

BRUNSWICK TOWN COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 1996

Municipal Meeting Facility 7:30 P.M.

Chair McCausland called the meeting to order and asked for the Pledge to the Flag.

Councilors Present: Chair Stephen McCausland, Michael Feldman, Eleanor Swanson, Robert Galloupe, Leon Laffely, Clement Wilson, Faith Moll, and Ervin Snyder.

Others Present: Donald Gerrish, Town Manager; Deborah Cabana, Town Clerk; Jerry Hinton, Police Chief; Patrick Scully, Town Attorney representative; Casco Cable TV; and various members of the public.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Councilor Wilson moved, Councilor Snyder seconded to approve the Town Council minutes of July 15, 1996 as presented. The motion carried with seven (7) yeas and one (1) abstention.

Correspondence: There was no correspondence.

Manager's Report:

1) Budget Update. Manager Gerrish commented that in the first month the budget is in great condition.

2) Suggestion Incentive Program Report. A suggestion was received by Sharon Callahan from the Jr. High. She stated that materials sent to the Jr. High for distribution about the Parks and Recreation programs are not taken home by the children and are therefore wasted. She suggested ideas of how to "get the word out" while using less paper. The estimated savings realized was approximately \$78.75. Mr. Gerrish recommended that 15% of the savings (\$11.81), be given to Ms. Callahan.

3) Update on Zoning Ordinance Task Force. Charlie Wiercinski updated the Council on the status of the Zoning Ordinance and acknowledged the hard work of the committee and their great efforts. Recently, a lot of time had been spent on issues regarding the Bowdoin College neighborhood. Several chapters have been sent in revised draft form to the attorneys for their comments. The current schedule will be to set a public hearing on September 19th (the focus of this meeting will be Bowdoin and its neighborhood issues). Subsequently, he hoped there would be another public hearing in mid October with the revised draft Ordinance. The Ordinance will then be presented to the Council for their own public hearing. Remaining issues will be the Coastal Protection Zone, the Resource Protection Zone, and the Aquifer Protection Zone. Many people have expressed concern on how the environmental issues will be handled, however, Mr. Wiercinski felt this should be the next step after the larger portion of the Ordinance is taken care of. He noted that one member of the Zoning Task Force had moved out of town and had to resign. When asked if this member should be replaced, he answered that it might be extremely difficult for any individual to join at this time if they had not been involved in the whole process.

Councilor Snyder concurred with Mr. Wiercinski's comments. He also felt it would be difficult for a new person to join the committee at this time.

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Councilor Moll agreed with both Councilor Snyder and Mr. Wiercinski. She hoped that this phase of the Zoning Ordinance would pass without much controversy.

Chair McCausland felt he spoke for the Council in that the committee has done an incredible job. He further commended the committee for obtaining public input.

4) Update on Library Building Committee. Manager Gerrish informed the Council that positions for the Library Building Committee have been advertised for and interviews have been conducted. The Committee will be a nine member committee made up of one Town Councilor, two representatives from the Library Board of Trustees, and six citizens. The Board of Trustees of the Library have asked that Jim Henderson and Doug Morton be their two representatives. Applications were received from Pam Galvin, Doug Morrell, Jan Wilke, Hugh Savage, and Harold Hutchinson. Mr. Gerrish asked for direction from the Council on whether they wanted him to re-advertise for the sixth citizen position.

Councilor Snyder felt there were citizens in the community who would like to serve on this committee and asked that the position be re-advertised. He added that he would be happy to serve on this committee.

Councilor Wilson had also volunteered to serve on this committee.

Chair McCausland felt that this committee wanted to get going and unless there were any objections, suggested that an additional Councilor could serve instead of the sixth citizen, thus rounding off the committee.

5) Update on the Brunswick/Harpswell boundary lines. Manager Gerrish met with representatives of Harpswell regarding the Middle Bay area. Harpswell presented their position on the issue of the town line between Brunswick and Harpswell in the Middle Bay area. Brunswick had entered into an agreement with Harpswell to hire a surveyor to establish the line between Brunswick and Harpswell. The surveyor was finishing their work when Brunswick was approached by the Town of Harpswell that they had been approached by citizens in their community who felt that the line which has been used for the last forty years was not the location of the line between the two communities. Harpswell would like to pursue different alternatives and has presented to Brunswick where they feel the line should be. Mr. Gerrish demonstrated this location on a wall map. He noted that this area is the most beneficial harvesting area. He concluded by saying that this is an issue which will be pursued by Brunswick's attorneys.

Chair McCausland commented that it was obvious that more expertise is needed. It may cost a significant amount of money for attorney's fees and research. Chair McCausland hoped for an equitable agreement for both communities.

Manager Gerrish read part of the letter from the Harpswell Attorney's report. A copy of this letter will be attached to the official minutes.

6) Update on the new position of Natural Resource Planner. Manager Gerrish informed the Council that the Town received over 50 applications for the recently advertised position of Natural Resource Planner. After meeting with five excellent candidates, the position was offered to Alan Houston, former Brunswick Shellfish Conservation Warden. He will start around September 3rd. Town Council Minutes August 5, 1996 Page 3

7) Presentation of Certification Award to Town Clerk. Chair McCausland presented a plaque from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks to Town Clerk Deborah Cabana, recognizing her for attaining the professional status of Certified Municipal Clerk.

Adjustments to Agenda: There was no adjustment to the agenda.

142. The Town Council will hear public comments on the proposed amendment to the Sign Ordinance by adding Section 408.4(16) as advertised. (If approved, this amendment will be enacted on an emergency and regular basis).

The public hearing opened at 8:05 p.m.

This is the public hearing on the proposed amendment to the Sign Ordinance which was advertised to be

enacted on both a regular and emergency basis. The recommendation from the Planning Board is to add a new section pertaining to Churches in the Suburban Residential District. (This amendment pertains to the request from St. Charles Church to replace their sign which was destroyed last December by a hit and run driver.) Town Planner Andrew Singelakis suggested that the proposed language in the sign ordinance be amended to read:

ADD NEW SECTION 408.4(16)

Churches located in, or partly in, the Suburban Residential District shall be entitled to one ground sign not to exceed twenty (20) square feet per side. The maximum height for such signs shall be four (4) feet. Lighting shall be direct only, and light shall not emit beyond the sign face. Lettering and logos for such signs shall be carved and engraved.

Al Obery, a St. Charles member - hoped that the church could have an attractive sign. This sign will give definite direction to people who want to locate the church.

Anthony Bernier of 10 Belmont St. - asked the Council to approve the request.

The public hearing closed at 8:09 p.m.

Councilor Wilson moved, Councilor Laffely seconded to approve the amendment to the Sign Ordinance as advertised, said enactment being on both a regular and emergency basis.

Councilor Moll moved, Councilor Snyder seconded to amend the motion to change the wording of the language to state: Churches located in, or partly in, the Suburban Residential District shall be entitled to one ground sign not to exceed twenty (20) square feet per side. The maximum height for such signs shall be four (4) feet. Lighting shall be direct only, and light shall not emit beyond the sign face. Lettering and logos for such signs shall be carved and or engraved. The amendment was voted on and carried with eight (8) yeas.

The motion as amended was voted on and carried with eight (8) yeas.

143. The Town Council will discuss the Approval of Transfer of Fortuitous Assets, as authorized pursuant to 15 M.R.S.A. 5824(3) and take any appropriate action. (Manager) Town Council Minutes August 5, 1996 Page 4

Manager Gerrish stated that this item pertains to 15 M.R.S.A. 5824(3) which requires the Council to publicly vote to approve the transfer of forfeiture assets. The Police Department would receive \$577.00 of funds to be used in the pursuit of getting rid of drugs in Brunswick. Mr. Gerrish anticipated that Brunswick would be seeing more of this in the future.

Councilor Snyder moved, Councilor Wilson seconded that the Brunswick Town Council does hereby approve of the transfer of the Defendant(s) In Rem, or any portion thereof, to the Town of Brunswick, Maine pursuant to 15 M.R.S.A. 5824(3) and 5826(6). The motion carried with eight (8) yeas.

144. The Town Council will discuss funding for Joint Dispatching Study between Bath/Brunswick/Topsham and Sagadahoc County, and take any appropriate action. (Manager)

Eddie Palmer - suggested that the town of Brunswick has valuable people who might serve on a committee to do this study.

Manager Gerrish informed the Council that a working group of representatives from Brunswick, Bath, Topsham and Sagadahoc County have been working on the issue of Joint Dispatching. The group is recommending that RAM Communications Consultants, Inc. from Andover, Mass. be hired to prepare a report on the potential of the consolidation. Brunswick's share of the cost of the report would not exceed \$7,000 and the money would come from the Contingency Account. This report would be completed in approximately 12 weeks. Councilors Galloupe and Snyder have been representatives in the group from Brunswick. Mr. Gerrish

felt this was a very positive step that the community is making.

Police Chief Hinton felt this was a benefit to all the communities. It was his opinion that this \$27,500, shared by each community, would be money well spent.

Councilor Galloupe pointed out that RAM Communications is not selling equipment. He felt that this company is very fair with no "hidden" agenda.

Councilor Snyder was impressed with the amount of cooperation among the four communities involved. The Naval Air Station and the Cumberland County Sheriffs Department have been kept informed and have offered good input.

Councilor Wilson moved, Councilor Feldman seconded to hire RAM Communications Consultants, Inc. to prepare a report on the potential of consolidating Dispatching between Bath, Brunswick, Topsham, and Sagadahoc County; Brunswick's share of the cost toward the report is not to exceed \$7,000 (money would come from the Contingency Fund). The motion carried with eight (8) yeas.

Chair McCausland pointed out that this item has already been approved by Bath and Topsham. The County Commissioners of Sagadahoc will consider this next week. He was delighted that Brunswick will join them.

145. The Town Council will consider an emergency ordinance under Section 212 of the Charter to re-enact with amendments Chapter 11, Marine Activities, Structures and Ways, Article III, Shellfishing, and re-enact existing closures. (Manager)

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Manager Gerrish explained that the Shellfish Ordinance expires every three years. This will need to be re-enacted on an emergency basis, closures included, until 1999.

Councilor Feldman moved, Councilor Snyder seconded to adopt the Emergency Ordinance under Section 212 of the Charter to re-enact with amendments Chapter 11, Marine Activities, Structures and Ways, Article III, Shellfishing, and re-enact existing closures. The motion carried with eight (8) yeas.

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Chair McCausland notified the public that there still exist openings for committee volunteers and encouraged any citizens who might be interested to contact a Councilor or come into the municipal building for an application.

Councilor Laffely moved, Councilor Feldman seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with eight (8) yeas and the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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

Deborah S. Cabana Town Clerk August 9, 1996

Date of approval

Chair

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