

MINUTES

January 15, 2007

The Selectmen met for their weekly meeting. Present were Selectmen Sharon Davis, Charles Wheeler, and James McGarr. Selectmen Cheney and Homer were unable to attend tonight's meeting. The Board spent the first half hour going over the manifest, and signing three Intents to Cut, a warrant for a Land Use Penalty, and approval of an application for a new resident.

Due to the weather tonight, the Board had rescheduled the interviews with the architects for the Town's building needs. Patrick Miller, who is on the Building Committee, is rescheduling the interviews for next Monday, and the Board will make a decision after the interviews are completed.

At 6:30 p.m., the Board met with Jane Kellogg and Melissa Greenawalt-Yelle to discuss the proposed 2007 Conservation Commission budget. The budget changed very little, and was actually down \$25.00 from last year's budget. Jane indicated they had put a sign up at the Blair Woodlands Forest area parking lot indicating that lot was closed for the winter. Selectman McGarr made a motion to accept the proposed budget submitted by the Commission, and this was seconded by Selectman Davis, and voted in the affirmative by all. Jane also indicated that presently there are 5 members on the Commission, and they are allowed 7 so the Commission is always looking for more members. The Board suggested that she could put a notice in the newspaper. Ann Marie suggested our Town website, and Selectman Wheeler suggested that she look into 101.1 radio which does some non-profit advertising. Jane discussed the Land Use Penalty account money that is given to the Conservation Commission each year which is 50% of the monies collected. Ann Marie had some figures to give her from the amount that our Town Treasurer transferred to that account before the end of the year, and that amount was \$55,041.50. With the previous amounts collected, and the interest accrued, there is almost \$159,000.00 in this account. Selectman Davis suggested that the Board might want to consider using the interest from this account to fund the Conservation budget, commenting that every little bit helps the tax rate. Jane also inquired about the date of the budget hearing which Ann Marie indicated had not been decided yet, but will probably be the week of February 12th. Jane indicated that Patrick Miller is going to be having an informational meeting on the carbon coalition warrant at the Campton Historical Society on February 15th.

The Board met next with Library Trustees, Isabel Barach, Dianne Morrison, and Fred Johnson to discuss the 2007 proposed Library budget. The Library has recently lost the services of both its Librarian and Assistant Librarian. Mr. Johnson has been voluntarily manning the Library, along with his friend, for the past few weeks so it is opened for its patrons. The Selectmen and the Trustees agreed to discuss the turnover in a Non Public Session later in tonight's meeting, but first wanted to go over the budget. The Trustees have already begun to advertise for a new Library Director, and have not had much of a response. The Board and the Trustees had a long discussion about how to attract the most qualified person, and offer some wages and benefits that will help find this person. It was agreed that this position would be kept to a part-time position at this point in time, but the hourly rate should be something more in line, with what is needed for the position. Between the Board and the Trustees, they were able to take some monies out of

other line items, and add it to the Librarian wages line. They were able to achieve this, and keep the bottom line the same. The Trustees were very grateful for the Selectmen's help. Selectman Wheeler made a motion to approve a 2007 proposed budget for the Library in the amount of \$40,000.00, and this was seconded by Selectman Davis, and voted in the affirmative by all.

Selectman Wheeler made a motion to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, 11 (c) for a Personnel matter, and this was seconded by Selectman Davis, and voted in the affirmative by the Board.

When the Board came out of Non Public Session, they learned that the Library's website, is no longer up and running, and suggested that the Town's webmaster, Beverly Chappell maybe able to help. Ann Marie will contact her.

The Board then went over correspondence. Ann Marie gave each member a copy of the final 2006 expenditures, together with income figures, and some encumbrances including the Pike land, Town Garage, and remainder of the funds for the Fire Substation. We received a letter from the State's DOT, indicating that the owners of the Dunkin Donuts can apply for the driveway permit which they originally wanted the Town to apply for. Ann Marie indicated that she had spoken to Donna Lane, and we will be receiving paperwork for the Feasibility grant, and once that is received and signed, can hire a grant administrator for the grant, and proceed with the work to be done. Since the Board will be busy with budgets and warrant articles for the next few weeks, it was agreed to invite Senator Deb Reynolds to come in at another time. The Board will meet Wednesday night with Town Attorney Tim Bates at the Town Office. We received a letter from Josephine Belville about the cyclical work which she was under the misunderstanding that we were not making any changes. Ann Marie spoke with Mark, and sent him copies of the minutes from the Selectmen's meeting, where it was voted to pick up errors, omissions, and any additions that would require a permit, that a property owner had not applied for.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the previous meeting by Selectman Wheeler, and seconded by Selectman Davis, and voted in the affirmative by all.

Under other business, the Board discussed some of the questions that they wanted to talk to Attorney Bates with Wednesday night. Selectman McGarr questioned some help that we were giving a welfare recipient, and it was agreed to discuss this with Tim as well. Ann Marie reminded the Board that she would not be in next week, and that May would be covering the meeting for her. She also advised the Board that Compliance Officer, Charlie Brosseau had a successful surgery, and was home slowly recovering, and had to wear a neck brace for a month.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Foote
Town Administrator