

Minutes of the Selectmens Meeting  
November 3, 1997

Selectmen Present: Peter Moore, Carol Smith and Philip Dwight.

The meeting opened at 6 P.M.

The following were approved and/or signed:

Minutes of October 27th meeting  
Intents to Cut: Hermen, Crowell and Forster  
Veteran Exemption: Adame  
Letter regarding audit confirmation

The Board discussed the various options with Sam Harding for providing some heat in the Recycling Building. It was agreed to authorize Harding Plumbing and Heating to install one Infrared Gas Heater for an estimated cost of \$1,300.

The Board voted to ask NHDOT to remove from the list of Bridge Aid Projects, the North Bennington "Iron Bridge".

Phil was asked to check with Bennington and Hancock to see whether they would be interested in participating in a Hazardous Waste Collection in 1998.

Phil reported that the new Gregg Lake Bridge would be open for traffic on November 5th. Based on current knowledge the \$300,000 project will be some \$3,000 to \$8,000 over budget; depending on what costs for upgrading Craig Road and its bridge can be reimbursed under the Bridge Aid project.

Phil reported that he had inspected Gregg Lake Dam with Mr. Woodworth and that there did not appear to be any major problems. Phil has contacted an engineer specializing in Dam construction who will be here Thursday.

The Board reviewed the first draft of the 1998 Town Government budget prepared by Phil. The total proposed was \$307,600, up \$35,280 or 13%. The major reason for the increase is budgeting for a full time administrator. The additional cost on an annual basis is \$16,000 in salary and \$11,000 in benefits. An additional \$10,000 is due to the major increase in health insurance rates. No decision was reached about a final budget to use.

There was general discussion about possible warrent articles including whether to propose giving up some smaller roads. This will be explored further.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Philip T. Dwight.