

TOWN OF DURHAM



Office of the First Selectman

P. O. Box H
Durham, Connecticut 06422

JOINT MEETING OF TOWN AGENCIES

January 23, 1984

7:30 p.m.

REC'D

1-24-1984

11/45 AM
TOWN CLERK

Board of Selectmen: M. Foster Mather, DVM, First Selectman; Mary Jane Jewczyn, Selectwoman; James D. Dean, Selectman. (8:15 p.m.). F. Mather: Volunteers keep the town going--without them we could not afford the services they provide. Don't lose sight of the fact we are here to serve the people of the town and not the laws, regulations or ordinances.

Recreation: Robert Reilly, Pat Altieri

- Long Range Goals:
- 1) Field Use Permit System--to protect the first right-to-use privilege of townspeople--looking for guidance in implementation--will cost money.
 - 2) Field Maintenance Program for Tennis courts, playground equipment, etc.--funding by rollover account or reserve fund.
 - 3) Would like a part-time field maintainer for field upkeep.
 - 4) New activities: wrestling, tennis lessons and tournament, duplicate bridge(play night or tournament), increasing capacity of present programs to accommodate demand. Hope to pick up or continue programs if dropped by present supporting group or organization.

- Short Term Goals:
- 1) Increase hours of Director;
 - 2) Easter Egg Hunt;
 - 3) Organize/sponsor a trips program.

Historic District Commission

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George Zeeb

Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency)

Both are regulatory agencies, quiet season, not much pending.

Planning and Zoning Commission: Henry Robinson

Goals for 1984: complete review of zoning regulations--needed about every 2 years to clear up ambiguities, accommodate changes in state laws. Redefinition of agri-business/industry vs agriculture.

Pending: a proposal due for a multi-family dwelling on Howd Road in the old Johnson sand pit.

Budget request for 1984-1985 should be in same range as 1983-1984.

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Durham Volunteer Fire Co.: George Planeta
All set on buildings for now, the fire company can take care of any building proposal PZC would care to approve; planning to paint 1/3 of firehouse for next three years; will need to replace '62 truck in next few years (4-5); siren at Howd Rd and Rte 17 is 15 years old--need to replace (motor vs electronic?); possibility of new frequency for town and emergency use 46.10. Questioned who was responsible for town-owned meadow between David Road and Rte 17--badly in need of mowing to keep down brush growth.

Board of Education: Mark Spatuzzi
They are handling declining enrollment by: closing Brewster School, participating in a consortium with Northern Middlesex County Schools, reducing staff, revising grouping by having grades 1-4 in Korn in Durham and Lyman in Middlefield, 5-6 totally in Memorial, 7-8 in Strong, and 9-12 in Coginchaug, thereby eliminating districting. In the event that all day kindergarten is established, there will be 2 portable classrooms constructed by the Industrial Arts classes, 1 each at Korn and Lyman.
There is a push to extend teachers' school year by 10 days for training and motivation workshops. Would increase salaries by @\$140,000.
Roof repair series is almost complete: Memorial in 84-85 @\$160,000; Coginchaug in 85-86 @\$40,000.
There has been a shift in population Durham-Middlefield from 1970 original of 51-49 to 84-85 of 67-33. A change in Board of Education representation is definitely in order. Board of Selectmen should initiate.

Library Building and Site Committee: Dorothy Willett
Land exchange with United Churches and purchase from Elsie Vercelli completed Jan. 21-23, 1984.
In working drawing stages. Almost set to go to PZC with plot plan. Cost estimate checks will be done 2nd week in February and third week in March. Bids will be sent out April 1st for a three-week bid workup period. Construction to begin May 1st, completion early 1985.

Treasurer: William Moore
For 1983-1984 his investments are generally ahead of those estimated by himself with the Board of Finance.
He has borrowed \$631,000 for the Library Building Fund and invested \$500,000. Even after unanticipated expenses, i.e., bond counsel, tax reimbursement at closing, etc., he hopes to make more in interest than interest charges will be.

Civil Preparedness: Alfred Brechlin
Involved in 5 year plan for Emergency Management Training--next step-Hazard Analysis--planning to cope with nuclear, natural, etc. disasters. More money from state is due for communications equipment.

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Board of Finance: Alfred Brechlin, Joyce Kellish, Ona McLaughlin
New format for budget request is for 2 reasons: accounting system is being computerized and to get a better handle on similar expenditures town wide.

Wants all agencies to do far-range thinking at budget preparation time so that budgets are complete and only emergencies need additional funding. Sees an increased mill rate even if town expenditures don't increase due to student population shift, teachers' contract, loss of taxable property, etc.

Economic Development Commission: James Dean
New appointees--meeting next week--should have a good idea of money needs for a budget, even if it is to be in contingency.

Also present: Cyma Shapiro, Hartford Courant reporter.

Adjourned: 8:45 p.m.

MJJ:dda