

Town of Bartlett Office of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes: November 21, 2008

Attendance: Chairman Gene Chandler, Douglas Garland, Jon Tanguay

Reporters: None

Meeting opened at 08:30 AM.

Motion was made by Selectman Tanguay, seconded by Selectman Garland to enter nonpublic session under NH RSA 91-A-II (b) for a personnel matter involving the Bartlett Recreation Department. Vote was unanimous to enter nonpublic session at 09:15 AM. Motion was made by Chairman Chandler at 09:30 AM to end the nonpublic session and seconded by Selectman Garland. Motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Garland made a motion at 09:40 AM to enter nonpublic session to discuss a request for aid under NH RSA 91-A: 3 II (c). Selectman Tanguay seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Selectman Garland made a motion at 09:50 AM to end the nonpublic session and to seal the minutes. Selectman Tanguay seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert Clark of the Bartlett School Board Budget Committee met with the Selectmen for a school board budget matter. Clark distributed a letter for review by the Selectmen that stated that the board has eliminated the expenditure for the Bartlett Recreation Department. Selectman Garland replied does that means there will be no sports at Bartlett next year which is going to be too bad. Selectman Garland inquired as to whose recommendation was this. Clark replied that it was the Boards which are made up of Daniel Perley, Rob Clark, Bartlett Principal Joe Voci, Jim Hill and Becky Jefferson of the SAU 9 office. Clark stated that they are trying to get to a 0% budget increase excluding increases in health insurance, fuel oil and new special education expenses. Clark went on to say that they aren't looking for the Recreation Department to disappear but be transferred to the Town as the town oversees the administration end. Clark went on to say that each year the school is given a budget from the Recreation Department to cover the costs of the coaches but they never see any of the revenues. Selectman Garland reminded Clark that there is no charge for the sports and that the committee needs to go back six years ago when the Town's people made it known their wishes concerning the sports programs. There was an agreement between the Town and the School where the Recreation

Department took over the sports for grades 6 and below and the middle school sports were the only sports left that the school would do. Chairman Chandler reminded Clark that some of the sports are on school time and school grounds so the school should take some responsibility. Chairman Chandler stated that to achieve real savings cuts of staff or programs would need to be done. Selectman Garland stated that the agreement they had when the program was started made sense and in the 6 years of this program the school has been paying the same price and this is the only thing at the school that hasn't gone up therefore he feels they are getting a pretty good deal. Clark wants to increase the town budget for continuity of the Recreation Department as the Recreation Department is a town program. Chairman Chandler corrected Clark that it is a Town and School program that is done on school property and on school time. Selectman Tanguay inquired if the goal was to get rid of the Recreation Department. Clark stated that they want to create the Recreation as all funding being Selectmen/Town entity. Selectman Tanguay inquired about the statement in the letter that says the Budget Committee has made the recommendation as the School Board has no control over the Recreation budget and they don't receive any of the revenues from the Recreation Department just what kind of control they want to have and what do they want for revenues. Clark replied that they have expenditures going out and no offset by revenues coming in. Selectman Tanguay replied that the fund raising done by the Recreation Department is all put back in to run the programs. Selectman Garland reminded Clark that they don't charge for sports, but still have to outfit each player. Selectman Tanguay stated that if there were no fund raising the programs would be over. Selectman Garland suggested that the Board go back to the original minutes of the meeting when this was originally set up and they will see what the wishes of the town was and that nothing has gone up in six years and to withdraw the sports from the children would be a major blow. Chairman Chandler mentioned that there has been major improvements to the ball field that was done by the recreation department and where does the school think the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will play if they don't use the recreation field. He also mentioned that the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade soccer was originally run by the school but it is now run by the Recreation Department. Chairman Chandler stated that this is a phony 0% budget and they are fudging the numbers. Clark once again replied that they are looking at the big picture of the recreation department and that is one entity they have

no control over. Once again Selectman Garland stated that this is the only part of the school budget that hasn't gone up and yet the town's portions has picked up more expenses such as in wages, insurance, etc. Selectman Garland also reminded Clark that Principal Voci was happy to have the Recreation department take over scheduling and the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade programs. Chairman Chandler inquired as to what happens when Jackson who pays money to Bartlett finds out that the programs have been eliminated. Clark stated that it is all the same money school and town. Chairman Chandler replied that this is smoke and mirrors and just a scam. Chairman Chandler stated that if they make a list of what works well, the recreation department does, and the Town and School have always gotten along in that area.

Terry Miller, U.S. Forest Service, stopped in to let the Selectmen know that over on Rick's Road in the Birchview by the Saco development that the beavers had dammed the pond so that Garland had no access to his property. The forest service had spoken to the Department of Environmental Services and in a situation like this where the homeowner can't get to the property they were given the ok to break up the beaver dam to lower the pond. The US Forest Service went there to supervise the work and while there the Weigolds caused a fuss. It was resolved and the work was done by George Weigold. Miller mentioned that the Department of Environmental Service in the future may raise the road so as to get the proper water flow. Chairman Chandler requested that Miller take a look at Loop Road off the Bear Notch Road as there was work done to the road and now it is only wide enough for one vehicle. Miller stated that the road was raised for drainage so that the road wouldn't wash out but he would go take a look at the road.

Selectman Tanguay had a prior commitment and left the meeting at 11:20 AM.

The Selectmen reviewed correspondence, building permits, signed letters and checks prior to and throughout the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Medeiros, Sec.