

**Town of New Boston
Selectmen's Meeting
January 3, 2012**

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

Brandy Mitroff and Dan MacDonald of the public were present.

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

Consent Agenda-The Selectmen signed the consent agenda. Christine moved to approve the consent agenda. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0

B. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

C. APPOINTMENTS:

Item 1: Fire Chief Dan MacDonald-Discussion re: generator upgrades and Fire Station Maintenance: The following items were discussed:

- Dan noted he understands the state of the town's finances but if money is available, a survey of all town generators and needs has been conducted and recommendations have been made for some new generators in town. A state grant is available that would match the town contribution 50/50. The recommendation is the school would get a new generator that could power the entire school and the Highway Department would get the current school generator. The library and town hall may also get new generators. Alternatively an autotransfer switch could be installed in the town hall to connect the town hall to the Fire Station generator. If the Selectmen deny the recommendations this year they could be resubmitted to the state for a grant next year as the match is expected to still be available. \$70-75,000 is needed for this proposal. A Warrant Article is possible. The current school generator powers all items needed for an emergency shelter at the school. With the new generator proposed they could operate the entire school during a power outage. There was not enough money for this capability when the generator was installed a few years ago. Brandy recommended the school board and principal become involved in this decision. Dan has spoken to former principal Rick Matthews and current principal Jude Chauvette who are both in favor of the new generator. Dan has not discussed it with the School Board yet. The school has not offered any money toward the new generator. Brandy said at the time the generator was installed at the school for an emergency shelter that made sense for the town to pay for since it benefited the town. In this new recommendation the school benefits so does it

make sense for the town to pay for it? The library, Baptist church, Community Church, Town Hall and upstairs of the Fire Station and campground rec hall are available for emergency shelters as well if needed. The farther away from the school the shelter is transportation would be needed. Goffstown Truck Center is available on demand for this purpose.

- A grant is also available to upgrade or fireproof the emergency communication tower site on Ridgeview Lane. This is a 75/25 grant from the state. The project is expected to cost \$12-16,000. The town would be responsible for \$3-4,000. This grant is ready now. Jack Moorehouse is helping with the grants. A future grant from the federal government could also be received to install a fence around the tower. This project is expected to cost approximately \$4,000. This will be discussed at the Finance Committee meeting Saturday. \$16,000 for the fireproofing could probably be added to the Emergency Management budget and the grant money could be used as revenue. If a fire happened at the site emergency communications could be out for two months during repairs. A new bid for the project is needed. It is not expected to cost over \$16,000.
- The town has been comparing Verizon and AT&T cell phone service. Most Department Mangers have found that Verizon works better at their location. Two Departments will use AT&T.
- Dan and the Selectmen noted the Fire Department did a great job at a recent house fire due to the training they do throughout the year.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 2: Review Year to Date Budget update from 2011 including revenue report as of December 29: The Selectmen reviewed the 2011 budget. There are still some items to be paid. The budget is in good shape. \$100,000 is expected to be leftover. Revenues were reviewed. \$1.8 million was expected and \$1.4 million was received. Better documents will be available for the Finance Committee meeting Saturday.

Item 3: Budget update-2012 including draft warrant presentation: The MS-6 form to be filed with the State is being prepared. Peter noted the 2012 budget is decreased as are the revenues. Projected 2012 revenues are expected to decrease the tax rate by 43 cents for the town portion. The school portion could be ready Saturday. Information is still needed from the school for the support staff contract and the Building and Renovation and Special Education funds. The default budget won't be ready for a couple weeks and may be higher than the operating budget. Options were discussed for Article 11 and this will be revised.

Item 4: Approval of Minutes of December 19, 2011 Public and Non-Public:

1. **Minutes of December 19, 2011** - The Selectmen reviewed the minutes. Christine moved that they be accepted as presented. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0
2. **Non-Public Minutes of December 19, 2011** - The Selectmen reviewed the non-public minutes. Christine moved that they be accepted as presented. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 5: Discussion concerning estimates for completion of Engine House issues:

Dissatisfaction has been expressed to Peter about overages occurring on estimates of repairs to town buildings. Two estimates have been received for repair of the leak at the Old Engine House. Brad Johnson's estimate for repair of \$6,800 could be encumbered from the 2011 budget. Brad expects to be able to work on it in March. The two other estimates from Arbor Construction could be paid from the 2012 budget if a comprehensive repair plan to finish the project is prepared. Christine moved to encumber \$6,800 to Bradford Contracting for cupola repair at the Old Engine House. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0 OTO phone company has not yet relied regarding Town Attorney Bill Drescher's concerns.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

G. OTHER:

Item 6: Town Administrator's Report: Peter reported on the following items:

1. **Finance Committee Budget Status:** As above.
2. **Status on Footbridge-TA:** The Committee will meet with the state. There is probably no new state money available and none is expected to be offered.
3. **Follow-up and report on status of Chief's position:** Interviews of five candidates will be conducted Friday.
4. **Funding for new Phone system:** The check was received from Arcomm for the extra contingency money.
5. **Lyndeborough Road Culvert:** A meeting was held with Peter, the Road Agent, Mitchie Corp and others. They are researching issues for the Road Agent. The project will be completed. Funding is available.

Item 7: Selectmen's Reports:

None.

Item 8: Request for non-public session per RSA 91-A:3,II.(b) and (c): not needed.

I. ADJOURNMENT: Christine made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 PM. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien