

New Durham Board of Selectmen
Approved Minutes of Meeting ~ February 16, 2009
Town Hall

Members present: Peter Rhoades, Ronald Gehl, David Bickford

Also present: Town Administrator (TA) April Whittaker, Road Agent (RA) Mark Fuller, Terry Jarvis, Paddy McHale, Cathy Orlowicz, Katie Tohill, Ryan Noonan

1. Call to Order – Chairperson Peter Rhoades convened the meeting at 7:06 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He said he had attended the school board’s presentation for the proposed school construction plan.

2. Citizens’ Forum – Cathy Allyn announced that **Candidates’ Night**, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, will be held **Monday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m. at the library**. The event will provide an opportunity for all individuals on the ballot to speak. Selectmen indicated they were to present their budget and answer called-in questions live at the Community TV studio at that same time. (Note: Following the meeting, the **Board’s Budget presentation** was changed to **Tuesday, February 24 at 7:00 p.m. on Channel 25.**)

3. Department Reports

Cathy Orlowicz said Road Agent Mark Fuller would be late, but that she could report for the Highway Department. She indicated that Mr. Fuller was collating recent bids re truck acquisition, indications of which seemed to dictate that the pricing came in lower than the approved budget figure. Town Administrator April Whittaker indicated RA Fuller could amend downwards, on Town Meeting floor, the article for the highway truck purchase. Ms. Orlowicz said RA Fuller wanted to discuss Solid Waste fees with the Board. TA Whittaker advised that a public hearing is scheduled for the next meeting that will deal with Solid Waste, registration fees, and building permit fees.

4. Administrative Review

Encumbrances - Motion by Chair Rhoades to approve the 2008 encumbrances as prepared by the financial assistant; second by Selectman David Bickford. TA Whittaker pointed out that the monies associated with March’s Pond Dam is bond funding. Selectman Bickford asked about the updates to the emergency management operations plan, and TA Whittaker said it is a grant carried over each year for updates to the Emergency Operations Plan. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Mobile sign – TA Whittaker said Recreation Director Jessica Bailey asked if the Board would allow the Recreation Commission to use the mobile sign currently at the Transfer Station, if no acceptable bids for it are received during the surplus sale. She noted that Town regulations disallowed mobile signs, and the Board said that signage issue and how best to present information in this manner would need to be explored further.

Surplus Sale Advertisement – The Board reviewed the items listed for sale. Chair Rhoades asked that “paddle” boat be changed to a seven-foot flat-bottomed boat, if possible. In response to a query from Mr. Bickford, TA Whittaker indicated RA Fuller had already advised her that he would not need the fire tanker with the acquisition of the new highway truck.

Extension of Deadline request – TA Whittaker said residents were requesting an extension of the deadline to remove a mobile home from their property at 282 Birch Hill Road, as the amount of snow made it impossible to move now. She said they had been granted a conditional occupancy permit of their new home, with the stipulation that the mobile home be removed at some time during the fall. Chair Rhoades said he would prefer if people could not meet the terms of their permits that they come forward on their own and explain, rather than waiting for the Town to follow up on conditions and fine them. Selectman Ron Gehl said it was reasonable to grant a few months’ extension, perhaps setting a date definite as May 1. Selectman Bickford said he would give the residents until Memorial Day. Chair Rhoades said if the deadline were continued past the summer, the mobile home could be used in the summer and that would be unfair.

Motion by Selectman Bickford to extend the mobile home removal deadline until July 1, 2009 on the property located at 282 Birch Hill Road; second by Selectman Gehl. Chair Rhoades said he would like the motion to include the levy of a fine of \$240 day if the mobile home is not removed by then. Selectman Bickford disagreed, saying the Board could revisit the matter at that time and decide. Selectman Gehl said it was the Code Enforcement Officer’s duty to see that the decision is abided by. Selectman Bickford said these are difficult times and the residents in question are good people. He said the Town should work with them. Chair Rhoades noted that the Board should be careful with that, as people need to abide by occupancy permit conditions and BI/CEO Arthur Capello is finding that they often do not. Selectman Gehl said this situation is not causing any safety risks and it is not an eyesore. **Rhoades – abstain, Gehl – aye, Bickford – aye. The motion carried.**

Animal Census 2008 – The Board reviewed the animal census from Cocheco Valley Humane Society. Nine dogs and nine cats were brought to the shelter, and the Town paid no fees other than the contract. The contract covered January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008.

Fuel bids – TA Whittaker said the Town received no bids for diesel or gasoline, no doubt because the market is too volatile.

Luncheon – TA Whittaker said she was unsure if she would attend a Public Service of New Hampshire luncheon.

Local Government Center policy positions – TA Whittaker provided a packet from the LGC regarding new or expanded revenue sources per the Governor’s proposed budget. The Board discussed the effects to New Durham’s budget given the proposals before them to cut Rooms & Meals revenue to the town and possibly, Highway Block grant

funding. Mrs. Whittaker noted the possibilities of an estimated tax impact of any where between 13 cents to 23 cents dependent upon the Governor's decision. This could have serious effects on the 2010 budget process.

Next Meeting – The Board scheduled its next meeting for **March 2, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.**

5. Old Business

Road Name Changes – Chair Rhoades said the Board has before it the recommended changes from Emergency 9-1-1. He suggested deciding which road names are to be changed and then inviting residents to offer name suggestions. He said the changes might cause some heartache at this immediate moment, but time has a way of being a cure-all. The alternative may be a person's death due to a mix-up by emergency personnel, if the name is not changed. The Board reviewed the list of recommendations and agreed to minor changes such as removing apostrophies and adding a suffix. Concerning duplicate road names, the Board agreed to change Cedergren Road West, Drew Circle, Old Route 11, and Shore Drive.

The Board briefly discussed the geographical area of Owl's Head. Selectman Gehl said he did not believe an actual road with that name existed. Terry Jarvis said people had called into the fire department before, saying they lived in Owl's Head. Ms. Orlowicz said she remembered a loop road called Owl's Head.

During discussion of South Shore Road and North Shore Road, Selectman Gehl said two issues were brought forth by the list: duplicate road names and abbreviated prefix directionals. Chair Rhoades said he would prefer leaving North Shore and South Shore Roads. Selectman Bickford pointed out the Board has been told to change one. He suggested bringing forth North Shore Road to be changed, as it is more recent. TA Whittaker said the Board had Town Counsel's opinion on the matter, as he stated not changing the name would be a plaintiff's dream. Selectman Gehl said he could not help but think that the situation was insane. He noted there are North and South roads everywhere. He said the Board needed to put E 9-1-1's feet to the fire. TA Whittaker said E 9-1-1 has provided the Board with its format, they are making recommendations only, not a mandate. The decision to change rests with the Board of Selectmen, although liability is heightened because the board now willing know of the recommendations should they choose not to implement certain road names changes. Chair Rhoades agreed. Selectman Bickford said the Town could look into what other towns have done. He felt strongly that it was not pick and choose, but that you do the entire list or none at all. Selectman Gehl stated he could not accept this. TA Whittaker reiterated again, that E 9-1-1 recommends a format only. Chair Rhoades said the Board makes the decision and is unable to eliminate all risk. On a personal basis, he was not in favor of changing North Shore and South Shore Roads and felt that the risk was minimal for mix up of the two distinct roads. Selectman Gehl said he was unwilling to place those two roads on the list to consider change.

The Board debated whether the names brought forward to the public would be considered to be changed, or had been decided to be changed. Chair Rhoades said he

wanted the Board to agree tonight to change the names, as the goal of the Board was to decide. He said at a public hearing, residents would say they don't want their road name changed. Selectman Gehl said if the matter is brought forward, the Board could change its mind. He did not want it to be a done deal. TA Whittaker asked what he would do when 20 people say they don't want the change, yet the other residents who did not attend because they are satisfied that a change must take place. He said he did not think the Board could commit to a change without notifying the affected public. It was pointed out that except for North and South Shore Road residents, two public hearings had already been conducted for exactly what Selectmen Gehl wanted. Chair Rhoades said public opinion does not affect liability ~ it is ever present.

Selectman Bickford said the Board was discussing the process of how to go about its intent to change names. Selectman Gehl said not committing to a change at this point was giving the public a chance. TA Whittaker said residents could bring forward ideas for new names. Selectman Gehl stated that there might be something the Board hears in that process that provides a compelling reason to change one of the duplicate names and not the other. Chair Rhoades said making the decision prior to the meeting would eliminate half the meeting of people saying they don't want their road name changed. Selectman Gehl said the Board would notify residents that the Town was intending on changing the road name. Chair Rhoades said the Board was charged with making good financial and prudent decisions for the Town. Selectman Gehl said the Board takes input into its decisions.

TA Whittaker asked to clarify to Chair Rhoades that she felt that Selectmen Gehl and Bickford were on board for name changing. She said the invitation to the public will be to please come prepared with name changes as there would be an intention to change the road names. Selectman Gehl said he was suggesting not being so heavy handed. Chair Rhoades asked how the Board would respond when the residents say they don't want the name changed. Selectman Bickford suggested, "We'll take that into consideration". Chair Rhoades said it was time to step up to the plate and move forward with the decision because a liability exists. He said the Board could change its mind in the future. Selectman Bickford expressed the Board would have to follow all or none of E 9-1-1's recommendations in his opinion. Selectman Gehl said he did not agree that the changes had to apply to North and South Shore Roads and he felt the Board could edit the list accordingly. Per Chairman Rhoades' suggestion, the Board agreed to table the matter until the second meeting of March 16, 2009.

Ms. Orlowicz asked about the consequences of a mistake happening due to the name change. Selectman Bickford said that liability would not have as high a settlement as recommendations had been followed. TA Whittaker advised there is the implication of heightened liability if the Town via its governing board "knowingly" does not follow the recommendations.

6. New Business

Finalization of Town Warrant – Chair Rhoades said resident Sam Hardy brought forward a suggestion at the Budget Committee’s public hearing to discontinue the new fire station capital reserve fund created in 2006, and to transfer those funds to the Town’s General Fund to defray the March’s Pond Dam construction project bond payment of 14-cents. Mr. Hardy was too late for a petition warrant article, so he asked if the Board would consider adding an article to that effect. Ms. Jarvis suggested discontinuing the Satellite Fire Station Reserve at that meeting. TA Whittaker prepared four articles for the Board to consider covering all options these suggestions would elicit:

- ❑ leaving the Capital Reserve fund, as is, in place;
- ❑ discontinuing the New Fire Station Construction CRF;
- ❑ discontinuing the New Fire Station and Satellite Station CRFs;
- ❑ a change of purpose of the fund itself. (requires 2/3rds vote.)

Mr. Rhoades suggested a Town Buildings CR Fund. TA Whittaker said the expendable Town Buildings Improvement trust has the same effect. She said “improvements” could be building, which had been clarified by the Department of Revenue out of a question that arose last year. TA Whittaker said the Board could not raise and appropriate at this point, as the public hearing on the budget has been held, but the money could be put in the General Fund this year. She said she has already started next year’s budget and she could earmark that money dependent upon the board’s decisions on Mr. Hardy’s suggestion. She asked if the Board wanted to subsidize the tax rate this year or not. Chair Rhoades said the Board had done an excellent job of cutting. Selectman Gehl said the Board cut the operating budget to minimize variance of the tax rate from last year, but the increase is due to funding the March’s Pond Dam reconstruction bond. He pointed out, however, that that effect on the tax rate becomes a wash for next year because of anticipated increased revenue from the properties around March’s Pond and Chalk Pond, as they would be reinstated as waterfront property. He said if the Town discontinues the capital reserve fund as suggested to further reduce the tax rate, it will be more difficult next year as there would be a higher percentile increase.

Selectman Bickford said he would not mind discontinuing the fund, as \$53,000 would cover the bond, but agreed that \$110,000 in tax revenue will return next year. He said the capital reserve fund would then have to be re-created, and it is unknown if the public would agree to re-establish it. TA Whittaker said she told Mr. Hardy that other fire station committee members might not want to discontinue the fund. Selectman Gehl said he could not support the suggestion insofar as it would result in a temporary effect with some negative ramifications. He said the Board had agonized over every iota of the budget. TA Whittaker and Selectman Bickford agreed that 2010 may be an equally difficult year and it would be good to have alternative sources of funds available in 2010, than to subsidize the tax rate at this juncture.

The Board agreed to stay with the status quo, but was appreciative of Mr. Hardy’s suggestion to discontinue a Capital Reserve to assist in the current economic situation. Chair Rhoades pointed out that it is easier to change the purpose of a fund with a definite plan, which had not been fully fleshed out at this late date.

Looking at the warrant Selectman Gehl corrected the polls opening time to be 8:00 a.m., rather than 10:00 a.m.

Motion by Selectman Bickford to recommend Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's, and the Board of Selectmen's recommended sum of Three Million, seventy-six thousand, seven hundred and ninety-nine dollars (\$3,076,799), which represents the operating budget. This article does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles; second by Chair Rhoades. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Chair Rhoades to recommend article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate One hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the maintenance, construction and reconstruction of town-maintained roads. The sum of \$100,377.14 will be received through State Highway Block Grant Aid from the State of New Hampshire, and the sum of \$49,622.86 will be raised through general taxation; second by Selectman Bickford. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Gehl to recommend article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Twenty-five thousand, and seven hundred dollars (\$225,700) to be placed in previously established Capital Reserve Funds, as follows:

Name	\$\$\$ Appropriation
Highway Truck Reserve	55,000
Highway Equipment Reserve	30,000
Police Cruiser Reserve	19,700
Fire Trucks Reserve	25,000
Revaluation Reserve	20,000
New Tax Maps	30,000
Library Facilities	3,000
Library Technology	500
Solid Waste Building	7,500
Solid Waste Equipment	7,500
Dry Hydrants`	2,500
Highway Building Addition	20,000
Smith Ball Field	5,000

for a total of \$225,700; second by Selectman Bickford. Selectman Gehl noted that serious adjustments were made to the contributions, while still ensuring there will be adequate amounts in the reserves when large expenditures come up in the future. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Bickford to recommend Article 6: To see if the Town will vote (i) to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for Shirley Cemetery Improvements, (ii) to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand

dollars (\$2,000) to be placed in this fund, and (iii) to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend; second by Chair Rhoades. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Chair Rhoades to recommend article 7: To see if the Town will vote (i) to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for Milfoil Treatment and, (ii) to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in this fund and (iii) to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend; second by Selectman Bickford. Selectman Gehl explained the fund would substitute for an annual appropriation so money will be available when necessary. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Selectman Gehl to recommend article 8: To see if the Town will vote (i) to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for updates to the Town's Master Plan (ii) to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) to be placed in this fund, and (iii) to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend; second by Chair Rhoades. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Bickford to recommend article 9: To see if the Town will vote to (i) raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred and sixteen thousand dollars (\$116,000) for the acquisition of a Dump truck with plow and wing, and (ii) approve withdrawal of \$116,000 from the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose; second by Chair Rhoades. RA Fuller pointed out that the truck is not a 4 x 4, and that he will amend the article downwards from the floor. TA Whittaker said she would help write up the amendment. Selectman Gehl said the article was an example of the capital reserve concept coming to fruition, as this purchase will have no impact on the tax rate. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Chair Rhoades to recommend article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-four thousand dollars (\$54,000) to be placed in previously established expendable trusts, as follows:

Name	\$\$\$ Appropriation
Computer & Office Equipment Maint. Trust	10,500
Forest Fire Fund Trust	3,500
Accrued Benefits Liability Trust	36,500
Records Management Trust	500

for a total of \$54,000; second by Selectman Gehl. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Gehl to recommend article 11: To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 10 of the March 15th, 1995 vote of Town Meeting, which established the New Durham Revolving Ambulance Fund by adding to the purposes of the fund, the following:

- (i) payment for personnel compensation for work related to ambulance operations,

(ii) **the purchase of equipment for the ambulance and to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund following review of the Ambulance Revolving Fund balance sheet; second by Chair Rhoades.** Chair Rhoades said the ambulance has been bringing in more funds and the fire department wants to use those monies to purchase new equipment. Selectman Gehl said the higher level of service provided has increased revenue, but because the fund was originally only for the purchase of an ambulance, the department was concerned that taxpayers would be saddled with the equipment costs. Chair Rhoades said the fund was set up for ambulance replacement, but if there was more than enough money for replacement, the extra funds could be used for equipment and personnel compensation. He said the fund would have to be funded appropriately. TA Whittaker said the Town financial department is running a Balance Sheet monthly for the ambulance. Selectman Bickford asked how it is known how much is enough for replacement. TA Whittaker said there would be additional bookkeeping involved. Selectman Gehl said financial analysis would be done to redirect revenues. TA Whittaker said the money would come either from ambulance fees or taxes. Ms. Jarvis said a similar situation occurred in the past, causing money to come from the fire department budget. She said having monies available in case a piece of equipment fails is a good idea, and that she would support the article. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Selectman Bickford to recommend article 12: Shall the Town vote to accept the provisions of RSA 31:19 providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, gifts, legacies, and devises made to the Town in trust for any public purpose?; second by Chair Rhoades. TA Whittaker clarified that this is a housekeeping article, as there is no record of the Town ever accepting RSA 31:19. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Selectman Gehl to recommend the resolution to support the Birch Ridge Conservation Project, article 13: To see if the Town will vote to approve the following Resolution pertaining to the Birch Ridge Conservation Project:

WHEREAS, the first of eight major policy goals of the New Durham Master Plan, as amended on May 20, 2008, states:

“1. Natural Resources - Preserve the Town’s natural resources and rural landscape including prime agricultural soils, forests, wildlife habitat and water and air quality for the sustainable health, safety and welfare of current and future generations;” and

WHEREAS, the first of three major initiatives of said Master Plan is to **“Protect Open Space and Rural Character;” and**

WHEREAS, said Master Plan includes a natural resource implementation strategy to **“Investigate capital reserve or bonding efforts for Town-supported open space Preservation;” and**

WHEREAS, the 2,000 acre tract of land extending across Rattlesnake Mountain, Mount Eleanor and Birch Ridge, and the watershed of Coldrain Pond includes some of the Town's most valuable scenic, recreation, wildlife, wetland and timber resources; and

WHEREAS, said tract exerts a profound influence on the water quality of the Town's most important water resources, Merrymeeting Lake and the wetland complex along the Merrymeeting River; and

WHEREAS, said tract includes sensitive areas of steep slopes, streams and wetlands that would be adversely affected by development; and

WHEREAS, the permanent conservation of said tract would advance the goals and policies of the Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the New Durham Planning Board has entered into an agreement with Red Oak Ridge, LLC, the owners of said tract, stating that:

"It is the Developer's intent to explore the possibility of preserving the premises in an undeveloped state by means of a conservation purchase; and

The Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen believe that it would be in the best interests of the Town if such a possibility were fully explored;"

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town Meeting authorizes the Board of Selectmen to:

1. **Vigorously pursue the permanent conservation of the approximately 2,000 acres owned by Red Oak Ridge, LLC, and/or its successors in interest (the "Property"); and**
2. **Apply for, accept and expend any federal, state, or private grants in aid as may become available for conservation of the Property; and**
3. **Negotiate the terms of purchase of a conservation easement and/or the fee interest over all or a portion of the Property; and**
4. **Cooperate with federal or state agencies and/or private non-profit conservation organizations to conserve the Property; and**
5. **Submit to the 2010 New Durham Town Meeting, a warrant article to raise and appropriate such sums as may be necessary to effectuate conservation of the Property, such sums not to exceed \$1,000,000 and to be raised by direct appropriation and/or by issuance of bonds; second by Chair Rhoades.**

Chair Rhoades changed "submit to a subsequent New Durham Town Meeting no later than March 10, 2010" to "submit to the 2010 Town Meeting".

Selectman Gehl explained the primary purpose of the resolution. He said the Town is not in the fiscal state to move forward in contributing to the conservation project, but is in the loop for five grant programs. To maximize success, the granting agencies need to see a commitment by the Town. The concept of the resolution is that the Town is willing to move forward and will chip in its share. He said the majority of the funds would be coming from grant programs. Chair Rhoades said the article is not committing to spending anything. Selectman Gehl agreed, saying it gives people a chance to vote on it in the future. He said we want to be able to take advantage of the money that is out there in the form of grants. TA Whittaker read the narrative that will accompany the article.

Selectman Bickford asked if the million dollars had to be included. Selectman Gehl said it would be meaningless to a granting authority without the mention of money. He said the article was not a commitment, just a show of support. He added that the Town's contribution would not necessarily have to be cash matches, as other forms of contribution would count. Selectman Bickford asked what would happen if the public said no. Chair Rhoades said the article would mean little without a figure mentioned. TA Whittaker said she felt like it was showing a poker hand by naming the figure. Selectman Gehl said the Town should not be generic about it. He said we would be relying primarily on other sources for the funding. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Chair Rhoades to recommend article 14: To see if the town will vote to accept the following ordinance per RSA 31:41-c. Electioneering at New Durham's Polling Place. No person who is a candidate for office or who is representing or working for a candidate shall campaign, distribute, and/or post at a polling place any campaign material in the form of a poster, card, handbill, placard picture or circular, which is intended to influence the action of the voter within the building where the election is being held or within a radius of one hundred fifty (150) feet of the entrance door of the building where the election is being held; second by Selectman Gehl. TA Whittaker said the article was submitted by the moderator, in light of someone falling over a polling sign at the last election. The Board discussed the layout of the school and where campaigners would need to stand. RA Fuller suggested keeping signs farther away and allowing the campaigners near the door. Selectman Gehl said the way the article is written, with the distance of 150 feet, candidates would be prohibited from being near the door. The Board expressed further concerns that the 150 foot zone probably would infringe upon abutters property, therefore were their rights to allow political signs also compromised? The board concluded that they were uncomfortable in approving this suggested ordinance. **Rhoades – nay, Gehl – nay, Bickford – nay. The motion failed.**

Motion by Chair Rhoades to remove article 14 altogether; second by Selectman Gehl. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board signed the warrant and requested that it be officially posted.

7. Department Reports

Truck bids - RA Fuller reviewed the bids for the 2009 truck cab and chassis with the Board. Liberty International Trucks came in as the low bidder at \$62,729. Chair Rhoades asked why RA Fuller did not go with a bigger battery. Discussion ensued about keeping the trucks plugged in to reduce smoke and guarantee starts so personnel can start work right away. Chair Rhoades said the truck purchase was previously approved.

RA Fuller discussed the Solid Waste Facility, mentioning that demo is the biggest problem. He provided the Board with a brochure of disposal fees and minor changes. He said the demo problem stems from lack of policing and, therefore, collecting. He said in January, demo removal cost the Town \$2,400 but only \$400 was taken in. He said he was working on erecting something so the demo could not be dumped. He said plastic recycling cost the Town, but we received \$2,000 in metal revenue.

8. Approval of Minutes

The following amendments were made to the minutes of the business meeting of January 29, 2009: page 1, under #3 – add “Reduction” at the top of the column of figures Under #3 in Acct 4909 Improvements, to read “fuel pump upgrade” rather than “fuel line upgrade”

Page 2: in Acct 4915 Capital Reserves, delete Fire Trucks \$5,000 following tax maps In final paragraph, first sentence to read: “After some discussion, the Board agreed that the Town would pay only for the mailbox of an individual.”

Motion by Selectman Gehl to approve the minutes of January 29, 2009 as amended; second by Chair Rhoades. The motion carried unanimously.

The following amendments were made to the minutes of the non-public meeting of February 2, 2009 regarding tax deeding:
Remove “distant relative” and replace with “acquaintance of a relative”.

Motion by Selectman Gehl to approve the non-public minutes of February 2, 2009 as amended; second by Chair Rhoades. The motion carried unanimously.

The following amendments were made to the two-page minutes of the non-public meeting of February 2, 2009:
Page 1, second to last paragraph, add: Chair Rhoades made the point that December logs were not passed until late January

Motion by Chair Rhoades to accept the non-public minutes of February 2, 2009 as amended; second by Selectman Bickford. The motion carried unanimously.

The following amendments were made to the minutes of the February 2, 2009 business meeting:
Page 1, second to last paragraph, add: Ms. Ingham announced that election hours will be from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Also change “two deeds” to “two tax deeds”
Page 4, under Fire, last sentence to read: He reported that work on the ladder truck is to begin Monday.
Page 5, under Selectmen’s Report, third sentence: add “former” before Planning Board. Also, fourth sentence, change “Roger” to “Rogers”.

Page 6, under Any Other Business, first paragraph, eighth line down, remove: the phrase "to funding at the moment." Also eleventh and twelfth lines down: capitalize "forest" and "legacy". Also, second paragraph, sixth line, capitalize: forest legacy grant.

Motion by Selectman Gehl to accept the minutes of February 2, 2009 as amended; second by Chair Rhoades. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Any Other Business

Idling - The Board discussed whether to create a formal idling policy for Town vehicles. Selectman Gehl suggested personnel be advised not to idle excessively. Chair Rhoades said a memo asking for common sense to prevail would be sufficient for the time being. RA Fuller said trucks would need to idle an hour during a storm. Selectman Gehl asked TA Whittaker to notify department heads to be conscious of idling for the sake of cost savings.

Copple Crown Fire Tower – Selectman Bickford reported that the state representative from Alton sponsored a bill to install a fire tower on the Copple Crown summit, which is in Brookfield. He said the projected cost to build is \$211,000 and \$14,000 - \$15,000 to man it. He said he also spoke with Jim Gallagher about allowing Towns to contract with the state, as Village Districts can. He said Mr. Gallagher's reactions vacillated.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Selectman Gehl to adjourn at 10:07 p.m.; second by Selectman Bickford. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy L. Allyn

A video recording of this meeting is on file with the Office of Town Clerk, is available for public viewing during normal business hours, and will be retained in accordance with the New Hampshire Municipal Records Board rules established under RSA 33-A:4, or for a minimum of 24 months.