

***DRAFT 3/4/10***

**PRESENT:** M. J. Farinola, Chairman; S. C. Hanson, R. P. McDermott, Selectmen;  
E. N. Small, Town Administrator; L. A. Ruest, Administrative Assistant

**SELECTMEN REVIEW OF WINTER STORM OF FEBRUARY 25 THROUGH 28:** Fire Chief J. Lord, Police Chief R. Dirsa, Building Inspector K. Kelley and Winter Road Maintenance Contractor J. Ziolskowski were present.

Chief Lord reported on the status of power restoration in Hampton Falls noting that approximately 90% of residences have power restored. He reported that some restoration issues with Comcast and other telephone services remain and that the local school opened today. A number of problems with the generator at the Public Safety Building occurred with jury-rigged repairs made. Chief Lord plans to address this matter with Seabrook Station as the generator is supplied by them. During the storm event, there were issues with road blockages and signage. Chief Lord noted that a grant recently applied for has been granted and will assist with purchasing barricades, signage, etc. Overall, Chief Lord reported that all went okay and that Unitil responded better and was better prepared than the Ice Storm of 2008. He explained the manner in which restoration is addressed by Unitil. R. P. McDermott suggested that Chief Lord include information in the newsletter with regard to how power restoration is prioritized.

The Hampton Falls Fire Department participated in the fire at Hampton Beach sending two pieces of apparatus and seven personnel. Equipment and personnel were retained to take care of the Town. M. J. Farinola acknowledged the excellent job of Fire Department personnel with regard to services needed throughout the storm. He suggested that the Fire Department include the motor inn as part of its door-to-door checking on residents as some move to the motor inn when power is out. Chief Lord acknowledged the assistance of Chief Dirsa and his personnel as well as J. Ziolkowski and his personnel.

M. J. Farinola acknowledged J. Ziolkowski's assistance in plowing tree debris, limbs, etc. from the roadways. J. Ziolkowski reported 14 hours total to plow debris from roadways. He also noted that his crew assisted with cutting and moving trees from the roadways in the Road Agent's absence. He reported that two hours work was incurred in placing barricades in various locations due to flooding. Discussion of rates set with the previous Road Agent took place. The Board agreed to a total figure of \$70 per hour for these cleanup services (16 hours). J. Ziolkowski asked that the Board address the trees and tree stumps remaining alongside the roadways given the potential of more snowstorms.

The Board discussed the debris cleanup process from the Ice Storm of 2008 and suggested using a Request for Proposal (RFP) prepared at that time for this cleanup. M. J. Farinola suggested that an additional RFP be prepared with the intention of obtaining a tree contractor to be available in emergency situations. Criteria of availability/24 hours per day, response time, rates, personnel, vehicles, tools, etc. are to be included. J. Ziolkowski stated he will forward sample RFPs for E. N. Small's consideration.

Referring to a problem with telephone, fax, computer and internet access, the Board asked Chief Lord to prepare a list of items to be addressed from those items identified as problematic.

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Chief Dirsa acknowledged the great working relationship with the Fire Department. He noted that the part-time personnel he relies on from other agencies were participating in emergency situations as well. He noted that compared to the Ice Storm of 2008, there were fewer calls this storm as more property owners have generators and the situation of no power for an extended period of time is no longer as foreign. Chief Dirsa reported that one elderly resident needed assistance. Discussion of sheltering issues took place. Chief Lord reported that he plans to work with the Hampton Falls Baptist Church in this regard. Chief Dirsa reported no crimes with generators this storm, however, noted that some residents were reminded of safety practices relating to generator use. The Board requested that K. Kelley include information on generator safety in the next newsletter. Chief Dirsa expressed concern with blocked roads and stated that there is more awareness of the need to keep roads open at the local and state levels. Chief Dirsa expressed thanks for the good working relationship with other Departments.

M. J. Farinola reviewed a situation involving Unitil trucks blocking a lane of travel without flagmen or detail officers to assist with traffic flow. It was suggested that the Unitil supervisor check in with the Fire Chief in order to address problems. Chief Lord reported that this will be addressed at the After Action Review meeting with Unitil.

The matter of tree cutting was discussed at this time. The Board of Selectmen plans to meet with the Planning Board Chairman to review the ordinance with regard to tree trimming/cutting on scenic roads. Efforts will be made to obtain a tree service in times of emergency. Both Chiefs were asked to review the RFP once prepared by the Town Administrator. An RFP for logs and tree debris will be prepared; E. N. Small requested that areas be identified to include in the RFP. J. Ziolkowski was asked to move the larger trees and tree portions back off the area where plows would push snow. The Board approved eight hours time with a Bobcat and chainsaw to address this matter.

**MOTION:** To authorize J. Ziolkowski to address the safety concern of trees alongside roadways, but not to clean up all streets, at a price of \$75 per hour.

**MOTION:** R. P. MCDERMOTT  
**SECOND:** S. C. HANSON  
**UNANIMOUS**

After the vote, Jim proposed that the job be done for a total of \$800 rather than \$75 per hour which the Board found acceptable. He would start Tuesday, March 2, 2010.

Damage has been done to the siding and roof at the Public Safety Building. K. C. Kelley will work with contractors to obtain estimates and a claim will be submitted to the insurance company.

The Board agreed to open the Brush Dump on Saturday, March 6 and March 13, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for residents to dispose of brush from the storm, weather permitting. E. N. Small will confirm these dates and times with the Dump Attendant. The Brush Dump will be locked when

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the attendant is not available. These hours are a one-time schedule change relating to this storm event.

The Board of Selectmen congratulated all on a job well done.

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

**MOTION:** S. C. HANSON  
**SECOND:** R. P. MCDERMOTT  
**UNANIMOUS**