

November 16, 2004

Selectmen Meeting Minutes –11/15/04

Present: M. Genest-Chairman, M. Oldershaw, and B. Pratt

Also in attendance: W. Prokop, S. Chatfield, P. Vasques, S. Harding, P. Lamb, S. Lowe, and C. Lunetta.:

The Public Hearing on the Ambulance Billing that was advertised and posted was officially open by M. Genest, Chairman. The Town Administrator gave a brief overview of the program and asked if anyone in attendance had any questions. Brochures on the billing plan were handed out. There being no questions, the hearing was closed by Chairman Genest.

The selectmen voted to accept the minutes of the 11/08/04 meeting.

The selectmen were notified that Ms. Shelly Nelkens has requested time at the 12/06 meeting to discuss the No Idling Law. She would like the Town to adopt its own ordinance on this issue. She has concerns about our enforcing this and would like to see the Town take a strong position. She is encountering some problems when she is bringing this law to people's attention.

The selectmen were informed that the tax bills for the second half of the year have been mailed and will be due on 12/15/04.

The selectmen began their review of department budget request: The first department reviewed was **Planning and Zoning**. P. Vasques presented their request explaining that the increases in the proposed budget are coming from three areas; 1. Hiring the services of South West Regional Planning Commission and using their Planning Board Assistance Program, the additional cost of this is \$3500.00 per year. 2. The increase in legal fees-the increase in this area is approximately \$2300.00 for the year. 3. The increase in wages, this will come from additional clerical support for both boards- this will cost approximately \$4600.00 for the year. The selectmen thanked P. Vasques for his well-prepared budget proposal.

**The Park and Recreation Department** were the next department reviewed. C. Lunetta presented their request and explained the rationale behind each line item. The budget is increased mainly in the salary areas. This is do to additional money allocated to the LifeGuard program, the hiring of a part-time Athletic Coordinator, and wage increases. It was pointed out that many of the programs are paying for themselves via increased registrations. P. Lamb explained that most of the maintenance expenses for the building and grounds were not built into their budget, it was assumed that these would be covered in the Government Buildings budget. He did explain that he would be asking for \$5,000 for annual maintenance at Shea Field and that he expects to put forward a warrant article for approximately \$17,000 for the irrigation of Shea Field. He is hoping to get some of

the cost offset by the school district. Some discussion took place on the improvements that need to be made to Memorial Park for security and appearance purposes. The selectmen thanked the Park and Recreation Department for the proposal and asked them to please submit the C.I.P. request to the Planning Board as soon as possible.

The selectmen then reviewed an application for a person applying to become a fireman. The selectmen tabled this until some questions on the application are answered by the Fire Chief.

The selectmen then discussed and agreed to support the establishment of a part-time Town Planners position that would become part of the Planning and Zoning Boards budget in 2005. It was felt that this position is needed to properly manage our growth and planning issues.

The selectmen then reviewed various correspondences and signed the accounts payable and payroll for the week.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'ME' with a flourish.