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**TOWN OF ANTRIM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
November 29, 1999**

6:00 p.m. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – Chairman Tim Seeger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Tim Seeger, Selectmen Denise Dargie and Eric Tenney and Town Administrator Kelley Collins

GENERAL BUSINESS

• **Review and discuss the letter from Aiken House Architect, Tom Weller.**

The Selectmen reviewed the letter from Architect, Tom Weller, regarding his recommendation that we raze the existing Aiken House and start over. It became apparent, after the volunteers completed the preliminary demolition, that the years of remodeling were not necessarily structurally sound. Generally, the construction was of poor quality and makes much of the structure unsalvageable. In addition, according to the Fire Chief, this building will need a sprinkler system because it is a public building. Apparently, the original plans did not include a sprinkler system. The Town Administrator noted that the Aiken House Project Committee will be meeting Thursday and will have a recommendation on how to proceed for the Selectmen in time for their appointment on Monday, December 6th at 6:15 p.m.

• **Review and discuss the Antrim/Bennington Depot Street bridge and Bennington's request for a meeting.**

The Town Administrator spoke to Bob Barry who administers the Municipally Managed Bridge Program for the NH Department of Transportation. He gave a couple of suggestions on how to proceed with the possible replacement of the Antrim/Bennington Depot Street bridge. He noted that since this bridge is shared by two Towns we should probably have a written agreement prior to the passage of the Warrant Articles. The RSAs call for each town to share the cost by their equalized valuation. If the Towns want to each pay 50% of their 20% total responsibility it must be in a written agreement. In addition, one Town may want to manage the project and have a written agreement on how they will collect funds from the other. Mr. Barry also noted that there aren't currently any funds available until the 2002 budget, which begins July 1, 2001. The Selectmen also took some time to consider Bennington's request for a meeting on this matter and their offer to come to Antrim. The Board agreed to meet with any members of Bennington's Board of Selectmen that are available at 6:15 p.m. on Monday, December 13, 1999.

• **Review, discuss and approve a response to Mr. Boatrights' request for abatement of yield taxes**

The Board of Selectmen reviewed Mr. Boatright's request for abatement of yield taxes, as well as the Town Administrator's draft response. The Town Administrator reminded the Selectmen that RSAs require that when a cut is not a product of competitive bid they

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are required to use the States stumpage values. We use an average of the State’s values and Mr. Boatright has failed to provide us with documentation of his cut (tear sheets, canceled checks, etc.) The Board will reconsider this matter if, and when, Mr. Boatright provides appropriate documentation.

- **Review and discuss Notice of Violation on Plumpton property on Willard Pond Road.**

The Selectmen reviewed a draft copy of a “Notice of Violation” regarding residency in an accessory building on the Plumpton property on Willard Pond Road. The Town Administrator has reviewed this matter with the Code Enforcement Officer, the Landuse Secretary and Town Council. The Selectmen unanimously agreed that this letter appears appropriate.

- **Review and discuss letter to Mrs. Zglenicki regarding taxes on previously omitted parcel.**

The Board of Selectmen reviewed a draft of a letter to Mrs. Zglenicki regarding taxing a piece of property that had previously been omitted. Selectmen Tenney voiced some concerns regarding additional taxes at this time (holiday) of year. The Town Administrator noted that the Town made this error inadvertently and that once it was brought to our attention by the sale (October 5, 1999) we have some obligation to the rest of Antrim’s taxpayers to correct it, for equities sake. The Selectmen agreed to send a letter with the supplemental tax bill.

- **Review and approve minutes of the November 22, 1999 meeting.**

The Selectmen reviewed and approved the minutes of the November 22, 1999 meeting as submitted.

6:30 p.m. MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO REVIEW THEIR PROPOSED 2000 BUDGET.

The Board of Selectmen met with Fire Chief, Mike Beauchamp, Assistant Fire Chiefs Bob Bethel and Richard Edmunds to discuss their proposed 2000 budget. There were questions on the increase in payroll when that line item is normally under-expended. The Chief noted that he is going to start requiring attendance at a certain amount of training and drills to maintain membership. Generally, the Chief and Assistant Chiefs feel comfortable with the numbers, as submitted.

There was considerable discussion regarding placing a generator in the fire station on Clinton Road and possibly the Town Hall/Police Department. The Selectmen readily agreed on the need for a generator in the fire station but there was some discussion on doing just the police department and not the administrative portion of town hall.

Assistant Chief Edmunds obtained a quote on a caterpillar generator from Southworth Milton. There appears to be little chance that this could be installed in time for this year’s possible Y2K. The Selectmen debated, at some length, the possibility of using the \$10,000 in the contingency fund for this purpose. Chairman Seeger and Selectman

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Dargie leaned towards using the money now to purchase a generator, to be installed as soon as possible. Selectmen Tenney does not feel that this was an unforeseen need and therefore would like this item placed on the warrant. He suggested buying and installing the generator now and placing it on the warrant to ratify the purchase in March. The Town Administrator asked what happens if we purchase it now, place the item on the warrant for ratification and the Town votes it down???? All present noted that this could pose a problem. Chairman Seeger made a motion to use \$10,000 from the contingency fund to purchase a generator for the fire station on Clinton Road and an additional \$2000 from the General Government Building – Repairs and Maintenance account to install the generator, as soon as possible with no warrant article in March. Selectman Dargie seconded. VOTE: 2-1. (Selectman Tenney voted against)

Chief Beauchamp would like an additional \$6,000 in the budget next year for completion of the second floor of the fire station. This would include cabinetry, appliances (stove, refrigerator, microwave, etc.) for completion of the second floor of Station I. The Selectmen would like to add \$1,500 to this for the installation of showers. This item will be placed on the Warrant in the amount of \$7,500 and the Town Administrator will send the Chief a memo asking for a written quote.

The Chief would like to take \$1,000 from this year's budget to have the sheetrock taped and mudded. He notes that it will take his volunteer labor three weeks or better to complete this work and a professional could do it in 3 days. The Selectmen have no problems with this as long as he doesn't go over budget. In addition, the fire department will buy the necessary amplifiers for existing 20 watt radios to boost their signal to 100 watts (approximately \$3000)

7:15 p.m. MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMBULANCE SERVICE TO REVIEW THEIR PROPOSED 2000 BUDGET.

The Board of Selectmen met with the Ambulance Captain, Patty Lovering, to review her proposed ambulance budget for 2000. There was general discussion on the ambulance budget. There was also some discussion on how Bennington and Stoddard feel about the new budgeting process. The Town Administrator asked if the possibility of a written contract has been broached with either Town. Captain Lovering prefers to wait and see if these two Towns will accept the budget before reducing the agreements to writing.

6:24 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. NON-PUBLIC SESSION UNDER RSA 91-A:3, II – c TO DISCUSS A MATTER, WHICH IF DISCUSSED IN PUBLIC MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT THE REPUTATION OF A PERSON OTHER THAN A MEMBER OF THE BOARD.

Chairman Seeger made a motion to enter Non-Public Session at 6:24 p.m. to discuss a matter, which if discussed in public, could adversely affect the reputation of a person, other than a member of the board or agency. Selectman Dargie seconded. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Seeger – yes; Selectman Dargie – yes; Selectman Tenney – yes. The Selectmen generally discussed a taxpayer who had made a verbal agreement to pay the Town \$200/week on delinquent 1996 taxes to keep the property from going to tax deed. The resident has reneged on his agreement and failed to make payments for three

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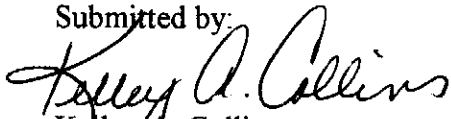
weeks. The taxpayer is now offering to pay \$50/week but at that rate 1997 unpaid taxes will go to deed before 1996 is paid off. Decision: The Selectmen unanimously agreed to have the Town Administrator write to this resident instructing him that \$50/week is unacceptable. He must pay \$100/week in order to keep the property from being tax dedeed.

Selectman Dargie made a motion to leave Non-Public Session at 6:30 p.m. Chairman Seeger seconded. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Seeger – yes; Selectman Dargie – yes; Selectman Tenney – yes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before this meeting it was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by:


Kelley A. Collins
Town Administrator

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