pond and M. Boord responded yes and that she has requested George Planeta do the wiring with

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Michael Jewczyn's assistance.

Bob Melvin, Chairman of the Conservation Commission:

1) Footbridge on White's Farm: trying to restore picnic area and make footbridge at least wheelchair wide. The Conservation Commission has \$1200 budgeted and a reserve fund. M. Boord mentioned that Mr. Zimmer, Road Foreman, has contacted someone selling laminated footbridge material for additional information and it sounds like a good way to do it. Mr. Melvin will talk to Mr. Zimmer.

2) Caltibiano Farmhouse:

a) Building Inspector was going to look for asbestos, etc.

b) Town Counsel was going to be asked if someone could come and take the building away.

M. Boord commented that she has unsuccessfully tried on numerous occasions to reach Bill Norton of 18th Century Co. She agrees with a previous suggestion of Mr. Melvin's to board up the house and she has discussed this with Mr. Zimmer, who will do the work. It was noted that if the building is to be demolished, speed is imperative due to the status of the landfill. M. Boord has also talked to the fire chief about using the building as a fire drill; she further reported that the Building Inspector said there is asbestos in the roof and it would have to be removed first. There are state statutes which spell out the procedure for demolition. Mr. Melvin noted we would have to have a bid out no later than April for the removal.

c) fencing has been erected upon Open Space land on Dunn Hill Road, however, @\$200 damage was done by a vehicle attempting to run the fence or similar accident.

d) discussion of Conservation Commission's appointment to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency. It was explained that the Conservation Commission makes the appointment of their representative to the IWWCA and the term runs concurrently with that person's term on the Conservation Commission.

M. Boord reported that the Durham Center Water Company will meet January 23rd at 7:30 p.m. at the Durham Town Hall. The Board of Selectmen and Robert Melvin will attend the meeting. A discussion of water company use of open space land followed. Mr. Melvin noted that we can, at the very least, direct the company to the proper people to talk to in the DEP.

Discussion of snow removal ordinance. Until 1981, the responsibility laid with the municipality; then the state created a statute. It is the recommendation of CCM that municipalities pass an ordinance to limit liability from sidewalk claims...54 communities have passed such an ordinance; 21 others are considering passing it with Durham listed as one. We may be able to amend our present ordinance. The Board of Selectmen decided to send a copy of the proposed CCM ordinance along with our 1962 ordinance to Town Counsel for incorporation.

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Motion H. Curley, second F. Korn, to accept the Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes of 11/28/88; 3 ayes.

Motion M. Boord, second by both Selectmen, that we allow Art Herbst to use his one week of vacation time as an advance from the July 1, 1989, fiscal year, during the 1988-89 fiscal year; 3 ayes.

Motion M. Boord, second F. Korn, to approve the Ordinance Concerning the Adoption of a Schedule of Fees for the Processing of Land Use Applications, as amended; 3 ayes.

Motion M. Boord, second H. Curley, to set a Special Town Meeting date of February 6, 1989, 8:00 p.m. at the high school, to discuss 1) approval of the above-mentioned Ordinance, and 2) acceptance of Mauro Drive as an approved town road.

Discussion of proposed state bridge work on Rt. 68 to be started in the spring; lights have been erected for one way traffic. The Selectmen's office will ask state officials if they have planned for a detour (we are not requesting one).

The Board agreed it will have to make a decision soon relative to the Post Office/Library on-demand traffic light for budgetary purposes and also to be included on the state paving schedule.

Motion by M. Boord, second H. Curley, to adjourn at 9:45 p.m.; 3 ayes.

dda
1/24/89