

I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:00 pm in the basement meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Brett Hunter, Leon Holmes Sr, and Gene Cordes; Town Administrator Heidi Carlson, School Board Representative Andy Kohlhofer, and Integrys Energy Representative Mike Cloutier.

Kohlhofer said he was attending tonight as the School Board's Representative, and that the School Board had authorized him to move ahead on the Board's behalf, with whatever decision the Town made relative to the energy proposals.

There was some general conversation relative to the current pricing indicators, which is in some part due to the fact that there is not enough gas to meet the current demand. Last winter the pricing went way up. That situation could be the same this winter, and in the future until some of those gas supply issues are addressed, perhaps in the next couple of years. The PSNH rate for the winter is fairly stable currently. It is 9.87 cents until 12/31/14, and usually adjusted every six months. It is predicted to go to 9.61 cents as of 01/01/15 for the following six month period.

Integrys has also presented alternative timing on the contract schedules, recommending ending in November instead of February. Copies of some updated pricing to include both the Town and School District was distributed.

There was discussion about the terms and timing of a contract. After considering the options, Cordes moved to enter a 33 month contract from February 2015 through November 2017 with Integrys. Hunter seconded and the vote was approved 3-0. Kohlhofer agreed to make the same term and decision for the School District.

Cloutier discussed the term rate, and indicated the Electricity Purchase and Sale Terms and Conditions will have to be signed by by the Town and School District. Cordes moved to authorize Heidi Carlson to sign the confirmation on behalf of the Town. Hunter seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

Cloutier will send the information to Andy Kohlhofer to execute on behalf of the School District, and they exchanged email information.

Cloutier was thanked for his time, and he left the meeting at 6:25 pm.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Testing of the Town's Accuvote Machine will take place at 12 noon on Friday October 24, 2014 at the Fremont Town Hall. The NH Secretary of State will be in Fremont for training with election officials at 3:30 on Friday October 24, 2014.

The Town's Halloween party, sponsored by the Parks & Recreation Commission will be held tomorrow, Friday October 24th at 6:00 pm at Ellis School.

Bulky Day will be held on Saturday October 25, 2014 from 8:00 am to 12 noon.

Open House at the Highway Shed will take place at 5:00 pm on Thursday October 30, 2014, followed by the regular Thursday evening Selectmen's meeting back at the Town Hall.

Fremont Trick or Treat will be held on Friday October 31, 2014 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.

Voting setup will begin at 4:00 pm on Monday November 3, 2014 and voting will take place all day at Ellis School on Tuesday November 4, 2014.

Our annual Veteran's Open House will take place on Tuesday November 11, 2014 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

III. LIAISON REPORTS

10/22/2014 Budget Committee: Cordes said there were a few items related to the Town budget that were discussed last night. One involved the line item in the Highway budget for building maintenance. At the time the 2014 budget was originally submitted, the plan was not in place to be able to complete the highway shed. Carlson was asked to provide some feedback for the Committee's next meeting.

The second item was a Warrant Article for the Road Agent's salary. Cordes reported that the Board had decided to include this but the language had not yet been reviewed. There was also Budget Committee discussion about a Warrant Article for a one time expense of the fire truck and it was unanimously supported by the Budget Committee in a straw vote.

The Board discussed circulating the draft warrant soon, so that people become more aware of the articles drafted to date, especially the fire truck, so that they are talking about it and learning more about the Town's needs.

The remainder of the meeting was spent on school information. Kohlhofer stated that there was discussion about the Sanborn Contract, tuition rates and how they are budgeted. The School Board is considering setting up an Expendable Trust Fund so that they can hold over monies budgeted and unspent to be used for tuition in future years, without raising the money again in taxes.

There is a guaranteed maximum rate provided by Sanborn annually which has to be budgeted, but may change during the Sanborn budgeting process. Creation of a Trust Fund could help to balance the costs, setting aside excess in one year to pay overage in another.

The School Board is working with the Sanborn School System on some outstanding matters.

There was considerable discussion about the timing and sequence of the School District's audit. There is an overall sentiment that the District wants to Improve on recent history for the audit process.

Kohlhofer said the School budget for 2015-2016 is down about 1% from last year. They are looking at adding a Spanish teacher and math specialist. There is an asbestos matter that needs to be managed at the School that the Board is currently considering.

The bond issue on the Ellis School addition is now paid off, providing some additional savings in the budget.

With regard to test scores, Ellis is now comparable with every school in the area now. Previously scores had been lower, and therefore Ellis is now showing signs of improvement. There are fewer discipline issues, and improvements have been great in reading. They are also testing a new math program.

Kohlhofer left the meeting at 6:40 pm.

Selectmen reviewed the mail folders and set a date for the Christmas pot luck dinner for 5:30 pm on Monday December 8, 2014.

Gary and Tanice Cloutier came in to the meeting at 6:50 pm. They left a few minutes later when learning that the Grassdrag portion of the Board's meeting was scheduled for 7:30 pm, saying they would return.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Selectmen reviewed the minutes of 16 October 2014. Cordes moved to approve them as amended to include one word change. Hunter seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

V. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

6:45 pm Public Input

Fire Chief Richard Butler and Police Sergeant Jason Larochelle came in to the meeting at 7:10 pm. Chief Butler indicated that Engine 1 is at Donovan Spring for replacement rear springs. It should be done by tomorrow morning. Tank 1 is also being renovated. The replacement tank is here, and they are waiting on the rubber for the floor of it.

At 7:30 pm Selectmen opened Grassdrag follow-up meeting. No one was present from the NH Snowmobile Association. Present were Fire Chief Richard Butler, Police Sergeant Jason Larochelle, and Abutters Gary and Tanice Cloutier.

Sgt Larochelle began with details of the unannounced helicopter landing. They have found that there is no illegality of landing on private property, it is only a common sense matter with the large crowd that was present on Martin Road on Saturday when it set down at the Grassdrags. There was discussion about this matter. If it was ever to happen again, they indicate a safe zone could be setup outside of the confines of the event.

Larochelle said that there was a neighbor who had called the Sheriff's Department instead of the dedicated line to get out of their driveway. This had been rectified quickly. All neighbors were given a direct line to call the Command Post for any issues that arose during the event.

The Cloutiers said that the parking arrangements roped off worked well for them.

With no further business, this portion of the meeting closed at approximately 7:45 pm. The Cloutiers left the meeting at this time.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Selectmen reviewed an MOU with Joyce Booker-Janvrin regarding the Emergency Management position for 2014. Motion was made by Cordes and seconded by Hunter to sign the MOU. The vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

2. A design engineering RFP has begun for the Town Hall HVAC system. Cordes spoke this week with Sam Alpert, with GDS, a firm the Town has previously worked with. His estimate was that the cost of a design engineering work would be \$5,000. A draft RFP for the work is currently underway.

3. Selectmen discussed the tax deed letters which need to be sent out to four taxpayers for payment of 2011 taxes. After some discussion of the process, the Board decided that action is need to pay off the taxes prior to December 4, 2014 to avoid deeding for 2011 taxes. The Tax Collector also has to get the process underway as soon as possible.

4. The Board will formally vote next week to accept the \$4,100 for the sale of Tank 5 to offset the cost of the new replacement tank to get Tank 1 back in working order.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Selectmen reviewed the payroll manifest \$44,456.40 (including Grass Drags) and accounts payable manifest \$59,311.13 for current week dated 24 October 2014. Motion was made by Cordes to approve the manifests. Hunter seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

2. Selectmen reviewed bills and invoices for payment.

3. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence.

4. Peter Bolduc is meeting with representatives from the Town of Epping at 8:00 am on Friday October 31, 2014 on Martin Road in Fremont to do the Epping/Fremont Perambulations. He has asked for one of the Selectmen to be there. Leon Holmes Sr agreed to attend. The encumbered funds from 2013 for Perambulations will be paid out to Bolduc.

5. Road Agent Mark Pitkin has contacted NH DOT regarding some drainage issues on Beede Hill Road this week with the heavy rains. He has been advised that the State has not yet paid the contractor for the work, and Pitkin met with NH DOT Representative Greg Dow on site today to further discuss the concerns.

6. Marie Roderick donated a large quantity of storage racks for use at the Town Hall or other Town Buildings. A thank you letter will be sent to her.

VIII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION NH RSA 91-A

At 7:50 pm motion was made by Cordes to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A:3 II (c) to discuss a personnel evaluation. Hunter seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; Hunter – aye; Holmes Sr – aye; Cordes – aye.

Carlson, Butler, and Larochele left the meeting at this time.

At 8:40 pm motion was made by Hunter and seconded by Cordes to return to public session. The roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; Hunter – aye; Holmes Sr – aye; Cordes – aye.

Selectmen reported working on supervisor evaluations and set a schedule for completion of the supervisor and employee evaluations. Selectmen also created a task list from this session to have supervisors complete other necessary evaluations.

The Board asked for wage calculations on all non-uniformed permanent staffing to be prepared to budget comparison, with differing percentages of raises, ranging from one to three percent.

The next regular Board meeting will be a work session, to be held on Thursday October 30, 2014 at 6:00 pm, or upon conclusion of the Highway Shed Open House.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – At 8:45 pm motion was made by Hunter to adjourn the meeting. Holmes Sr seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator