

**NEW DURHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
New Durham Town Hall  
April 6, 2015, 7:00 p.m.**

**Present:**

Chair David Bickford  
Selectman David Swenson  
Selectman Gregory Anthes

**Also Present:**

Jeremy Bourgeois, Town Administrator  
Corky Mork, Videographer  
Bill Lambert, NH DOT Traffic Engineer  
Stephanie Mackenzie, Deputy Clerk/Tax  
Collector  
Katie Woods, Police Department  
Administrative Assistant  
Kevin Ruel, New Durham Fire  
Department  
Rudy Rosiello, Resident  
Marc Behr, Resident  
Eileen Berry, Resident  
Dot Veisel, Ethics Committee  
Carol Allen, Ethics Committee  
Jen Nyman, Parks and Recreation  
Commission  
Ann Ruel, Resident  
Beth Varney  
Peter Varney, New Durham Fire  
Department Appointed Fire Chief

Mike Varney  
Matt Libby, Resident  
Shawn Bernier, Police Chief  
Skip Fadden, Resident  
Lee Newman, Resident  
Robert Craycraft, Planning Board  
Jeff Roberts, Resident  
Kathy Severino, Resident  
Ellen Phillips, Resident  
Alicia Hernandez, Resident  
Valeri Behr, Resident  
Elizabeth Cantrell, Resident/*The  
Baysider* reporter  
James Shepard, New Durham Fire  
Department  
Susan Matheson, New Durham Fire  
Department  
Stephen McMullen, New Durham Fire  
Department

**Call to Order**

Chair Bickford called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

**Appointments/Announcements**

**Speed Limits**

Chair Bickford introduced Bill Lambert of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation. He stated Mr. Lambert is here to explain how speed limits are set.

Bill Lambert, New Hampshire Department of Transportation Traffic Engineer, distributed a copy of his presentation titled *Speed Limits and Setting State Speed Zones*. Mr. Lambert outlined relevant state statutes and gave a summary of how speed limits are determined. Mr. Lambert summarized the Town has the authority to set speed limits on local town roads but the limits should be set based on an engineering or traffic investigation. Mr. Lambert also explained the benefits of a speed study.

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

Chair Bickford stated they haven't had a study conducted and asked Mr. Lambert how to go about it. Mr. Lambert replied most engineering firms could conduct a traffic study.

Kathy Severino, resident, asked if they would go ahead with a study without taxpayers' input/voting. She stated she likes the speed limits as they are and she feels safe. Ms. Severino stated she is concerned if they raise speed limits.

Rudy Rosiello, resident, asked what happens when there are activities at the school that are outside the regular schedule for the lower speed limits. Mr. Lambert replied the statute is very specific in that the speed limits are only enforceable 45 minutes either side of school hours.

Ellen Phillips, resident, stated that when her children got their licenses and got speeding tickets, they learned the speed limit was going to be enforced. She asked if there is any research to show that when speed limits are enforced, people slow down. Mr. Lambert replied that anecdotally it is true but he can't point to any specific research.

Ms. Severino asked the Board of Selectmen why they are looking to raise the speed limits. Chair Bickford replied there are a lot of inconsistencies on the Town roads. He stated there are also guidelines with how roads are to be constructed and the speed limits have been changed over the years for unknown reasons. Chair Bickford stated that going forward he wants to do things legally.

Selectman Swenson stated the Town wouldn't necessarily be changing speed limits but could put up signs in certain areas.

It was noted that in the last thirty years, there are more houses and children in some areas and if speed limits have remained the same when there were fewer houses, those limits may now be too high.

Ms. Severino stated she still doesn't understand the reason for a study and it seems it will be a waste of taxpayer money to do a study that parents don't want. Selectman Swenson stated he agrees. Chair Bickford stated they were supposed to have done this before and the limits were never set properly. Selectman Swenson asked if what Chair Bickford is suggesting is that New Durham is not abiding by state law and the speed limits are illegal, is a serious accusation. Selectman Swenson agreed a study is needed if they are going to do changes but New Durham has limits set and he doesn't see any reason to change those limits unless somebody is saying they don't meet the state law. Chair Bickford suggested someone could take the 25mph limits to court because they don't have a study to back it up.

**Mackenzie Property Sale**

Chair Bickford stated Town Administrator Bourgeois has communicated with the Town Attorney regarding this property transaction. Town Administrator Bourgeois explained to Town Counsel the process and previous decisions of the Board of Selectmen. Town

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

Administrator Bourgeois stated according to Town Counsel, because Ms. Mackenzie had accepted an offer from the Town, a contract had therefore been made and the Town should go forward with it. Selectman Swenson clarified there is a legally binding contract based on the advice of the Town Counsel.

**Selectman Swenson made a motion that the Board of Selectmen accept the Town Counsel advice that there is a legally binding agreement between the Town and the Mackenzies relative to the sale of property on Map 235, Lot 041 and that the Board of Selectmen approve the sale under those terms. Selectman Anthes seconded the motion.** Chair Bickford stated he has been opposed to selling the property under this process but will vote in favor of it now because of the Town Counsel's advice. **Motion passed, 3-0.**

**Public Input**

Rudy Rosiello, resident, stated the small lots in Copple Crown Village District were discussed at the last Board of Selectmen meeting. Mr. Rosiello stated he knows the lots have been grandfathered and during the last check they were building and selling. Mr. Rosiello stated it was previously stated that if the Town were to proceed with selling lots, there were concerns it would flood the market. He stated the due diligence going forward would be to understand the real number of lots that might come available as it would increase the Town's revenue.

Mr. Rosiello stated he thinks there needs to be training for all the departments, employees, and committees in regards to bullying, harassment and retaliation so everyone fully understands the definitions and how to handle incidents.

Mr. Rosiello stated that in regards to salaries, they are usually within a certain range but also take into consideration the individual's skills, abilities, etc.

Mr. Rosiello stated there was an article in the newspaper regarding individuals who were not reappointed to Town committees. He presented a copy of the printed letter which shows Chair Bickford was at a school meeting and was fully aware of what was going on with the daycare center.

**Agenda Review**

Selectman Swenson added under Old Business: Committee Appointments.

Chair Bickford added under New Business: Board of Selectmen Goal-Setting Meeting.

**Department Reports/Issues**

Selectman Swenson commended Interim Fire Chief MacCaffrie, Captain Lon Berry and the New Durham Fire Department for an exceptionally well-run fire training on April 4. He stated the towns of Alton, Farmington and Milton were there along with State inspectors. Selectman Swenson stated it was the first time the State did not have negative comments of the training. Selectman Anthes stated he had the opportunity to go to the

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

burn and noted it was well run with well over five fire companies and he was impressed with all of them.

Selectman Anthes stated after he was contacted by concerned citizens, he obtained a copy of the asbestos abatement report. He stated he also went with Town Administrator Bourgeois to the site to view and ensure all the asbestos had been removed as the report stated.

**Fire Chief Position**

Selectman Anthes gave a statement summarizing his motion made at the last Board of Selectmen meeting regarding Peter Varney. (See attached.)

**Selectman Anthes made a motion to appoint Peter Varney as Fire Chief of the New Durham Fire Department for a three year term ending on March 30, 2018.**  
**Selectman Bickford seconded the motion for discussion.**

Selectman Swenson gave a statement regarding his position on the issue of Peter Varney. (See attached.)

**Selectman Bickford made a motion to amend the motion to waive the hiring policy.**

Selectman Swenson asked the basis for this. Chair Bickford replied it is because he never would have let Mr. Varney go to begin with. Chair Bickford stated if there is something they learned from the lawsuit it was they don't need to do reappointments. Selectman Swenson replied that is the wrong conclusion. Chair Bickford stated he was told that by Town Counsel. Selectman Swenson asked Town Administrator Bourgeois to verify this with Town Counsel. **Selectman Anthes seconded the amendment.**

Selectman Swenson reiterated his statements regarding appointments and policies.

Susan Matheson, New Durham Fire Department, stated there is a hiring process which they all go through to ensure certifications and asked why that should be overlooked on some and not others. She stated she doesn't know what happened in the past but was notified via text that as of midnight tonight, the Town of Alton will be responding as primary for New Durham calls and asked if that means the current employees are no longer members. Chair Bickford replied he does not know anything about it. Ms. Matheson stated the text came from the Alton Fire Department and forwarded from Mr. Bob Varney.

Mr. Rosiello stated it was his understanding they would be going through some process to put Peter Varney back as Fire Chief. He stated he is not aware of a vetting process having started. Selectman Swenson stated he is not aware either.

Skip Fadden, resident, stated the Town has a long history of rousting employees. He stated Mr. Varney did an exceptional job when he ran it and there was nothing wrong with the department and actually saved the Town money.

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

Selectman Anthes stated the policy that was passed stated there would be a two-week identification. He stated when he talked to the attorneys there would be no problem with appointing Mr. Varney and it would not affect other policies. Selectman Anthes stated there are two different policies, a hiring policy and an appointment policy.

**Amended motion passed, 2-1. Selectman Swenson opposed.**

**Motion passed, 2-1. Selectman Swenson opposed.**

Selectman Swenson stated he asked for a current roster of the New Durham Fire Department. (See attached.) This was reviewed and discussed. Selectman Swenson stated he is disturbed there are already rumors that New Durham can't handle their own calls. However, he appreciates the mutual aid coverage.

Selectman Swenson asked Town Administrator Bourgeois to put review of the roster on the agenda every three months to ensure better coverage and to address the coverage concerns raised by residents over the last couple years. He stated he wants to ensure the roster is maintained at a sufficient level to meet New Durham's needs.

Chair Bickford stated that before Mr. Varney was let go they had a very efficient ambulance. It is important to him to make that happen again. Selectman Swenson stated Mr. Varney was not let go and he has not seen any data to support the level of services were not maintained.

The oath of office was given by Selectman Anthes to Peter Varney as Fire Chief and the appointment paperwork was signed.

Selectman Anthes read a letter from the Board of Selectmen addressed to Interim Fire Chief MacCaffrie, thanking him for his service and assistance over the past fourteen months. (See attached.)

**Town Administrator's Report**

Town Administrator Bourgeois stated the Town Hall clock is back on and full automation of the clock was finished today.

Town Administrator Bourgeois gave an update on the wage/benefit status. He stated he has gathered information from other communities and it will hopefully be completed in the next month or two.

Town Administrator Bourgeois asked the Board of Selectmen whether they want to move towards domain based email accounts. He stated it would cost a little more than they are currently paying. Selectman Swenson stated it seems like a waste of money. Town Administrator Bourgeois stated right now they get a certain amount of email accounts free through Metrocast but after the threshold is met, they pay per account. He stated most employees don't have their own email but email addresses are shared by an entire department. Town Administrator Bourgeois distributed a summary explaining the

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

different options and explained the domain change in the email address. Selectman Swenson suggested adding emails to the Metrocast account to avoid the extra cost.

Town Administrator Bourgeois stated the Town has been practicing check signing with two signatures, which is not necessary. He stated most towns have the Board of Selectmen sign the manifest but it is the treasurer's responsibility to sign the checks. Town Administrator Bourgeois stated it can be difficult to have a Board of Selectmen member sign the checks along with the treasurer and asked if the Board of Selectmen wants to go forward with one signature on the checks. Chair Bickford stated he has not signed checks ever since he recognized it was not required by law. Town Administrator Bourgeois stated of the thirteen towns he surveyed, only one still has selectmen sign checks. Selectman Swenson stated his concern is he doesn't see any check and balance system to verify the checks match the manifest.

**Chair Bickford made a motion that the Board of Selectmen not be required to sign checks if they don't want to. Selectman Anthes seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.** Selectman Swenson reiterated there is no check and balance on the checks. Town Administrator Bourgeois stated he doesn't sign the checks but he reviews both the checks and the manifest.

Town Administrator Bourgeois distributed information regarding a web-based e-signature software, *RightSignature*. He explained how it works and signatures can be added to documents. Town Administrator Bourgeois stated this program would help Town departments with efficiency in getting signatures and it would be very beneficial. The cost is \$40 per month for ten signatures. Town Administrator Bourgeois explained invoices are also uploaded for review and approval.

Mark Behr, resident, asked what kind of accountability and backup the company provides. He stated the Town needs to be sure they have their own backups in the event the company goes out of business.

Selectman Swenson asked Town Administrator Bourgeois to also discuss this with Spaulding Hill Networks and come back with more information at the next meeting.

A purchase order from Strafford County for the 2015 Police Department dispatch was presented and signed. Town Administrator Bourgeois stated the rate has remained the same for the last five years.

**Chair Bickford made a motion to approve \$4,380.63 to Strafford County Commissioners for Purchase Order 0359 for Police Department dispatch services. Selectman Swenson seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.**

Town Administrator Bourgeois presented a request dated April 3, 2015 from the Library Trustees to transfer \$5,000 from the General Fund to the Library Operating Account.

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

**Selectman Swenson made a motion to transfer \$5,000 from the General Fund to the Library Operating Account. Selectman Anthes seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.**

Town Administrator Bourgeois presented a letter dated March 26, 2015 addressed to Interim Fire Chief MacCaffrie regarding the GIS mapping data. It requested permission to have access to the Town's data. The release form was reviewed and signed by the Board of Selectmen. It was confirmed there are no costs to the Town.

**Chair Bickford made a motion to release the GIS mapping data to Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid. Selectman Anthes seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.**

Selectman Swenson confirmed with Fire Chief Varney that he is in favor of this.

**Selectman Swenson made a motion to authorize Chair Bickford to sign the release of data form. Chair Bickford seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.**

**Old Business**

**Fire Chief Position**

Selectman Anthes asked to discuss Fire Chief Varney's pay. Selectman Swenson suggested that may need to be discussed in non-public although the results would be public. Selectman Anthes stated Interim Fire Chief MacCaffrie receives \$25 per hour for a thirty-hour week. He noted the vote on March 10 for Warrant Article 3 has a proposal of paying the Fire Chief \$20 per hour for twenty four hours per week and noted that is a savings of \$8,000 per year. Selectman Swenson stated he is ok with budgeted amounts.

**Selectman Anthes made a motion to pay Fire Chief Peter Varney \$20 per hour with an average of twenty four hours per week. Chair Bickford seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.**

**Building Inspector**

Chair Bickford asked how things are going with the building inspector from Farmington. Town Administrator Bourgeois replied it is going well and they are getting caught up with things. He noted the Planning Board has indicated they want someone put in the position, sooner than later. Town Administrator Bourgeois stated there are currently four applicants. Selectman Anthes stated he has another applicant he wants to wait to come in.

Scott Drummey, Planning Board, stated the Planning Board just wants to have someone they can interact with at their meetings going forward.

**Police Department Administrative Assistant**

Selectman Swenson stated the incorrect date was cited at the last Board of Selectmen meeting for when Ms. Woods would be reducing her hours. It is May 1, not June 1. Police Chief Bernier confirmed that is correct.

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

Police Chief Bernier stated he is ready to go into the interview phase for the four applications he has received. Chair Bickford stated he wants Tony Bonanno to take a look at it. Selectman Swenson asked what qualifications Mr. Bonanno has for looking at the position. Chair Bickford stated Mr. Bonanno frequently looks over things for him and has always been right on with his results. Mr. Bonanno's suggestions to Police Chief Bernier regarding the police department were not backed up with statistics but seemed to be based on emotion. Selectman Swenson thinks Mr. Bonanno's input is valid but he doesn't believe he has the qualifications that are needed to make changes in this position.

Katie Woods, Administrative Assistant at Police Department stated she works four days per week at the Police Department but as of May 1 she will be working just two days a week. Ms. Woods stated Chair Bickford is "stone-walling" so that the Police Department will be closed for five days a week. She stated the phones would be on a recording. Police Chief Bernier stated that on Friday, Saturday and Sunday the calls already go to Dover. He stated that he doesn't believe pushing the services up to Dover will be taking care of the citizens. Chair Bickford stated that is how the Fire Department does it. All emergency calls go through Dover. Police Chief Bernier stated that on average 15 times per week they get people coming in to the Police Department when they are trying to get someone to talk to in the Fire Department. Chair Bickford suggested they tell this to Mr. Bonanno because he will be paying close attention to what Mr. Bonanno has to say. Selectman Swenson asked if he would pay attention to what other people suggest. Chair Bickford replied it would depend who it is.

Selectman Swenson stated there is a budget that was just approved by the voters and in that budget there was a four-day a week position budgeted. He stated that through the budget approval process they went from five to four days a week on the basis of looking at getting the best coverage and being the most cost efficient. Ms. Woods stated there is no way the work that needs to be done in the office can be done in two days. Selectman Swenson stated there are a few applications on file and he doesn't see any reason to delay action on interview process and filling the position.

Elizabeth Cantrall, resident, asked for clarification on why they are only having two days a week. Selectman Swenson replied there was a misunderstanding that Ms. Woods would be going down to two days a week as of June 1 but it is actually May 1 but the coverage would be for four days per week.

Selectman Anthes stated his problem is they are looking for someone who will only work two days a week now and then four days at the end of the year. He doesn't see what applicants they will get that will be willing to wait.

Ms. Woods stated they are not giving them any time to do training and it is a very unfair disservice to the Town. It was clarified Ms. Woods is going to two days per week as of May 1 and that leaves three weeks to hire and train someone. Selectman Swenson summarized what they were trying to have a bridge period where Ms. Woods would still be working four days a week while training the new person two days per week.



*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

Selectman Anthes stated the big question is whether they need someone four days a week and if they do, are they going to hire someone to come in just two days per week temporarily. Chair Bickford asked who answers the phone the days she is not working. Ms. Woods replied there is more than just answering phones to run the department. She stated the building is open to the public for a reason and people come in all day long.

Selectman Anthes stated he is not ready to move on this. He would like to go in and see what she is doing because job descriptions don't always show what is actually being done. Selectman Anthes stated he has been doing research on three different departments and has some ideas with major changes.

Dorothy Veisel, resident, stated she agrees with the statement that job descriptions don't always reflect what is actually being done. Selectman Anthes asked Police Chief Bernier about shadowing Ms. Woods because there is a lot of personal information when people go into the Police Department. Selectman Anthes stated if something confidential comes up, he would excuse himself. Ms. Woods then exited the meeting.

**Committee Appointments**

Selectman Swenson outlined four nominations that were presented at the last Board of Selectmen meeting.

Selectman Anthes stated he has been very uncomfortable about how appointments to committees are being handled. He thinks it is unfair to the individuals when the Board of Selectmen doesn't agree on the nominations. Selectman Anthes stated it harms people's reputation to discuss people publically. He stated if he decides against someone, he's not going to say anything publically but will welcome a phone call from them. Selectman Anthes asked if there is some way of changing this process and the mechanism for appointments.

Selectman Swenson stated this is how the current Town process operates and gave the notice of nomination for Carol Allen on the Ethics Committee; Kristyn Bernier for CIP and the Ethics Committee and Joan Martin for the CIP. He stated the nominations are now ready for action at the next Board of Selectmen meeting and asked Town Administrator Bourgeois to put them on the agenda.

Chair Bickford stated they need to have a motion for these nominations. Selectman Swenson replied Chair Bickford was not previously in favor of doing it that way and it is not how the appointment of the Fire Chief was handled.

Mr. Rosiello asked if there is an RSA about whether something negative is going to be said about someone required to be in non-public session. Selectman Swenson replied that is correct and may be the mechanism of which Selectman Anthes is unaware.

**Selectman Swenson made a motion to nominate Carol Allen for the Ethics Committee; Kristyn Bernier for CIP; Kristyn Bernier for the Ethics Committee and Joan Martin for CIP. Motion failed for lack of second.**

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

**New Business**

**2015 Raises**

Chair Bickford stated Town Administrator Bourgeois hasn't finished gathering his information yet but Chair Bickford wants to set a date for the discussion.

Selectman Anthes stated he has some ideas for changes and wants to discuss them with input from each member of the Board of Selectmen before making it a policy. Selectman Swenson suggested a non-public work session.

After discussion a non-public work session was scheduled for Tuesday, April 14 at 2:00p.m.

**Emergency Management Director & Deputy**

Town Administrator Bourgeois stated the director has resigned and the remaining deputy director is interested in remaining in the position as deputy director. Selectman Anthes suggested having Fire Chief Varney cover the position. Town Administrator Bourgeois stated it is common to have the fire chief fill the role.

**Selectman Anthes made a motion to nominate Peter Varney as the Emergency Management Director. Chair Bickford seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.**

**2015 Board of Selectmen Goals**

Selectman Swenson stated they set a date for a public workshop last year to develop the goals list. After discussion a public workshop was scheduled for Thursday, April 16 at 7:00p.m.

**Public Input**

Mr. Rosiello stated that in terms of asbestos tile, if they are in good shape there really is no issue. The problem is the dust that is created when removing asbestos tiles because it requires grinding down to the cement. Mr. Rosiello stated the removers have to be certified and the State inspects the building before anyone is allowed back inside. He explained how asbestos can also get into smoke when the tiles are burned. Selectman Anthes stated that was his concern with the training burn and that is why he went into the house to check for himself.

Matt Libby, resident and father of a New Durham Fire Department member, stated he has never had a problem with Mr. Varney but in the past year, he has witnessed the volunteers who have stayed on the Fire Department be harassed and demeaned through the press and social media. Mr. Libby asked if Mr. Varney and the Board of Selectmen are aware of the animosity towards the members of the Fire Department who have stayed with the department. Mr. Libby stated he has seen his son Cameron confronted and threatened. He presented copies of examples from the department and social media websites.

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

Susan Matheson, New Durham Fire Department, stated she doesn't care what the issues in the past were but she has been attacked and accused of things she had no part in. Ms. Matheson stated she wants to be able to come to the department being comfortable and welcome but she has not thus far. She stated that even though she isn't a citizen in the Town she wants to come and help the Town. Ms. Matheson stated that she is concerned about the text she received and since she comes from Wolfeboro it will take her time, but she wants to respond to calls for the department.

Selectman Anthes stated he doesn't look at social media and thinks it is a rumor mill. He stated he has never criticized firefighters because he doesn't feel qualified to do so. Mr. Libby asked if when Selectman Anthes was campaigning, did he go over to the Fire Department and talk to people over there to check into what he was hearing. Selectman Anthes stated the issue now is Peter Varney is the Fire Chief and they want him to be fair to everyone. Ms. Matheson stated that as volunteers they don't expect constant praise but they do have concerns if they are held to a certain standard of qualifications, then the officers should too. Selectman Swenson replied that is why he was looking for a fair and open process to fill the Fire Chief position.

Chair Bickford replied they have run this by Town Counsel and he has familiarity with Mr. Varney. Ms. Matheson stated that as an employee of the Town, there is a certain job description and requirements they have to go by and asked why certain people are exempt from that.

Mr. Rosiello stated that in regards to social media, even if the Board of Selectmen don't go there, the rest of the world does. They need to be mindful and respectful of other peoples' feelings because organizations do go to social media for research and see if they want those people part of their organizations. Selectman Anthes replied that as Board of Selectmen members, they have certain responsibilities, they can't control social media and letters in the paper but they want to turn the corner. He stated Mr. Varney is the Fire Chief now and he will pick and choose who he wants in the department based on their qualifications. Selectman Anthes stated he doesn't believe everyone is fired over there but he and Chair Bickford have spoken with Fire Chief Varney and he is going to look at each person and evaluate them. He stated any fire chief would do that.

James Shepard, New Durham Fire Department, stated that after he came back from a leave of absence, he watched the younger members experience harassment and wrath every week. While most of it is untrue, no one ever came over to the Department to ask the members about what was going on. He stated that if people were so concerned, no one came to the individuals involved. Mr. Shepard stated they have expressed concern about a few members but he doesn't know where it went from there. He stated he is glad it is over but when everybody left and Mr. Varney was not there, it was Cameron Libby and Stephen McMullen answering almost every call for the Town. Mr. Shepard stated Mr. Libby was accused of doing what he wasn't authorized to do but it was not true. He stated those two went above and beyond when everyone else walked away, including officers.

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

Chair Bickford stated Interim Fire Chief MacCaffrie came in to fill in and he views this situation much like just happened in Auburn where they fired their town administrator then turned around and brought him back. Ms. Matheson stated this turmoil was all for nothing. She stated she is confident in who she is and feels like the “den mother” to the “boys” in her department but takes offense to attacks on her department. Ms. Matheson stated Selectman Swenson is the only person who has ever come into the department and asked how things are going. She stated she doesn’t want to be in a “joke” of a department.

Town Administrator Bourgeois stated he received a message from Interim Fire Chief MacCaffrie that due to tonight’s actions, he will not be assisting in the transition of the Fire Chief. Mr. MacCaffrie felt that some of the situations explained were not handled professionally, particularly in regards to the text message. Selectman Swenson clarified that what Mr. MacCaffrie is saying is basically the preempting of the request for mutual aid from Alton, is not appreciated. Town Administrator Bourgeois replied that is correct. Chair Bickford asked to see a copy of the text.

**Appointment of Tax Clerk/Tax Collector**

**Selectman Swenson made a motion that Carole Ingham of New Durham be appointed as the Tax Collector for the Town of New Durham, effective immediately. Chair Bickford seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.**

**Approval of Minutes**

Meeting of February 2, 2015 - Further edits were made to the second draft. **Selectman Swenson made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Chair Bickford seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0. Selectman Anthes abstained.**

Meeting of February 25, 2015 – Further edits were made. **Selectman Swenson made a motion to approve the minutes initially reviewed on March 9, 2015 and further amended on April 6, 2015. Chair Bickford seconded the motion. Motion 2-0. Selectman Anthes abstained.**

Meeting of March 9, 2015, Non-public session – **Chair Bickford made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Selectman Swenson seconded the motion. Motion 2-0. Selectman Anthes abstained.**

Meeting of March 9, 2015, Public Session– Approval will be made after additional edits are verified.

Meeting of March 23, 2015 – Edits were made. **Selectman Swenson made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Chair Bickford seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.**

**Future Meetings**

Monday, April 20, 2015 – Board of Selectmen Meeting, Town Hall, 7:00p.m.

Tuesday, April 14, 2015 – Board of Selectmen, Non-Public Work Session, 2:00p.m.

*New Durham Board of Selectmen Meeting*

*April 6, 2015*

*Approved 8/11/2015*

Thursday, April 16, 2015 – Board of Selectmen, Goals Workshop, 7:00p.m

Monday, May 4, 2015 – Board of Selectmen Meeting, Town Hall, 7:00p.m.

**Adjourn**

**Selectman Swenson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Anthes seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary