

**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**March 31, 2008**

7:00 Meeting called to order by chairman McAuley.

Administrative Assistant Lori Ricci handed a copy of her letter of resignation to all selectmen to be effective immediately. She also left mail that had been unopened since March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Betsy Hardwick, Chairperson of the Conservation Commission presented Selectmen with documents to be signed for an easement with The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. The Selectmen had approved the easement in 2007 and the document had been prepared for this signing.

McAuley opened discussion for appointments to various boards for the coming year, and the Selectmen choosing a new Chairman. McAuley outline the many significant changes that had taken place in the last two years during his Chairmanship. These included the reorganization, new staffing and re-equipping of the Highway Department, the reorganization, new staffing and re-equipping of the Police Department and the reorganization, new staffing and re-equipping of the recycling center. Initiates were underway to help the Fire Department obtaining an improved municipal grading for the town and the installation of geothermal heating in the to be renovated library. This all represented significant day to day time demands on the chairman and the increasing need to be available during the work day estimating he spent approximately 15 hours a week in these work day duties. It was further suggested that all this represented a positive momentum and he hoped that would continue with the new Chairman.

Anderson further addressed this by directing his attention to Griffin and a previous commitment to him that the selectmen would return to the customary chairmanship rotation in Spring of '08. Anderson also expressed a desire to seen the momentum and initiatives continue and sought clarification from of Griffin on his commitment. Specifically that since Griffin had not provided Anderson and McAuley with any assistance in handling the floods of '07, had failed to appear at the Shattuck property signing despite his earlier declaration of that day that he would and the resultant problems his failure to attend created, his failure to appear at two meeting scheduled with town counsel specifically for his benefit and his request and the resultant costs to the town, et al. Anderson specifically requested Griffin to confirm that he would be available for the Chairman's duty during the workdays and make the necessary commitment to properly fulfill the job. Anderson stated "will you commit to putting in the necessary time and make the necessary commitment? If you will I will nominate you for Chairman". Griffin made repeated protestations concerning his job and other factors making it necessary for Anderson to ask the specific question four times before Griffin stated he would. Upon Griffin's assurance that he would be

available and make the necessary commitment, Anderson nominated griffin for the Chairmanship, second by McAuley, 2 votes in favor, griffin abstained.

McAuley turned over the night's business to Griffin.

Griffin made a motion to accept Ricci's resignation with regret, three votes in favor, none opposed.

Carolyn Clark asked to be heard concerning the on-going controversy in regards to the auto repair business being conducted by her husband. McAuley advised the Board that after protracted conversations with Town Counsel and with Silas Little – Chairman of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, that the Clark's could only operate an in-home business. Specifically that they could have no more than one unregistered vehicle on the property, that they could have no more than one commercial vehicle on the property, that they could not store any vehicles belonging to others on the property, they could not tow any vehicles onto the property and any repair work had to be done fully within the confines of the garage building. Carolyn has agreed to these provisions and was only seeking a letter to that effect. Griffin called the entire process into questions, the actions of the Planning Board, the Board of Adjustment and lack of a Special Exception. McAuley reminded Griffin that a good deal of expense and effort had gone into resolving the issue and that all the parties he mentioned had been in agreement on the decision. Griffin dropped the matter.

Appointments were made by unanimous decision for all board appointments. As Chairman, Griffin will see that all parties are notified and properly sworn into office.

Meeting adjourned 8:30, all in favor.

Steve Griffin

William McAuley

Thomas Anderson

Thomas Anderson