

**OFFICE OF SELECTMEN
6 HOLLAND STREET
PO BOX 139
MOULTONBOROUGH, NH 03254**

Selectmen's Public Hearing

February 9, 2009

MINUTES

Present: Selectmen: Karel A. Crawford, Edward J. Charest, James F. Gray, Joel R. Mudgett, Betsey L. Patten; Town Administrator: Carter Terenzini; Advisory Budget Committee: Jean Beadle; Office Secretary: Hope Kokas.

I. CALL TO ORDER: Karel called the meeting to Order at 7:00 P.M.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PUBLIC MEETING: Karel opened the Public Hearing at 7:02 p.m., stating that this has been duly advertised in the local newspapers, posted on the Town's website, and at the Post Office. She stated that the purpose of this public hearing was to inform the public of the proposed 2009 Road Projects and the proposed 2009 Budget.

Road Projects for 2009, 2010 & 2011: Karel introduced a new procedure that the Selectmen have adopted regarding planning for road projects, balancing the reconstruction, preservation and safety needs. The plan looks at road projects over three years, some of which will receive no funding for this year, or minimal funding for engineering study only. For 2009 road projects are as follows:

1)	Paradise Drive, Reconstruction - Engineering & Inspection	\$25,000
2)	Blacks Landing Road, Reconstruction & Engineering	51,729
3)	Krainewood Drive, Preservation – Repair/Shim/Overlay	74,227
4)	Hanson Drive, Preservation - Repair/Shim/Overlay	91,680
5)	Butternut Lane, Preservation - Repair/Shim/Overlay	21,666
6)	High Haith Road, Preservation - Repair/Shim/Chip Seal	17,444
7)	Driftwood Drive, Preservation - Repair/Shim/Overlay	<u>52,983</u>
		\$334,729
8)	PMS/GIS & Safety Audits	30,000
9)	Asphalt Fuel Adjustor – 3% Allowance	<u>10,942</u>
		\$375,671

Allan Ballard asked if the construction for Blacks Landing was due to the citizens' petition received. Karel stated that the petition did not include a dollar amount and requested to pave .25 miles from Route 109. A question was asked about the engineering costs and Carter responded that to date detailed designs have not been done, but the Town's contracted engineer has done a basic layout with bid specifications for each project to determine an approximate cost. Joel, answering a question about Paradise Drive, stated that in 2009 an engineering study will be completed and the actual repair to correct the water problem will take place in 2010. Carter responded to a concern about Sawmill Lane, stated that when Red Hill is reconstructed, then Sawmill will be part of it. He added that Sawmill Lane is part of the LRPC Route 25 Corridor Study and we hope to receive state funds. Inquiry was made about the reconstruction of the

intersection of Fox Hollow Road. Karel explained that Fox Hollow is under a separate warrant article and is contingent upon receiving the committed state funds from DOT. She made it clear that if the state funds are not available, then they will not proceed. As there were no more questions, Karel concluded this section of the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

2009 Budget Hearing: Karel asked people to follow the outline of the draft 2009 budget provided to the audience. She explained that there has been reorganization of the budget moving items to the actual department and therefore, resulting in zero balances for 2009, which will discontinue that account.

General Government: After Karel read the amounts in this account, she received a question regarding the Town Planner (warrant article #18) for \$50,000. She explained that by the time a candidate is hired it is expected that the start date would be around June. This amount includes benefits. Ed, speaking as a member of Planning Board read the job description, explaining that it would be a full time position working with the Planning and Zoning Boards, which was also a recommendation of the Master Plan. He added that the state laws are very complex and both boards need this position to assist them with understanding the RSA's. A question was received asking why there is a large difference from the 2008 to the 2009 budgeted amount for Assessing. Again, Karel explained that it is a reorganization of the accounts and in the 2009 Assessing budget, costs for Vision Appraisal, Cartographics, assessing software, etc., are all in this one account. The Selectmen were asked to explain what Development Services includes. Karel stated that this account includes Land Use (Planning and Zoning), Conservation Commission, and registered associations such as Lakes Region Planning Committee, where as in previous years, these accounts stood alone. Administration covers all of the staff salaries and benefits, related expenses, accounting consultant for the Town to meet the GASB 34 and 45, LGC dues, web maintenance fees, a new part time clerical position, and a salary and benefits study for all Town employees as recommended by the Advisory Budget Committee.

Public Safety: Ed read the amounts in this account and asked Chief Kinmond to respond to the question of how many full time police officers are employed by the Town. The Chief stated that there are 12 full time officers and this number is based on FBI standards. He reminded everyone that the Town's population "explodes" during the warmer months and added that this past weekend with the Fishing Derby, there was a large increase of people in Town, on the roads and on the ice. Chief Bengtson responded to a question regarding the increase in the Emergency Management account, explaining that it is for the Reverse 911 system, which will allow for emergency notification to citizens in multiple ways and also in specific or various locations.

Highways and Streets: Joel read the amounts and responded to a question regarding private roads, explaining that this amount is for winter plowing and sanding only. Karel, responding to a question about budgeting for flowers for Town property, stated that they will be having the Adopt a Spot program again and hoped that the downturn in the economy will not negatively affect businesses from participating. Discussion occurred when Judy Ryerson questioned the Town's amount for funding expected from the state for Fox Hollow and expressed her concern that the \$261,376 is an inflated figure. Carter explained that the original cost estimate has gone up due to state requirements and rights of way, etc., and DOT seemed in agreement. A question was asked about the need for a new grader and Joel responded that what the Town has is now 25 years old and parts are hard to obtain. He explained that parts of the grader had been rebuilt over the past years.

The \$50,000 budgeted is for each year of a five year lease to buy. Carter added that cost is an estimate and it will go out for bid.

Sanitation: Karel explained that the Town budgeted funds to pay for disposal of household hazardous waste and also reimburses citizens who take it to Wolfeboro and other approved sites. In addition this pays for Household Hazardous Waste day.

Human Services: Karel informed the audience that they have changed the name of the Welfare Department to Human Services and the increase is due to the economy to ensure that the Town's citizens are cared for.

Health & Social Services: Karel stated that all of these except for the Visiting Nurse Service are citizens' petitions. She added, that where there is no amount, this reflects that a citizens' petition was not submitted. Ed explained that the increase for Senior Meals Program is due to the increase in gas and will reimburse the volunteer drivers for their fuel.

Library: No questions were asked.

Culture & Recreation: Donna Kuethe explained that the Playground Improvements covered crack repairs, tennis courts, sand for beaches, etc. It was suggested to the Selectmen that they consider having an account for aquatic weed control versus citizens' petitions, allowing for associations to request funding. Betsey commented that if the Town were to budget an amount, the various associations would be vying for the funds. She added that the state is looking into various funding mechanisms. The Selectmen were asked how much was budgeted for senior programs. Donna Kuethe replied that this figure is not broken out, as others also participate in these activities. She also explained the costs that were covered under Ice Skating Rink include maintenance, supplies, repairs, and the operation of the Zamboni.

Debt Service: Karel stated this accounts for the loan for the Public Safety Building and the Waste Management Facility, with 2009 being the last year for both.

Capital Outlay: Ed read the items in this account and explained that the Lee's Mills cost is to rebuild the boat launch. Joel explained that the roof of the Town Hall, which was built in 1996, has been leaking, patched this summer, and is still leaking. Carter explained that they received an estimate for a metal roof and besides the much higher cost, it was decided that all three buildings should be kept in a uniform appearance. Joel explained that the generator at the Highway Department is beyond repair and is needed in case of power outages to pump fuel for the Town's trucks and police cruisers. Karel, replying to a question for the need of mosquito abatement, stated that this is a preventive measure and the spread of Triple E and West Nile Virus makes this expense necessary to test for the responsible mosquito species. Karel was asked to explain about the fields for Playground Drive and Community Center. She stated that this will be in a separate warrant article and is proposing to build a field at the Lions Club property to be used while the field at Playground Drive is being repaired. Lori Whitley, School Board member stated that the fields at the Academy and Central School are over utilized by the schools and the Recreation Department. She added that 67% of all students are involved in athletics. Donna Kuethe stated that more than just children are using the fields and the demand is increasing. The Selectmen were asked and Karel responded that there has been a review of the placement of playing fields and a future building at the Lions Club Property. Carter presented the plat, explaining that the design allows for the work to be done in phases and one is not contingent upon the other. He added that the design has 6 to 7 phases with a 10 to 15 year build-out plan. Initially, drainage will be installed for the whole property. Ed stated that he wished the plan had been presented earlier and his concern about going forth with this project. He also stated his dismay that the 2008

amount budgeted was in excess of what was actually spent. Carter explained that the discrepancy was not as large as it numerically appears and was due to many factors. He added that a large percent will be used towards the tax rate in an effort to keep it low. ABC Chair, Jean Beadle stated that they have recommended completing a quarterly budget review in order identify if department's are within their budgeted amount.

To Capital Reserve Accounts: Carter stated that the amount of \$4,500 for the Community Substance Abuse P&E needed to be changed to \$7,682. Karel explained that the Town is mandated by the state to complete a full reappraisal of property every five years and in between, the Town completes an update in order for assessments to stay current with market values, preventing property owners from being hit hard every five years.

To Trust & Agency Funds: Karel explained that the Town's share for replacing the High Haith hydrant located in Center Harbor, which services Moultonborough residents will come out of the \$10,000.

Revenues: Karel asked the audience to review these amounts and the Selectmen would respond. When asked if the revenue for the Motor Vehicle Permit Fees and Building Permits/Health Fees were an accurate estimate, she stated these amounts are based on each Department's estimate.

As there were no further questions, Karel closed the Public Hearing at 9:00 p.m.

Approved _____ Date _____
 Respectfully Submitted
 Hope Kokas, Office Secretary