

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting
November 17, 1997

Selectmen Present: Peter Moore, Carol Smith and Philip Dwight.
Others present as indicated.

The meeting opened at 6 P.M. with Brian Brown presenting his proposed 1998 Police Budget. The total (which included his request for a 3% salary increase for all) was up less than 2%. After discussion it was decided to add \$500 for Radio Repair. Other than that the budget was accepted. The Board also approved his request for \$2,400 for two new portable radios. Brian will check on actual costs as he thought this figure might be able to be lowered. It was also agreed that his request for a new cruiser, including all equipment etc, at a cost of \$27,500 was appropriate. These funds will come from Capital Reserves. Brian will check on a possible trade-in figure for the current cruiser and it will be decided later whether or not to put the old one out to bid or trade it in.

At 6:45 Bob Bernstein and Ben Pratt came to review with the Selectmen the four Architect's proposals in connection with the feasibility study for the Aiken House. It was noted that these proposals needed to be reviewed by the full feasibility committee but due to the time pressure the Board would review them now. After such review it was agreed that the best interests of the Town would be served by having the same architect that was currently doing work for the Library also do this study. The Selectmen therefore made the recommendation that this was their choice and if the feasibility committee agreed they would approve. If the feasibility committee made another recommendation the Selectmen would review that choice at their next meeting.

At 7:30 Brian Beihl presented the Selectmen with a letter expressing his concerns about the safety of children walking to school along West, Summer and School Streets, due to unplowed sidewalks. While he indicated that he realized this was an ongoing winter problem he hoped the Selectmen would give the matter attention. The Selectmen agreed with his assessment and discussed possible solutions which will be immediately explored.

The Selectmen signed and/or approved the following:

- Minutes of November 10th Meeting
- Elderly Abatement/Lien - Oertly
- Current Use Application - Parsons
- Intent to Cut - Yarnell

Phil noted the receipt of the Girls Scouts share of the cost of the Gregg Lake Bridge.

Phil handed out annual reports received from three service providers to which the Town makes contributions.

Phil indicated he had requested a proposal from Rivers Management

to make the necessary repairs to Gregg Lake Dam.

The report from the Town Hall upgrade committee was made as follows: to provide handicapped accessibility to the upstairs, to install a separate heating zone and insulate the ceiling, and to update the electric service in all of the Town Hall. To accomplish this \$50,000 will be requested with \$15,000 coming from Capital Reserves. The remainder would be raised through taxes.

It was agreed that the Town would continue with the NHMA Medical Plan despite the increase. How to handle possible future increases will be decided at a later date.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Philip T. Dwight.