MINUTES of October 1, 2001

Board of Selectmen: Keith Oppenneer, Chairman; Ilene P. Reed; Donald J. Crate, Sr.

Administrative Staff: Stephen B. Griffin, Assistant Town Manager

Others: Ronald J. Michaud, West Central Behavioral Health; Bill Bittinger, Ms. Bourne, Ray Brewster, and Shelley Hatfield, Anne's Place; and Ken Daniels, Director of Public Works

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Oppenneer called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Oppenneer moved to approve the minutes of 17 September 2001 with typographical corrections; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote 2-0, with Mr. Crate abstaining.

CITIZENS FORUM

West Central Behavioral Health Funding:

Ron Michaud represented this funding request for the 2002 budget year.

Mr. Michaud noted that this agency provides services to the chronically mentally ill, including case management for families and children, psychological therapy and medicine for adults, as well as emergency services, for 21 towns and 2 cities in the upper valley. He provided a "Valley News" article and other information describing the agencies budget and actions that it was currently undertaking to meet the financial needs in a time of raising costs and shrinking resources. This is the first time that the agency has requested budget assistance from their area towns. West Central Behavioral Health is requesting \$7,000 for 2002.

It was the consensus of the Select Board that this budget request of \$7,000 should be included in the Selectmen's budget for forwarding to the Budget Committee.

BUSINESS

Anne's Place:

Mr. Bittinger reported and discussed their experience before the Planning Board on September 26, 2001.

Mr. Bittinger reported the sequence of events beginning last February in attempting to gain approval for this project. He believes that the Planning Board has been uniquely unfair and

discriminatory in its actions in this case and has now created a financial hardship by its requiring a \$11,500 impact study.

Mrs. Reed stated, and the Select Board concurred, that all taxpayers deserve town services as taxpayers, and that they believe that the Planning Board has reacted emotionally and has not met the applicant half way as they do other applicants. Further, it was also a concern of the Select Board that, to their knowledge, the Planning Board had yet to receive legal advice, and may be putting the Town at risk.

It was a consensus of the Board that the applicant's attorney's information should be provided the Town's attorney, Bart Mayer, and that Mr. Mayer should be requested to comment on this situation, giving legal advice directly to the Planning Board, with a copy to the Select Board.

Water Line Contract: Oak Grove and Shedd Street to Lapan Circle:

Sealed bids for this construction project were publicly opened on September 21, 2001. Bids were received from Paragon Construction Inc., Scott's Construction, Inc. and Zaluzny Excavating Corporation. Dufresne-Henry, Inc.'s spreadsheet illustrated these bids, including unit costs, the original cost estimate and average bid prices. The low bidder was Paragon Construction.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to approve contract award to Paragon Construction, Inc. for their bid of \$186,475.09, subject to their also being approved by the relevant state agencies; Mr. Crate seconded; vote unanimous.

Yield Tax Warrants:

The Board of Selectmen signed yield tax warrants as presented.

Other Business:

The Board reviewed the terms and conditions of a proposed loan with Mascoma Bank. The initial rate is 3.9% for a term of 60 months.

Mr. Oppenneer moved to approve and execute the loan agreement as prepared for \$1,000,000 with Mascoma Bank for the new Public Works facility, Mr. Crate seconded, vote unanimous.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Gardner Complaint:

The Planning Director updated the Board by memorandum. He is currently attempting to get in touch with the property owner to whom the complaint was directed.

Audit Questions:

The Bookkeeper responded to Mr. Oppenneer's questions by memorandum to all Board members.

Disposition Policy:

Mr. Griffin distributed a draft disposition policy for surplus property for discussion at the next Select Board meeting.

NH DOT Bridge and Sidewalk Project:

Mr. Griffin will work directly with Virginia Campbell in negotiations with the state.

Chase Salvage Complaint:

Mr. Crate reported that Dick Chase believed that he was not properly informed in his need to be before the planning Board at such time that the determined the need for a site plan review. It was requested that the Planning Director and Building Inspector attend the next Select Board meeting.

Appointment Policy:

The Board requested that a policy be developed for their consideration that would limit appointment to all Boards and Commissions to no more that two consecutive terms.

Town Survey:

Mr. Oppenneer provided a draft survey instrument. It was the Board's consensus to have Mr. Griffin review this draft and prepare a town survey that might be distributed with tax bills, or otherwise.

Cemetery Policy:

The Board discussed the Cemetery Trustee's policy and rules that are keeping Kluge Road lots from being sold and limiting a buyer's lot choices. It was consensus of the Board to invite the Cemetery Trustees to their meeting in November to discuss these and other issues.

Sand Shed Repairs:

It was the Board's consensus that the sand shed should be available for use this winter, and that the roof that collapsed last winter from snow weight should be repaired by outside forces.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/CORRESPONDENCE

Sgt. Pushee will be receiving the Spurgeon Award from Boy Scouts of America for his work with the Cadets. The award ceremony will be in Concord on October 26, 2001.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Oppenneer moved to adjourn at 7:20 pm.; Mrs. Reed seconded, vote unanimous.