

MINUTES
October 22, 2007

The Board of Selectmen met for their weekly meeting at 6 p.m. in the Town Office Meeting Room. Present were Selectmen Charles Wheeler, James McGarr, Sharon Davis, and Craig Keeney. Selectman Charles Cheney came in around 7 p.m. The Board spent the first half hour going over the manifest and reviewing the bills. They also signed an Intent to Build, a new residency application, a Land Use Change Tax Warrant, and an abatement on a timber tax.

At 6:30 p.m. the Chairman began the agenda for the evening. The first matter to be discussed was a tax matter. Selectman Wheeler made a motion to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, 11 (c), and this was seconded by Selectman McGarr, and voted in the affirmative by all.

The Board then met with Tax Collector Hannah Joyce to do a final review of the properties up for tax deeding on Friday. A travel trailer up for deeding was discussed, and due to the fact that it does not appear to be the same trailer that was originally taxed, will not be deeded. The Board will discuss further on what needs to be done to get the park owner to work with the Town in notifying us when a trailer is removed and replaced. Another difficult case was discussed which involved the taking of a home. While the Board felt very hesitant about taking someone's home, it was agreed that if the owners had not made an attempt to contact the Town and try to come up with a payment agreement or discuss their situation, that the Board had no choice but to deed it. Selectman McGarr commented that it was clear from the Tax Collector's file that she had gone the extra distance to notify all owners up for deeding of this process by way of reminders, options to make payments, and the required certified notifications. The Board signed waivers for any properties that they determined would be a liability to deed. If the Town was going to sell any of these properties, we would be obligated to send a notice to the previous owner giving them the right to repurchase, and they have the right to redeem it at any time while it is under Town ownership. Back taxes, interest, penalties and a one time penalty would be included in the pay back figures.

The Board met next with members of the Park and Recreation Commission. Present tonight were Donna Hiltz, Lisa Donner, and Daniel Morel. Other members on the commission not present tonight include Amy Dennis and Lisa Ash. Donna explained that unfortunately the commission has not been able to find a director for the program. They had interviewed, and were all set to hire an individual, but the person decided to decline it as it would mean a move for her, and she did not want to do this for a part-time position. The Commissioners went back to the table to find an alternative solution. They would like to see an after school program get started to help draw attention and recognition to the program. Lisa Ash has offered to be the Acting Director and has presented a proposal to get the program up and running. Having a program in place would also help make the task less daunting for an applicant in the future. Having the program in place will also give us more of a chance of getting the A plus grant that Lisa Ash is applying for the Parks and Recreation programs. The commission had put together a proposed budget. It was pointed out to the commission that the Town budget is on a calendar year, and their budget showed expenditures from November thru March. They were encouraged to acquire as much as they could by the end of the year so they would not have to include any of

these items in the 2008 budget. Selectman McGarr suggested that perhaps they could have a contract with Lisa Ash rather than pay her weekly so they could take that expenditure out of this year's budget. They could also look into seeing if some of the contracted services could be paid for up front as well. They will be looking for instructors for this program. Selectman Keeney suggested that Peggy Grass be contacted as she has experience in working on Parks and Recreation programs for both Plymouth and Rumney. Selectman Davis advised the Board that the Parks and Recreation Commission needs a letter of support from the Board of Selectmen for the 21st Century Learning Center which she would like the Board's permission to write and send out. Selectman Wheeler made a motion to give Selectman Davis this authorization, and it was seconded by Selectman McGarr, and voted in the affirmative for Selectman Davis to sign this letter of support.

The Board then went on to correspondence. The first order of business was for Chairman James McGarr to announce the official 2007 tax rate. This year's rate is \$19.16 with a breakdown as follows - \$4.57 Town portion, School - \$10.49, County - \$1.58, and State Education Tax - \$2.52. Last year's rate was \$17.75. The Waterville Estates Precinct rate is \$15.41, Campton Village's rate is 35 cents and Beebe River Village Precinct' rate is \$4.23.

Ann Marie advise the Board that Jason Russo who came to speak to the Board last week about his house being over the 35 feet height restriction has spoke to Fire Chief David Tobine who gave him a letter stating that he would be satisfied if Mr. Russo put a sprinkler system in on the second and third floors of the cupola. Mr. Russo has applied for a special exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment. This hearing will be noticed in the newspaper and scheduled within the next few weeks. The Town received an invitation to an Open House at the Downtown Northway Bank on November 7, 2007 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Ann Marie advised the Board that Laconia Electric will not take back the electrical wiring that we had ordered and do not now need since it had been cut from a spool. Selectman Craig Keeney volunteered to talk with them, and see what he could do about returning it.

The next item on the agenda was the review of last week's minutes. Selectman Wheeler made a motion to approve them as written, and Selectmen Keeney seconded it. The minutes were approved as written unanimously.

The Board then went on to other business. Selectman Davis indicated that she has again made contact with Brian Donovan from Pike about another small section of land that the Town would like to purchase to square off the lot for the Municipal Buildings. Mr. Donovan has advised that the surveyor is working on the plan discussed. Selectman Keeney had some information about calcium chloride and other materials, including sugar beets that are used by highway departments to cut down on the dust on gravel roads. These materials, not only cut down on the dust, but helped in the maintenance of the gravel roads, and actually cut back the grading needed on the roads. Selectman Keeney indicated that Dan Bergeron had told him about this use in Canada where they have weather conditions even more severe than ours. Selectman Keeney also wanted to know when the Library Trustees had their meetings, and if we got copies of their minutes. Ann Marie will find out when the meetings are held, but we do not get copies of their minutes. Selectman McGarr brought up the paving that the Road Agent wants to do on Southmayd Road. He felt that with some of the issues on that road with driveway entrances and heavy truck use

that they should pave a different road. Selectman McGarr felt that paving Beaverbrook Road may be a better investment of the Town funds, while Selectman Cheney mentioned Bog Road as another possibility. Both these roads were in worse shape than Southmayd. The other Board members agreed. Ann Marie will advise the Road Agent of their decision. Selectman Wheeler reported that he went to the Capital Improvement Program meeting and met with Mitch Manseau and Lloyd Willey. He indicated that they had an interesting road matrix, and that the Road Agent should see if this is something that may be of help to him. He also indicated that he believed that the Police Department's radar trailer unit could give us a car count to help determine the amount of vehicles traveling on different Town roads.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Foote
Town Administrator