

MINUTES SELECTMEN'S MEETING - January 8, 1990

Present for the meeting were Selectmen Mansfield, Dodge and Johnston with Sandra Gendron taking minutes.

The Selectmen discussed Hazardous Waste Days with respect to possibly including Goffstown in the future. Selectman Mansfield had been approached by the Goffstown Sel. who would like permission to speak with our coordinator of such days Michael Richard to discuss the feasibility of the two towns combining efforts. Selectman Dodge is going to contact Mike Richard before they give the go-ahead to Goffstown for discussions.

Lee Murray Road Agent was in to discuss his 1990 budget with the Board. It was also at this time voted by the Board of Selectmen that his newest hire Richard Bouchard would be given health insurance according to established policy and that means Mr. Bouchard would be covered personally at 100% of cost and that 50% of the cost of the next package necessary to accommodate Mr. Bouchard's family would be covered by the town and Mr. Bouchard would have to pay the remaining 50%.

Discussions began on Lee's budgets, the first item being General Expense. Lee would like to keep the 1990 figure the same as 1989 \$26,000.00. He also discussed the possibility that the Highway Department might end up with the old tanker from the Fire Department if funding were made available for a new tanker which was being requested at the 1990 Town Meeting. The Selectmen did have some thoughts as to under whose authority the truck could be given from the Fire Department to anyone. The next item for discussion was Summer Maintenance. Lee suggested using \$150,000.00 for the 1990 budget, but appropriating his carry over from 1989 of \$30,279.30 and raising and appropriating the difference. After discussion by the Board of Selectmen and Lee it was decided that more thinking and discussion needed to be done before a decision could be reached. As the group began to discuss the other budgets relative to the Highway Department it became apparent that more time was needed to review and make intelligent decisions and suggestions than was available at this meeting. It was agreed that the Board ^{will} meet with Lee on Wednesday morning, January 10th at 10:00 am to resume discussions of the Highway Department budgets.

Steve Allen, Assistant Assessor was in to discuss his 1990 budget for appraising in New Boston. The re-valuation is treated as a totally separate project and it is his plan to do all the new construction and pick-up work in April and May as he would normally do. Discussion turned temporarily to the subject of the re-val and how it was progressing. Steve felt we would end up with approximately 1850 parcels, but would have a firm number and figure for the warrant article at Town Meeting which request the balance of the monies necessary to complete the project. He advised the Selectmen that they might want to increase their overlay this year when in Concord to set the 1990 tax rate to accommodate the more requests for abatements that would come in as a result of the re-val. It was further his feeling that it would be wiser if not absolutely necessary not to begin semi-annual tax billing until the project was completed which would mean offering the option to the voters at the 1990 Town Meeting and if received a favorable response commencing with June tax bills in 1991. When the group returned to the issue of whether the 1990 appraising budget should be less than the 1989 of \$15,000.00 because the Town was being re-valued, Steve again pointed to various areas where these were truly separate projects and should be treated as such. The Selectmen agreed to the 1990 budget figure of \$15,000.00.

John Ballou, Chief of Police was in next to discuss his 1990 budget. The biggest increase being the \$15,362 for the Goffstown Dispatch which had been \$12,840. in 1989. This increase he had not added into his proposed 1990 budget \$90,325.00 which was the same figure as 1989. The new 1990 proposed figure would be \$92,847.00. Another item that would have to be added in is that portion of the full-time chief's retirement benefit to be paid by the Town. This amounts to \$1724.25 bringing the budget to a proposed \$94,571.25. John had included \$2,288.00 in his proposed budget for secretarial services. It was decided that these services could be performed by Town Office staff and the charge would be \$1,000.00 per year the same that is charged to the fire department. With this adjustment made to his 1990 proposed budget the bottom line will be ~~\$93,283.25~~ ^{\$93,286.25}. On another subject John will contact the owner of Gamekeeper Kennels to see if he could accommodate stray dogs for an overnight or weekend until these dogs could be taken to the Animal Rescue League.

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Bonnie Bethune, Manager of the Transfer Station was in to go over her 1990 proposed budget. The proposed figure was \$145,183.60, but after discussion it was determined that she should bring both her attendants to the same hourly rate of \$6.30 per hour and she should include funding for a third attendant at \$6.00 per hour for seven hours a week. It was further decided that she could reduce her budgeted amount for spare tires from \$1,000.00 to \$750.00 bringing the bottom line of her proposed 1990 budget to \$148,381.60.

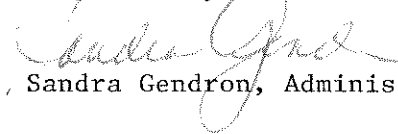
Robert Milliard, Building Inspector was in to discuss the Building Inspecting budget for 1990. It was agreed that the salary for the position would remain at \$150.00 per day. Bob's personal situation is still playing a major role in the hours he can work in New Boston which has yet to present the Town of New Boston a problem. Bob has ideas which he would like to present to the Selectmen for implementation in town with their approval especially with regard to the permit forms and permit fees. It is Bob's opinion that the Building Department should be self-supporting with fees charged for service. The Selectmen did feel that the budget figure for 1990 could be \$15,600.

James Dodge Fire Chief was in to present his proposed 1990 budget which is 35,045.00 6.6% lower than his 1989 budget. He admits he may have to review fuel figures based on the recent escalation of prices, and he may be cutting close on a couple of other items, but feels he can realistically maintain the proposed budget.

Next Monday evening will include similar appointments so that the Selectmen will have had a chance to discuss budgets with most departments before meeting with the Finance Committee.

Mail was reviewed, checks were signed and the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Gendron, Administrative Assistant