

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2012

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, June 25, 2012 started at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectman Malloy, Selectman Gaudiello, Selectman Hatch, Selectman Pratt, Chairman Clark, Administrator Scruton and Clerk McNeil.

Chairman Clark welcomed everyone and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

Clayton Bousquin – American Legion Tax Bill – Clayton Bousquin, Commander, represented the American Legion. The Legion paid their 2011 property tax and appealed the bill. An adjustment was made to reduce the land value because they don't have access, the frontage is wet and they are not able to sell the property it must revert back to the town. The Legion is registered as a non-profit and they are a small organization with a limited amount of funding. They would like the taxes forgiven for 2011 and 2012. Selectman Gaudiello asked how we would consider the valuation. This same issue came up with Camp Fireside. Administrator Scruton suggested coming up with a new valuation for the land by looking at similar properties with same type of access. We can come back with a comparison in two weeks. Selectman Pratt asked about plans for that lot and funds in place. Funds are being raised slowly. They would like to get driveway in and clear the lot. They hope to be using the lot within the next five years.

PUBLIC HEARING PER RSA 31:95-b ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FOR THE FIRE

DEPARTMENT - The public hearing opened the 6:49 p.m. Chief Walker spoke about a fire assistance grant to purchase forestry shirts, forestry helmets and gear at a cost not to exceed \$4,450. The department received \$1950 from grant. There was no public comment. The hearing closed at 6:51 p.m. Selectman Hatch moved to accept and expend per Chief's Walker's request, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – JUNE 11, 2012 Selectman Hatch moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Selectman Malloy. Selectman Gaudiello and Selectman Pratt abstained as there were unable to attend that meeting. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Peter Royce spoke as treasurer regarding the \$2000 fee that is included with the building permit to guarantee paving of a driveway in 16'. Administrator Scruton noted that maybe we should revisit the ordinance to enforce it during the winter months only when the asphalt plants are closed. This is an ongoing account and has become another account to get track of for himself along with the finance director and assistant finance director. In the winter the driveways are not paved and they receive conditional occupancy and residents never come back to finish the driveway. The 16' apron is to protect the road. Administrator Scruton will ask Building Inspector, Tom Abbott, for his opinion and look at the process to make it workable. Jere Calef, who does the driveway inspections, supported the cash surety to make sure the job gets done. Peter Cook felt that the town needs to have something in place because once the owners move it there is nothing to fall back on to get the work done.

STAFF REPORT

Administrator Scruton

1. The auditing firm made an adjustment to fund balance with an increase of \$355,403 for 2011.
2. The semi-annual reports have been submitted by the department heads. Selectman Pratt liked that the department heads are looking at their goals. Selectman Malloy felt that it is helpful to him. He would like a report of what is going on by the departments quarterly. Selectman Gaudiello thought the reports were very useful with the start of the budget process approaching. It was recommended that the department heads meet with board periodically. Tara Barker reminded the Board that the Recreation Commission meetings conflict with the Board of Selectmen meetings.
3. NHDOT will be holding a public hearing on July 18th at 7:00 p.m. at the ECLC regarding the redesign of the Route 9 & 202 intersection. Chief Conway will attend the public hearing. The redesign now eliminates the dedicated left turn lane. It is felt that this will result in a substantial increase in the number and seriousness of rear end collisions. John Huckins stated that he had attended a previous meeting when a property owner offered his land to help correct the intersection.

Clerk McNeil

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following:

1. MS-5 Financial Report
2. Abatements #21 - #24
3. Timber Tax Warrant in the amount of \$7,187.31
4. Fair Point Appeal Denial
5. Payroll Manifests dated 6/10 & 6/17
6. Vendor Manifests dated 6/14 & 6/21

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Earned Time – Administrator Scruton noted that comments have been reviewed and it looks like employees would prefer to continue a freeze on sick bank transfers, allow people to go over the accrual cap provided they get under it by the end of the year through vacations. This would be for this year only. Selectman Gaudiello asked what happens if the employee has not been able to use all of the overage at the end of the year. Administrator Scruton offered several solutions - allow department heads to have some flexibility to manage their own budgets and move money through different lines. Selectman Hatch would like to see something worked out with the employees and it is hard for her as she bought out time as an employee. Mike Morrissey stated that "it is not our fault that we are in this predicament and now we are the ones to solve it". Cheryl Huckins stated that "we went without a raise for many years, so the earned time came in handy". Rick Walker noted that "if you go to a use or lose one of them will be off every other week". It becomes a problem with his department. He wants the Board to make a decision soon so he can plan so it isn't a negative impact on his budget. Vacations will need to be planned so everyone is not out in December. Steven Paul noted that a lot of the highway department employees will be going into the winter months with

alot of extra hours in earned time. Selectman Hatch stated the Board should work on something this year to be effective for 2013. The money for 2012 will have to come out of this year's budget. Selectman Gaudiello suggested that this year be a transition year. Administrator Scruton will find out the total amount of earned time on the books and look at the budget to see if there would be any money and bring back a financial plan. Peter Cook stated that he can't wait too long for a decision as he has big projects that he is waiting on now and can't hold up. Gary Homiak suggested changing the cap this year if people have already planned a vacation. Selectman Gaudeillo moved to approve items one and two (1. continuing the freeze on sick bank transfers, 2. allow people to temporarily go over the accrual cap provided they get under by the end of the year with their scheduled vacation), seconded by Selectman Pratt. Chairman Clark asked for a roll call. Malloy – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Hatch – no "I have too many unanswered questions", Clark – aye, Pratt – aye. The motion passes.

Planning Board Appointments – Selectman Hatch moved to take the discussion of the Planning Board appointments off of the table, seconded by Selectman Malloy. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Selectman Hatch moved to appoint Jackie Kessler as a full member of the Planning Board for three years, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Selectman Pratt moved to appoint Steve Jeffery as an alternate for three years, seconded by Selectman Malloy. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

UNH Dispatch Contract – Selectman Gaudiello moved to sign the annual Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Barrington and the UNH Communications Center, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Cocheco Humane Society Contract – Selectman Pratt moved to authorize Chairman Clark to sign on behalf of the Board the Animal Shelter Services Agreement between the Cocheco Valley Humane Society and the Town of Barrington, seconded by Selectman Malloy. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Metrocast Cable Franchise Renewal – There isn't much in the contract that the town can change, but the Town would like Metrocast to make sure the lines and wires are being maintained. Selectman Gaudeillo moved to authorize Administrator Scruton to follow through with the contract, seconded by Selectman Malloy. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

NEW BUSINESS

Peter Cook stated that salt prices stayed the same for next year. Mr. Cook reported that he had been approached by the Town of Rollinsford to rent out our tractor and operator. The Board had concerns and chose not to rent out the tractor.

Selectman Hatch noted that a fence had been placed on edge of Orchard Hill Road that will be a problem with plowing. This road, previously Atwood Road, has been an issue for years. Peter Royce noted that this issue has been talked about since 1987. Orchard Hill Road is a town road by prescription.

Chief Walker noted that the "boot drive" for MDA was a huge success bringing in \$1679.20.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Gaudiello stated that the "library is hopping" with the start of the summer reading program. Several items had been stolen from the library and they had to take measures to secure electronic devices.

Selectman Hatch updated the Board on Planning Board issues and noted that the Turbocam site review and subdivision is on the agenda for the next Planning Board meeting. The School Board presented their mission and goals. Paul Sanders provided his Capital Improvement Program. The Board said their good-byes to interim superintendent, Howard Colter.

Selectman Pratt noted that the Building Committee has not met recently.

Selectman Malloy had nothing to report.

Chairman Clark had nothing to report.

Selectman Malloy moved to go into non-public session at 8:30 p.m. per RSA 91 A: 3 II for personnel/hiring, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. Chairman Clark asked for a roll call, Malloy – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Hatch – aye, Clark – aye, Pratt – aye. The motion passes.

Administrator Scruton recommended a candidate for the position of Planner & Land Use Administrator

Selectman Malloy moved to come out of non-public session at 8:55 p.m., seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Selectman Pratt moved to authorize Administrator Scruton to proceed with an offer of employment to Marcia Gasses, as a Planner and Land Use Administrator at grade 21 step 1, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.