

Date: 12/16/03

Minutes of Board of Selectmen's Meeting

Meeting held at Antrim Little Town Hall @ 7:00 p.m. on 12/15/03

Selectmen Present: Michael Genest-Chairman, Michael Oldershaw and Bill Prokop

Others in attendance: C. Kerwin, R. Hagggett, K. Chislom, J. King, B. Brown

1. The selectmen approved the minutes of the last meeting.
2. The selectmen met with the Library Trustees to review the budget request for 2004. The proposed operating budget is a reduction of approximately 3-½% from the 2003 expenses. The selectmen were very pleased with the Library's efforts to reduce cost. Then there was a discussion on the Library's plan for expansion. They are thinking about buying a "portable" classroom type modular building. This building would provide 900-sq. ft. of space that would be used for a children's room. It would be a temporary (5-7 year) solution to their space needs. The cost of this, and the necessary renovations to the basement area would be an expenditure of \$75-\$100,000. The Library would like to present a warrant article at Town Meeting that would allow them to use the \$45,000+/- \$ that are reserved for Library Engineering for these improvements. Selectmen Oldershaw expressed concern regarding "roof snow load rating" and internal air quality. He suggested that the Library ask several of the local contractors to attend a meeting to "brainstorm" what could be done to provide the immediate space that the library needs. After some discussion, the Library Trustees agreed to do this and get back to the selectmen with the findings from this meeting.
3. The selectmen met with the Chief of Police to review his request for a 5% increase in his budget for 2004. The wages for police officers have been increasing in the state and the demand for officers has been increasing. The Chief would like to see Antrim adopt the "State" pay scale step system and put it in place on a long-term basis. The selectmen discussed with the Chief if it was possible to go back to a 3-person force with part-time help if necessary. The chief felt that this was not possible and in the long run would cost the Town more money. The selectmen will review this request and will have further discussions with the Chief on solving this issue for the long-term. The balance of the budget was reviewed. It was agreed to reduce the "Training" line item to \$800.00. The rest of the budget will be reviewed further and will be finalized in the near future.
4. The selectmen approved the accounts payable and payroll for the week.
5. The selectmen reviewed various correspondences.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Genest', is located in the lower right quadrant of the page. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.