Enfield Board of Selectmen Whitney Hall Enfield, New Hampshire

MINUTES of February 4, 2014

Board of Selectmen: John W. Kluge, Chairman; Donald J. Crate, Sr.

Absent/Excused: Fred Cummings

Administrative Staff: Steven Schneider, Town Manager; Alisa D. Bonnette, Executive Assistant; Jim Taylor, Director of Public Works

Others: James Bonner, videographer, Dan Kiley

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Kluge called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Crate moved to approve the regular and non-public session minutes of January 22, 2014, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

IV. BOARD REPORTS

None.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

None.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dan Kiley – Huse Park Skating Rink:

Mr. Kiley thanked the Town for taking care of the ice at the Huse Park Skating Rink. The ice has been good.

VII. BUSINESS

Town Meeting Warrant:

The Board received a petition for an article on the 2014 Town Meeting warrant. The Town Clerk was unable to verify the 25 signatures that are required. The Selectmen reviewed the petition and were able to identify a couple of more signatures, but the minimum of 25 signature needed to get an article on the warrant was not met.

The Board reviewed the proposed 2014 warrant.

Articles 1 through 8 are voted by ballot at the first session of Town Meeting. The remaining articles are presented and acted upon at the second session of Town Meeting.

Article 1: Election of officers

Articles 2 – 8: Proposed zoning amendments

Article 9: Operating budget \$4,794,760 (exclusive of the Water and Sewer budgets)

Article 10: Capital lease of one cruiser

Article 11: Capital lease of Public Works vehicles, including two one-ton dump trucks and large dump truck, fully equipped.

Article 12: CIP Capital Reserve Fund appropriation of \$291,783.

Article 13: Mascoma boat launch parking lot.

Article 14: Housekeeping article authorizing the tax collector to accept prepayments of taxes.

Articles 15 & 16: Relative to disabled and elderly exemptions.

Article 17: Amendment of the TIF District Plan to add the new municipal parking lot construction (up to \$150,000) to serve the town, police and new library buildings, and the Lovejoy Brook Road culvert replacement to the TIF Project List.

Article 18: Acceptance of the donation of land owned by Robert LaCroix

Article 19: Relative to the proposed dog park

Article 20: Annual cemetery article transferring funds from the sale of lots to the Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund.

Due to the lack of signatures the anticipated petitioned article will not appear on the 2014 Town Meeting Warrant.

Article 21: To hear reports (the final article on the warrant each year.)

Article 17: TIF Project List: The municipal parking lot is located within the TIF District. Presently the municipal parking lot is not on the Project List. Projects must be on the Project List to be funded.

Mr. Crate asked how the library fundraising is going. He also asked if there was a deadline for use of the funds.

He was informed by Mr. Schneider that the fundraising is slow. The engineering funds raised by Town Meeting had to be used within a certain time frame, but the remainder of the funds stay in the Capital Reserve Fund until the remainder of funding is raised from outside sources.

Mr. Kiley stated that this approval can be rescinded at any time by Town Meeting.

Mr. Crate responded that he would not support a time limit.

Mr. Schneider noted that fundraising began and the worst time, when the economy was just beginning to worsen.

Articles 15 & 16: The disabled exemption has not been updated since 2004. The elderly exemption has not been updated since 2005. A revaluation will be taking place in 2014 and values are expected to drop, so no change is recommended in the exemption amounts or asset limits, however an increase in the income limit is recommended. Julie Huntley, Assessing Administrator, recommended income limits of \$25,000 - \$27,000 for single taxpayers and \$35,000 - \$37,000 for married taxpayers. The Board accepted Mrs. Huntley's recommendation, setting the proposed income limit for each exemption at \$26,000 for single taxpayers and \$36,000 for married taxpayers.

Article 12: In accordance with the CIP plan we're adding \$25,000 to the CIP Capital Reserve Fund each year, for a tax impact of an additional 5 cents.

Selectmen's Narrative:

The Board reviewed Mr. Kluge's draft of the Selectmen's narrative for the 2013 Annual Report. The Board approved it as written.

Public Works Equipment:

Mr. Taylor reported the sand screen was looked at, was suitable for the Town's needs and is working well. They've already screened an entire bay of sand.

Mr. Crate saw the sand screen and said it looks good; more rugged that it appeared in the photo.

Administrative Items:

The Board reviewed and approved the following documents: State of NH Warrant for Election of Executive Councilor, 2103 Property Tax Abatement/Refund, Veterans Tax Credit Application and Service Connected Disability Tax Credit Application.

Mr. Schneider explained that a condition of the Evenchance subdivision approval is that they would provide a two-year easement for the Town to find a municipal water well site on the remaining acreage of the property. This doesn't commit the Town to extending water to the other side of the lake, but gives us an opportunity to find another water source. The Board of Selectmen had no objections. Mr. Schneider will sign, as Town Manager, the License for Geothermal Testing.

VIII. OTHER ITEMS

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, February 18, 2014, 6:00 PM, Whitney Hall Conference Room, 23 Main Street.

CONFERENCE

I. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Crate moved to adjourn at 6:25 PM, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion, meeting adjourned.

John W. Kluge, Chairman

B. Fred Cummings

Donald J. Crate, Sr. Enfield Board of Selectmen