



TOWN OF DURHAM

Office of the First Selectman

P. O. Box 428

Durham, Connecticut 06422

(203) 349-3625

Maryann P. Boord
First Selectman

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

May 21, 1992

First Selectman Maryann Boord called meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Board members in attendance: Maryann Boord, Francis E. Korn, Robert Hall.

Others in attendance: Maria Alvarez, The Hartford Courant; Karen A. Gleason, The Middletown Press; Beverly Veronick, Recording Clerk.

Approval of minutes

MOTION BY MARYANN BOORD; SECONDED BY FRAN KORN, TO APPROVAL THE MINUTES OF MAY 7, 1992. 3 AYES.

Correspondence

1. Letter from the State of Conn. House of Representatives indicating that funding for community if the video slot legislation is passed will be in the amount of \$54,713.
2. The Dept. of Transportation confirmed and acknowledged the issue of pedestrian safety on Route 17 as discussed on April 29, 1992 between Tom Fenton, Town Engineer, and Kevin Campbell.
3. Larry Macala expressed a thank you for the concern of the situation on Powder Hill Road.
4. The first annual auction of the American Heart Association will be on June 12, 1992. The cost is \$15/ticket.
5. Reginald Rodgers of Northeast Utilities expressed a sincere thank you for Durham's participation on April 25, 1992 at the Conn. Yankee Emergency Exercise. High marks were given for overall performance by NRC and FEMA.
6. Durham's unemployment rate for March was 6.5%.
7. The Durham Inland Wetlands Agency expressed its members' unanimous displeasure and protest of the elimination of the Zoning Enforcement Officer's position.

Public Comments

None



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Minutes
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Update from the First Selectman

1. A memo from CCM stated that the Municipal Services fee for '92-'93 will remain the same as '90-'91 and '91-'92.
 2. The Memorial Day parade will begin at 9:15 a.m. on Mon. May 25, 1992.
 3. The new auditor selected by the Durham Board of Finance will be Saas, Marena, Pia, and Mellion.
 4. The Middlefield Board of Selectmen has invited the Durham Board of Selectmen to march in the "Old Home Day Parade" on June 6, 1992 at 1 p.m.
 5. The June 4, 1992 Board of Selectmen meeting has been cancelled. The board will meet on June 9, 1992 at 5:30 p.m.
- The Land Use Mapping Presentation is scheduled for June 9 at 7:00 p.m.
- The June 18, 1992 Board of Selectmen meeting is rescheduled for June 25, 1992 at 5:30 p.m.

Resignation/appointments

MOTION BY MARYANN BOORD, SECONDED BY FRAN KORN, TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF PETER FERRIS OF THE DURHAM BOARD OF APPEALS. 3 AYES.

Executive Session

MOTION BY MARYANN BOORD, SECONDED BY FRANCIS KORN, TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 5:30 P.M. FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING TAX FORECLOSURES. 3 AYES.

Present: Maryann Boord, Fran Korn, Bob Hall, Atty. Ken Antin, Joanne Salva, Tax Collector.

6:20 P.M. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE HAAKE/KLEINSCHMITT SUIT.

Present: Maryann Boord, Fran Korn, Bob Hall, Atty. Ken Antin, Tom Fenton, Town Engineer.

6:25 P.M. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE JIMMO PROPERTY.

Present: Maryann Boord, Fran Korn, Bob Hall, Atty. Ken Antin, Tom Fenton, Town Engineer.

MOTION BY MARYANN BOORD, SECONDED BY BOB HALL, TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:44 P.M. 3 AYES.

Adjourn to the Selectmen's Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Coginchau Regional High School to discuss proposed traffic light options at Fowler Avenue/Route 17/Maple Avenue

MOTION BY MARYANN BOORD, SECONDED BY BOB HALL, TO ADJOURN TO PUBLIC HEARING AT CRHS AT 6:45 P.M. 3 AYES.

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Public Hearing
CHRS
7:00 p.m.

Dept. of Transportation engineers John Vavari and William Peace presented traffic control options # 2, 5 and 6; option # 1, 3 and 4 are not being considered due to various reasons. All options have pro's and con's.

John Vavari briefly explained the process of designing traffic control options for intersections. Planning involves using "turning" templates to consider space allowances for vehicles of three sizes: single unit, school bus or oil truck, and tractor trailer.

Traffic volumes were compiled during a 24 hr. period at the Maple Ave/Rt. 17 and Rt. 17/Fowler Ave intersections. John stated the average speed of southbound traffic at the intersection is 46.6 mph and 41.7 mph for northbound traffic. Even though some data is 4 years old, John believes it is representative of today's usage.

John summarized the pro's and con's of options # 2, 5 and 6 as follows:

Option #2 will result in no impact on trees, the traffic will flow easily and the town road work will be at a minimum. On the negative side, there can be a conflict at the "y" merge; the project will be a 3-phase operation; left turns on Rt. 17 might lock up; and large vehicles turning in and out of Maple Ave. might have difficulty.

Option #5 will result in traffic flowing easily and no trees impacted. The con's are left turns on Rt. 17 will lock up; the project will be a 3-phase operation; large vehicles would not be able to stay in their own lane; and the right turn would be worst for tractor trailers.

Option #6 will result in left turns less likely to lock up and easy access for large vehicles (oil or bus). Negatively, there would be more road work and the loss of the tree and island; the project would be a 3-phase operation; a left turn into Maple Ave. would be difficult for tractor trailers; and there would be 2 "no turn on red signs".

Rick Parmelee stated handicapped curbing at the crosswalk should be incorporated into the plan. John Vavari responded handicapped curbing is used when sidewalks exist that can be ramped to. Also, safe landings onto the green and Post Office property from the crosswalk will be provided for in future plans.

Rick also asked what criteria must be met for the State to conduct a traffic survey of all of Main St. John responded accident patterns and trends are considered. The criteria to do a traffic survey is 15 accidents/ 3 yr. period.

John explained the traffic signal timing for the signals and

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that the signals could be phased out to flashing after a certain time.

Clayton Howe expressed concerns about the steep bank on the library property (option #5).

Mal Pearce preferred option #4 which worked well during the Durham Fair.

RoseMarie Naples questioned if special emphasis (bar) crosswalks can be successfully used in Durham. John stated they can work well in towns with public and elected officials support and enforcement. Maryann Boord stated public education has begun for the bar crosswalks (recently installed in 4 sites on Main St.) and the Conn. State Law re: pedestrians in crosswalks. Installation of the 4 warning signs (for the bar crosswalks) will be soon.

Maryann Boord stated State Police Troop F will enforce the new speed limit (on Main St.); a warning, then speeding tickets will be issued. She also explained the process necessary to appropriate the funds for this project: the Board of Selectmen makes a recommendation to the Board of Finance to appropriate funds for the signal. Then the Board of Finance recommends the Board of Selectmen take the appropriation to Town meeting. The Board of Selectmen then decides to hold a vote at the Town Meeting or a Referendum.

Bill Peace stated he favors option #2 and John Vavari favors option #6.

Kurt Bober recommended the referendum format as opposed to a vote at a town meeting. Also, he said the Board of Selectmen should receive the recommendation from the Board of Finance prior to one of the 6 options being chosen, and more studies should be done to project the impact on all of Main St. Kurt said accidents occur more frequently at other intersections where a light exists already compared to the one being discussed.

Rick Parmelee and Lynn Johnson agreed a comprehensive study of the entire street should be done.

Geoff Colegrove, Town Planner, favors Option #5, which maximizes safety and results in the least impact on trees.

Options #2, 5 and 6 will each cost \$50,000; the Town's share is \$25,000.

Maryann requested John Vavari and Bill Peace provide data showing the relationship between traffic lights on Main St. and the impact on each other prior to the special town meeting.

The Public Session ended at 9:07 p.m.

Maryann Boord reconvened the Board of Selectmen at 9:07 p.m. Maryann Boord, Fran Korn, and Tom Fenton, Town Engineer were present.

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MOTION BY MARYANN BOORD, SECONDED BY FRAN KORN, TO REQUEST THE BOARD OF FINANCE TO APPROPRIATE UP TO \$35,000 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A TRAFFIC LIGHT AT FOWLER AVE./RT. 17/MAPLE AVE. 2 AYES.

Adjournment

Maryann adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bev Veronick

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