

Minutes of Selectmens Meeting
December 2, 1996

Selectmen Present: Peter Moore, Carol Smith and Michael
Oldershaw

Others present were: Dick Edmunds, Bob Beauchamp, Lyman Gilmore,
Paul Ruess, Debbie Thornblad, Bob Bernstein, Andrea Gilbert and
Peter Martel.

The meeting opened at 6:00 P.M.

The Proposed 1997 Fire Department budget was presented. An
overall budget increase of 17% was discussed. The increase
results from a proposal to increase the hourly wages for
certified fire fighters to \$8.00 per hour for fire responses. It
would be \$5.15 for non-certified personnel, training and
meetings. Also responsible for the increase is the additional
\$10,200 needed to replace 6 Scott Air Packs which are 20 years
old.

Selectmen gave their permission for the use of alcohol at a
Yankee Swap this weekend at the fire station *by a majority vote.*

Upon proper motion, the Board went into Executive Session at 6:50
to discuss a personnel issue.

The Board reconvened at 7:05 in open session.

The Library budget was presented. The overall budget is up 8%.
The increases are as follows: As a merit increase for the staff
the Trustees are proposing a 4.48% increase for assistants and a
3.16% increase for the director. Due to increased use of the
Library the Trustees are also proposing an increase of 3 hours
per week for the Director and Assistant #1. A new position to be
added of Library Clerk for 6 hours on Saturday. The increase of
the above would be \$7,319. Telephone expenses have increased due
to a new phone line. Electricity to increase due to an extra
computer which was donated. 1997 Repair/Maintenance Plan
proposed decreased by \$3500.

Bob Bernstein, Andrea Gilbert and Peter Martel discussed putting
together information for a block grant to be completed by 1/27/97
for The Grapevine. A discussion will be held on Dec. 6th in
Antrim on how to go about applying for a Block Grant. A seminar
is also being given on Dec. 12th on how to apply. To proceed
with the application process there must be the following:

1. A letter from the Selectmen giving support for the
project.
2. A Public Meeting must be held.

3. A current housing and community development plan must be available. If not current, it must be brought up to date.

The Grapevine open house will be Dec. 7th from 10-2. Programs to start after the first of the year.

A.R.T.S. budget was tabled until next week.

Brent Hautanen was approved as the new police officer to start as soon as possible. Salary of \$27,643 was proposed with no cost of living increase this year.

Discussion of installation of gym blinds was tabled until next week pending commitment from Conval for half of the cost.

Peter will write the letter for the Town Report.

More information was requested concerning the letter from Mr. Leab was read regarding Interest & Inventory penalty.

A letter from Bettigole, Andrews & Clark was read concerning adding a fishing platform/sidewalk to the proposed bridge on Gregg Lake Road as discussed at the Public Informational Meeting. The letter outlined changes to the existing plan with an estimated increase of approximately \$20,000. The Selectmen approved the new proposal. A letter regarding the changes will be mailed to all who attended the informational meeting.

The Town lost a tax appeal by N.E. Timber Realty which changes the value from \$150,900 to \$101,500.

Expense and revenue reports were distributed for November.

Phil reported that NH Services had called and they have been awarded a grant to build 36 units of low income elderly housing in Antrim.

The Regional Selectmens meeting will be held in Antrim on Saturday Dec. 7th from 9-12.

The Board voted to go into Executive Session at 9:20 to discuss legal matters.

The Board reconvened into open session at 9:40.

The meeting adjourned at 10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Smith.