

**Town of New Boston  
Selectmen's Meeting  
July 9, 2012**

<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Rodney Towne	Selectman
	Dwight Lovejoy	Selectman
	Christine Quirk	Selectman
	Peter Flynn	Town Administrator

Police Chief James Brace, Assessing Contractor George Hildum, Police Sergeant candidate Daniel Aiken and Patrol Officer candidate Katherine Fiore, Brandy Mitroff and others were present.

**A. CALL TO ORDER:** A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Dwight Lovejoy at 6:00PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Consent Agenda-**The Selectmen signed the consent agenda. Rodney moved to approve the consent agenda. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

**B. PUBLIC FORUM:**

None.

**C. APPOINTMENTS:**

**Item 1:**

**Assessing Contractor George Hildum**

**Discussion re: Campground Trailer Assessments**

Mr. Hildum attended at the request of the Board of Selectmen and began by explaining the statutory authority of the Board of Selectmen with regard to ‘assessing’ town property. The Board appointed him as their agent to provide the professional expertise, review all properties and offer opinions regarding all aspects of New Boston assessing procedures.

Rodney Towne asked if “all was in order” with the Department of revenue (DRA) with regard to the town assessing compliance.

Mr. Hildum went through the history of this situation as far back as 2004. He explained that in 2005 there were 36 units entitled to be taxed and board members choose not to do so. Mr. Hildum went on to say that Hopkinton and Henniker were notified that they must proceed with the tax. The first Henniker bills went out this year. Weare has been assessing travel trailers since 1990.

He explained that he uses a ‘four way test’ as criteria for assessing travel trailers. In the case of campgrounds it must be a structure that is more or less permanent and intended to remain stationary.

Rodney asked about trailers with wheels. George said they need to be taxed according to the Supreme Court decision of appeal of Pelham. The Court said they don’t have to be fixtures.

Rodney asked if they were for ‘travel trailers’ and not stationary box types.

George went on to compare Legislative authority over public utilities taxation.

George explained that they are taxable as a building if they meet the 4-part test of the appeal of Pelham Supreme Court Appeal case which is :

- 1) intended to be more or less permanent, not a temporary structure;
- 2) more or less completely enclosed;
- 3) used as a dwelling, storehouse or shelter;
- 4) intended to remain stationary

Christine Quirk presented the Board with two letters regarding the history of this issue in New Boston. She presented a letter from former Town Administrator Burton Reynolds stating that the Board didn’t feel it presented enough revenue to make it worthwhile.

Rodney asked about the bringing up of this subject during the recent revaluation. George said they were not making any comparisons to campground trailer.

Dwight went on record to say that the campground gives the utmost cooperation to the Transfer Station in disposing of waste and recycling.

Rodney finalized the discussion by stating: - “I am content until the DRA isn’t.”

## **Item 2:**

### **Police Chief James Brace- Update on Department Staffing: Request for appointments.**

**Chief Brace presented the Board with two candidates for assignment to the New Boston police Department.**

- **Request to appoint Daniel R. Aiken, of Weare, NH** to the position of full time Sergeant. Daniel was employed by the Weare Police Department and comes to New Boston with 5 years of police experience. Daniel is a certified police officer in the State of NH, is a Drug Recognition Expert, and holds a Bachelors Degree in Computer Systems and Mathematics. Daniel previously served the Town of New Boston as a volunteer firefighter.

Rodney Town moved to appoint Daniel Aiken to the position of Full Time Sergeant on the New Boston Police Department, seconded by Christine Quirk. Motion carried 3-0

- **Request to appoint Katherine Fiore, Milford, NH** to the position of Full Time Officer. Katherine was employed by the Hookset Police Department and comes to New Boston with 18 months of police experience. Katherine is a certified police officer in the State of NH, a certified child car seat installer and holds a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice.

Christine moved to appoint Katherine Fiore to the position of Full Time patrolman on the New Boston Police Department.

- **Continue Hiring Process-**The Chief is finishing the process of hiring another Full Time Officer who will obtain NH certification upon completing the State of NH Police Law package
- **July 4<sup>th</sup> follow up discussion-** Chief Brace discussed all the issue pertaining to the preparation for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade including traffic and pedestrian flow. All went very well and he said he would accept any suggestions to improve his department's role next year.

A "swearing in" ceremony is scheduled for August 20 at the Police Station. The regular Selectmen's meeting will be at that time also.

#### **D. OLD BUSINESS:**

##### **Item 5:**

**Review and adopt public minutes of June 18 and 22 and July 2, 2012 and non-public of July 2 (2 sets):** The Selectmen reviewed the minutes. Rodney moved that they be accepted as presented. Christine seconded the motion. Rodney seconded. All were in favor. 3-0

#### **E. NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **Item 4:**

Financial Review-Mid year. Peter reviewed the expenditures for the first half of the year and said that the budget seems to be in good shape. He did point out that the 'technology budget', which is a line item under the Finance Office Budget, was overspent at this time but that is on one line item.

Peter also talked about a \$26,000 credit coming from Primex for funds that were either overpaid or held unnecessarily.

**Public Forum:** None.

#### **G. OTHER:**

**Item 5:**

1. **Forestry Committee** Town Administrator notified Town Counsel of their intent to use his services re: land locked parcel in question. Peter confirmed request again with Kim DiPietro.

TA received update from Kim and she hasn't followed through with letter yet but soon will do so.

*No Recent Activity*

2. **Town Clerk requests for consideration** – Follow up with Chief Brace to meet with Irene and TA to discuss approach in dealing with Dog License violator collections and penalties. Meeting being set up for week of June 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Update:** All resolved. Chief Brace, Irene and myself developed a plan acceptable to all as to how to proceed with getting dog owners to comply or be fined. Dog warrant already before the BOS to sign.

3. **Town Clerk request for input re:** Avitar software for use of credit cards in clerk's office. This item will be further discussed at the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting after Irene obtains more information for final input. Suggest each selectman reviews package that Irene distributed on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Update-Meeting with Avitar set up on July 18.**

4. **Alarm Problems-** OTT and Security Team North are working out problems at Police Station. Fire alarm panel needs to be repaired.

**Update:** All issues now resolved.

5. **Yard Sale Issue:** Ed Hunter has sent out letter to the party involved. See letter in legal file.

**Update:** All indications are that the resident has complied.

**Item 6: Selectmen's Reports:** Rodney spoke about a Planning Board site walk on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

He discussed the 250th Committee status and upcoming plans. They would like to increase the fireworks and add at least one more band. Christine will probably attend the next meeting to see if there is anything that the campground can do to participate.

Rodney discussed his displeasure in some projects taking place in town that the Board has no knowledge about. He emphasized that the land and materials are property of the Town of New Boston. A discussion took place on various projects not budgeted and what protocol should be followed.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Rodney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM