

GILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S WORK SESSION
May 3, 2006
Town Hall

The Board of Selectmen convened in a work session on Wednesday, May 3, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. at the Gilford Town Hall, 47 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford, NH. Selectmen present were Chairman Dennis J. Doten, Alice H. Boucher, and Connie Grant. Also present was Town Administrator Evans E. Juris, Assistant Town Administrator/Finance Director Debra Shackett, Administrative Secretary Sandra J. Bailey, Police Chief John Markland, Police Captain Kevin Keenan and Director of Planning and Land Use John B. Ayer.

1.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Selectmen recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 FACILITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chairman Doten explained that the purpose of this work session is to provide direction to the Facility Planning Committee. He asked Police Chief Markland to provide his thoughts on the Committee. Chief Markland stated that he has spent almost five years on the Committee, conducted extensive research and failed to get the support of the taxpayers. He is now looking to the Board of Selectmen to direct the Committee.

Selectman Boucher stated that she feels there is another option beyond the four that were previously suggested by the Town Administrator. That option would be to keep the proposal and get more hardcore numbers on why the proposal was not approved. Chairman Doten stated that he feels the primary reason for the failure of the proposal is financial. Selectman Boucher stated that the information didn't get out early enough for the voters.

Chief Markland responded that he held several informational meetings, which were very sparsely attended. He added, though, that anyone who actually toured the present facility thought that a new facility was needed.

Selectman Grant suggested producing some working plans and negotiating the fees involved. Chairman Doten suggested that the Board might want to find a short term solution to the glaring problems in the evidence and booking areas. He also stated that they are realistically looking at 2008 as the earliest possible approval date for a new facility.

Chief Markland suggested that a capital reserve fund for the police facility may be the way to go. Selectman Boucher added that it is difficult to expand any one area of the police facility without affecting another area. Selectman Grant suggested that an addition to the existing facility should be considered. Discussion ensued on the problems associated with keeping the police department functioning during construction of an addition to the existing facility.

John Ayer, Director of Planning and Land Use, stated that the cost of a short term fix might not be worthwhile if the "fix" is going to be torn out. Captain Keenan stated that he felt that spending \$20,000 for safety issues would be

worthwhile. As further discussion ensued, Town Administrator Juris advised the Board of Selectmen that they would need to decide what course of action to pursue. He recommended closing off one bay of the sally port and using it as a booking room. The equipment in that bay would need to be placed in another rented storage trailer.

Town Administrator Juris also suggested that the public be shown what would happen to the existing police facility if a free-standing facility is constructed. He stated that the public had a concern with additional personnel being hired as a result of the new facility. He also stated that the need exists for another meeting room in the Town Hall and the moisture problem in the existing Police Department has not yet been addressed.

Selectman Boucher stated that she feels a separate building is needed. She also feels that the Facility Planning Committee should be kept intact to review the needs of various departments. Selectman Grant feels that the existing plans should be scaled back. Chief Markland stated that he feels that the FPC has fulfilled their mission. Assistant Town Administrator Shackett suggested that the Board of Selectmen accept the work of the FPC, thank them for their hard work and take over the project.

After more extensive discussion, Dennis Doten stated that he feels thanking the Committee and turning the project over to the Board of Selectmen is what needs to be done. Selectmen Boucher stated that the Committee should be thanked and asked to stay on as Committee members. More discussion ensued on how to make a future presentation to taxpayers so that the bond issue would be passed.

In closing, each person in attendance briefly summarized their thoughts on the future of the Facility Planning Committee and the police facility. It was the consensus of the Board that the Facility Planning Committee be thanked for their hard work and allow the Board of Selectmen to further address what course of action to follow.

3.0 SUMMER TOWN FORUM DATE – A date was set for the 2006 Summer Town Forum. It is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall in Conference Rooms A & B.

Selectman Boucher reminded Board members that the Laconia Airport Authority would be meeting on Monday, May 8, 2006 to select members-at-large.

4.0 NON-PUBLIC SESSION - RSA 91-A:3 II (a) (c) (e)

The Board of Selectmen on a roll call vote entered Non-Public Session at 4:02 p.m. Present were Selectmen Dennis Doten, Alice Boucher and Connie Grant, Town Administrator Evans Juris, Assistant Town Administrator Debra Shackett and Administrative Secretary Sandra Bailey.

While in Non-Public Session, the Board of Selectmen discussed a litigation concern and personnel matters. While in Non-Public Session, no action was

taken.

The Board exited Non-Public Session at 4:25 p.m.

Vote in Public Session- Entertainment Policy – Alice Boucher moved to suspend Section IX, Other (B) of the 2006 Entertainment Policy, dealing with property and liability insurance. Connie Grant seconded. Motion carried.

Vote in Public Session - Glendale Hires – Alice Boucher moved to approve and authorize the appointment of Alexa M. Juris and Charles R. Whitten to the position of Glendale Parking Enforcement, at a starting pay of \$10.00 per hour. Connie Grant seconded. Motion carried.

The Board of Selectmen on a roll call vote re-entered Non-Public Session at 4:37 p.m. Present were Selectmen Dennis Doten, Alice Boucher and Connie Grant, and Town Administrator Evans Juris. Assistant Town Administrator Debra Shackett and Administrative Secretary Sandra Bailey left the meeting at this time.

The Board exited Non-Public Session at 5:06 p.m.

5.0 ADJOURNMENT – With no further business before Board, the Board of Selectmen's May 3, 2006 meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra J. Bailey
Administrative Secretary