

Selectmen's Meeting  
16 November 1998  
7:00pm

The regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting was called to order by the Chair, Allen Hines, at 7:00pm. Those present included George Lagassa & Jack Steiner (Selectmen), and Russell McAllister (Town Administrator).

The Selectmen reviewed the regular meeting minutes of November 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lagassa made the motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

1. Tax Warrant - \$3,993,969

### **Town Administrator's Report**

The TA relayed the Conservation Commission's recommendation to accept a gift of land by Joseph Fitzgerald. The donated parcel abuts the Town of Hampton and is located on the West End of Town off from South Road. Mr. Lagassa made the motion to accept Mr. Fitzgerald's gift of land. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The TA reviewed a citizen complaint concerning excessive speeds on Exeter Road. The letter explained that a previous letter had been written and subsequently the complainant received a call from the Police Chief concerning the issue. The situation had not improved since the time of the last complaint. Mr. Maloney (Chief of Police) addressed the Board concerning the issue. Mr. Maloney explained that trucks and commuters heavily traveled Exeter Road. It was further explained that to date there had been 431 vehicular stops by the police department. Eighty-six, or one out of every five vehicular stops made by the department, had been on Exeter Road. Mr. Maloney indicated that he would be in contact with the State Police to see if they could assign a state cruiser to the area to monitor traffic. The Board agreed that there was a lot of traffic on the road, particularly truck traffic, but because it was a state road it was difficult to implement changes to the road without state approval.

### **Budget Review**

The Board reviewed department budgets making changes to line item amounts with the goal of limiting the overall increase in the operating budget to no more than 3%. The current operating budget is 2,570,315. There was brief discussion concerning the labor negotiations with the local firefighters union and the outcome of those negotiations in relationship to the potential impact such negotiations might have on the operating budget.

### **Selectmen's Issues**

#### *HWW / Article XIV*

Mr. Lagassa reported that he would draft a request for qualifications (RFQ) to solicit bids on reassessing the Hampton Water Works. Mr. Lagassa explained that with the recent improvements made by the company, including the construction and installation of 3 new wells in North Hampton, that it was probably wise to have a professional appraisal done. The Board agreed the idea was a sound one and looked forward to reviewing the RFQ.

#### *Forrest Griffin*

Mr. Lagassa discussed the possibility of dedicating this year's Town Report to Forrest Griffin as well as presenting him with a plaque for his many years of service to the Town. The Board endorsed the idea and the TA agreed to follow-up on the endorsement.

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Mr. Lagassa reported that there would be some soil borings taken by a geotechnical firm on the property located on 62 Lafayette Road. The expense of the test borings was the sole responsibility of the owner of the property. The property manager mentioned that there was some concern over whether or not there existed some buried petroleum products on the property. The soil borings would help with the analysis. There was also some discussion concerning DES approval of the new septic design for the property. While such design may well meet with DES approval, the owner of the property might challenge the state's determination that the present system is in failure.

**Questions & Answers**

The Board recognized Rob Parsons from NexTel. Mr. Parsons was interested in making a presentation to the Board. The Board declined such a presentation because the issue was not on the agenda. The Board suggested that Mr. Parsons make arrangements to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. In this way the public will have an opportunity to see what's on the agenda and attend the presentation if they were so inclined. Mr. Parson mentioned that it was not possible to first appear before the planning board because, at present, he had no agreement or interest in a parcel of land that the planning board could review. He explained that going before the PB prior to acquiring an interest in a parcel of land was putting the cart before the horse. The Board agreed with Mr. Parsons' supposition but contended that they were not able to render a decision on the matter until they had more information and had checked with Town Counsel. Mr. Parsons agreed to come to the next Board meeting.

There being no further questions to come before the Board a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The public meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50pm. Mr. Steiner made the motion to convene in non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister  
Town Administrator