

**APPROVED**  
**BRUNSWICK TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**February 17, 2004**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**Municipal Meeting Facility**

**7:00 P.M. Executive Session – Union Negotiations  
Acquisition of Property**

**Councilor Rice moved, Councilor Desmarais seconded, to go into executive session to discuss union negotiations and the acquisition of property. The motion carried with eight (8) yeas. Councilor Priest was absent from the executive session.**

**7:30 P.M.** Chair Lowe called the meeting to order and asked for the Pledge to the Flag.

**Councilors Present:** W. David Watson, Jacqueline A. Sartoris, Robert A. Galloupe, Douglas A. Rice, Charles R. Priest, Barbara A. Desmarais, Forrest Lowe, Joanne T. King, Stephen H. McCausland.

**Councilors Absent:** None.

**Others Present:** Donald Gerrish, Town Manager; Patricia Harrington, Assistant Town Manager; Elin M. Gould, Acting Town Clerk; Mat Eddy, Economic Development Director; Steve Walker, Natural Resources Planner; Tom Farrell, Director of Parks and Recreation; Peter Baecher, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation; James Ashe, Superintendent of Schools; several citizens, members of the press, and the TV video crew.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting: February 2, 2004**

Hearing no objection, Chair Lowe declared the minutes of February 2, 2004 approved as written.

**Public Comment:**

Connie Lundquist, 11 Longfellow Ave., representing Citizens For a Better Way, a group organized to defeat the public safety referendum, urged the Town to take options on the Times Record building, which could serve a variety of municipal purposes; the Aubuchon Hardware building, to be used as a fire station with improvements to Pleasant St.; and the Guilford property along the railroad tracks behind Pleasant St.

Nancy Randolph, business owner at 47 Maine St., asked the Council to use the NAPA lot and not the NAPA building, to create parking in the downtown as was originally planned when that property was purchased.

Ervin Snyder, Colonial Drive, talked about misinformation regarding the old high school and outlined the history of the decision to build new rather than renovate the old high school.

**Correspondence:**

Chair Lowe welcomed back Town Manager Gerrish and thanked Assistant Manager Harrington for filling in since the first of the year.

Chair Lowe, on behalf of the Council and citizens of Brunswick, congratulated the Brunswick High School Debate Team for winning the State Championship in debating.

Councilor McCausland noted the death of Louis Drapeau, owner of the former Drapeau's Pharmacy in downtown Brunswick and Glen Gerry Springs, as well as the bowling alley on Dunlap St. which he later donated to the Knights of Columbus. Councilor McCausland said Mr. Drapeau led a good, long full life and contributed greatly to the Town of Brunswick.

**Manager's Report:**

Manager Gerrish thanked Patricia Harrington and all the Department Heads for their work during his absence.

Councilor Sartoris reported that the Mere Point Boat Launch Citizens Advisory Committee has drafted its recommendations for the Council and Planning Board. The Committee has finished their work to the extent they can until the Inland Fisheries & Wildlife process at the Board of Environmental Protection proceeds. The Committee will go on hiatus until that time. Councilor Sartoris also said the draft recommendations of the committee are available on the town website.

Manager Gerrish announced that the City of Bath is holding a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on April 17, 2004. Brunswick will be participating, and several other neighboring towns have been invited to participate, as well.

*(A copy of a memo from John Foster regarding the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be attached to the official minutes.)*

**Adjustments to Agenda:** None.

**24. The Town Council will hear public comments on the following request for a Victualer License and will take any appropriate action.**

El Camino  
15 Cushing Street

Eloise Humphrey

Chair Lowe opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, he closed the public hearing.

Manager Gerrish recommended approval.

**Councilor Rice moved, Councilor Galloupe seconded, to approve the Victualer License for El Camino. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the public hearing notice will be attached to the official minutes.)*

**25. The Town Council will consider a request from Curtis Memorial Library for an exception to the 90-day “special events” sign ordinance and will take any appropriate action.**

Steve Podgajny, Director of the Curtis Memorial Library, said the library is celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and is requesting permission to hang banners over two (2) of the Library doors for the remainder of 2004.

Councilor Priest asked for and received assurance from Mr. Podgajny that the banners would be monitored for wear and tear and be taken down if they became tattered or soiled.

**Councilor McCausland moved, Councilor Priest seconded, to approve the request from Curtis Memorial Library for an exception to the 90 day “special events” sign ordinance, to allow for hanging of the Library’s 100 Year Anniversary banners. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of a letter from Stephen Podgajny will be attached to the official minutes.)*

**26. The Town Council will consider setting a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Parking Ordinance (emergency and regular) and will take any appropriate action.**

Mat Eddy, Economic Development Director, explained that this is to allow policing of leased parking at Gardiner Savings and for any future leased parking that the Town is able to develop.

Manager Gerrish said the Police Department supports this amendment.

**Councilor Sartoris moved, Councilor Rice seconded, to set a public hearing for March 1, 2004 to hear comments on proposed amendments to the Parking Ordinance on an emergency and regular basis, regarding permit parking. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

**27. The Town Council will consider a resolution regarding televised meetings of the Brunswick Sewer District Board of Trustees and will take any appropriate action.**

Councilor Priest read the resolution.

**Councilor Priest moved, Councilor Sartoris seconded, to adopt the Resolution regarding televising of Brunswick Sewer District Trustees meetings. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the Resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)*

**28. The Town Council will hear a report from the Town Commons Committee regarding a Forest Management Plan and will take any appropriate action.**

Chris Livesay, representing the Town Commons Committee, said the Town Council is the designated trustee of the Town Commons with a duty to see it appropriately utilized and managed. To that end, the Council appoints the Town Commons Committee, which from time to time reports back to the Council. Mr. Livesay reported that within the last year, an environmental consulting firm, Wood Lots Alternative, was retained to form a management plan for the Commons. Their report indicated a need to eliminate invasive white pine trees in order to maintain the pitch pines barren, which is one (1) of only eight (8) in Maine. The trees would generate revenue so there would be very little expense to the Town to remove the white pines. A portion of the Commons would need to be closed for approximately two (2) weeks and would be appropriately posted and advertised.

Steve Walker gave a power point presentation on this pitch pine heath barren project. He noted that there would be no tree removal between the trail and neighboring houses to maintain as much of a buffer as possible.

Steve Pelletier, the forester who would be overseeing the operation, said approximately one hundred twenty (120) trees would be removed. Entrance would be gained from Route 123, a yard would be established and a mechanical harvester brought in. Log length would be short to prevent residual damage, larger trees and those in wetland areas would be cut by hand. The trees would generate about thirty thousand (30,000) board feet of lumber, and enough revenue to cover the cost of seven (7) to eight (8) days of the labor. The project should take a maximum of ten (10) days. The project should be done while the ground is still frozen. Chips will be stockpiled for future maintenance. Responding to Councilor Sartoris' question, he said the lumber should generate between twelve thousand (\$12,000) and fifteen thousand (\$15,000) dollars of the possible eighteen thousand (\$18,000) dollar cost of the project.

Manager Gerrish said the money was not specifically budgeted and would be taken from a contingency account.

**Councilor McCausland moved, Councilor Sartoris seconded, to accept the Forest Management Plan as presented by the Brunswick Town Commons Committee. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of Mr. Walker's presentation will be attached to the official minutes.)*

**29. The Town council will consider a resignation and subsequent appointment to the Council's Appointment Subcommittee and will take any appropriate action.**

Without objection, Chair Lowe appointed Councilor Sartoris to replace Councilor Galloupe on the Appointment Subcommittee.

**30. The Town Council will consider appointments to the Town's Boards and Committees, and will take any appropriate action.**

Councilor Galloupe explained that there were three (3) full member openings for terms to expire February 23, 2007.

Councilor Galloupe nominated Jeffrey Peters.

Councilor Desmarais nominated Dana Totman.

Councilor King nominated George Hunter.

Councilor Priest nominated Ed Hawes.

Councilor Rice nominated Austin Treworgy.

**Councilor McCausland moved, Councilor Sartoris seconded, to cease nominations. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

Each Councilor had three (3) votes, for three (3) different nominees.

Mr. Peters received one (1) vote: Galloupe.

Mr. Totman received nine (9) votes: Watson, Sartoris, Galloupe, Rice, Lowe, Priest, Desmarais, King, McCausland.

Mr. Hunter received seven (7) votes: Watson, Galloupe, Rice, Lowe, Desmarais, King, McCausland.

Mr. Hawes received two (2) votes: Sartoris, Priest.

Mr. Treworgy received eight (8) votes: Watson, Sartoris, Rice, Lowe, Priest, Desmarais, King, McCausland.

**George Hunter was re-appointed to the Planning Board for a three (3) year term to expire 2/23/2007. Dana Totman and Austin Treworgy were appointed to the Planning Board for three (3) year terms to expire 2/23/2007.**

Chair Lowe expressed the Council's appreciation to Bill Smith and Ed Hawes for their many years of excellent service on the Planning Board.

Councilor Galloupe nominated Jeffrey Peters to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three (3) year term to expire 11/20/2006.

**Councilor Desmarais moved, Councilor Galloupe seconded, that nominations cease and the Chair cast one (1) vote for Jeffrey Peters as a full member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three (3) year term to expire 11/20/2006. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

**31. The Town Council will hear a presentation by the Brunswick School Department regarding Facilities Planning and will take any appropriate action.**

Superintendent of Schools James Ashe gave this presentation to the Council on the history of the facilities needs of the School Department.

Mr. Ashe, responding to a question from Councilor McCausland, said he could not say what the local share of the cost would be. The amount would depend on what the state decides Brunswick needs. He also said that the Town may decide to have some larger spaces, additional space, or better quality construction than the State is willing to fund, all of which would affect the municipal share of the cost.

Councilor McCausland also asked about the time table to receive State approval.

Mr. Ashe responded that it is unknown where Brunswick will place on the list. Since the initial thought was to renovate and expand the existing schools, funds would have come from a revolving renovation fund. Now, however, the emphasis is on building a new elementary school and doing minor renovations to the existing schools, as Brunswick would score higher on the list with that option. Brunswick is a municipality that takes good care of its school buildings and enrollment is of a size that the State recommends school systems should be. These are positive factors in placement on the school construction list. However, a lot of school systems will be looking for help. Mr. Ashe went on to say that enrollment has not decreased so that the portable classrooms could be eliminated. Hopefully, next spring an answer will be forthcoming from the State as to what they see as the best program for Brunswick's needs.

Councilor Sartoris asked if anything is currently known that would take the old high school site off the list.

Mr. Ashe responded that it depends on the size of the school the State will participate in. The state is thinking of larger schools and the old high school site would likely be too small for what might be recommended by the state. There is no way to know until the State makes its recommendation for size and grade configuration. He also felt a major expense such as this would have to be in partnership with the State and acknowledged that this uncertainty does not work well with the decisions the Council faces regarding municipal facilities.

Councilor Lowe asked if the application is for facilities enhancement for the Brunswick school system with a specific focus on a five hundred (500) student elementary school.

Mr. Ashe responded that he had been asked to do a needs based Kindergarten through Grade eight (8) application. However, the application process was changed at the end of November and now an application must be submitted for every school Kindergarten through Grade eight (8). The suggestion would be for a new elementary school and the elimination of portable classrooms at Jordan Acres and Coffin, while looking at the best use of Hawthorne School.

*(A copy of the presentation will be attached to the official minutes.)*

Chair Lowe reminded everyone of a Council Workshop on February 23, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.

**Councilor Priest moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

**PLEASE NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM. A RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS.**

*Elin M. Gould  
Acting Town Clerk  
February 20, 2004*

March 1, 2004

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*Date of Approval*

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*Council Chair*