

Selectmen's Minutes  
27 December 1999  
7:00pm

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

The Selectmen reviewed the meeting minutes of December 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Steiner made the motion to accept the regular minutes of December 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

Administration/Business

- a. Minutes - December 13<sup>th</sup>
- b. Payroll
- c. Manifest
- d. Winter Road Maintenance (Winnicut Woods & Mill Place)
- e. Property tax abatements [(Woods \$3,699.98 & (Packer \$188.23)]
- f. Municipal Corporate Resolution
- g. Mason & Rich
- h. Coakely Minutes
- i. Executive Council Newsletter

**I. Budget Review - 7:15pm**

*Warrant Article review.*

Mr. Lagassa provided a brief synopsis of the current year's budget process and noted that, as the Selectmen's Representative, he had worked with the Budget Committee on a give and take basis in crafting this year's operating budget. It was noted that the operating budget was up approximately 5% due contracted salary and benefit increases. There was also an \$11,160 charge associated with the retirement of Lt. Colcord which the warrant article "Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund" was designed to address.

**Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to establish an Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund. The purpose of establishing the fund is to pay the costs of accrued employee vacation and sick leave that is payable at the time of employee separation or retirement.

**Funding Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund and to be funded from fund balance as of June 30, 2000. The current estimated total amount of unfunded vacation and sick leave is listed by department below.

Fire Department	\$33,325
Highway Department	\$21,224
Police Department	\$19,944
Total	\$74,493

**Phone System**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,000 to purchase a single phone system to replace the phone systems of the Highway Department, Police Department, Fire Department, and Town Offices and to be funded from fund balance as of June 30, 2000.

**Irrigation System Town Green Bandstand**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to purchase and install an irrigation system for the Town Green / Bandstand.

**Fuel Tanks**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,200 to remove the underground fuel oil tanks behind the Town office and fire station, to maintain compliance with State environmental regulations, and to purchase and install two new above ground fuel oil tanks, and to be funded from fund balance as of June 30, 2000.

**Holding Tank**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to purchase and install a holding tank required for the fire department floor drains in the vehicle bay as required by the NH Department of Environmental Services regulations (WD-WSEB 22-8,9).

**FD Capital Reserve**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$35,000 for the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund and to be funded from the fund balance as of June 30, 2000

Mr. Landman asked what the holding tank was and how it worked. Mr. Strout explained that the holding tank worked similar to grease traps found in restaurants. A baffle system trapped the salts and detergents that traveled through the floor drains of the vehicle bay and then allowed them to flow into the holding tank. The tank would then be pumped once a year. The tanks were part of new environmental regulations drafted by the NH Department of Environmental Services.

Mr. Steiner made the motion to approve the warrant articles noted above. Mr. Lagassa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

**Selectmen's Issues**

*Open*

Mr. Lagassa asked Mr. Steiner for a status report on the costs associated with installing a lift to access the second floor above the Police Station. Mr. Steiner reported that the total costs were approximately 26k. Mr. Stiner noted that the space above the PD was originally designed for meeting space. Therefore, space had been allocated to accommodate a handi-cap lift. Mr. Lagassa noted that there was a need for more office space and that he would like to see the concept of developing the space above the PD for Town Office use. Mr. Landman asked how the storage needs listed in the Municipal Records report were being addressed. Mr. Steiner made a distinction between the current construction of the records room versus the long term archival of Town records. Given the limited amount of available land, Mr. Lagassa noted that it might be more prudent to contract for archival space rather than building it. Mr. Lagassa commented on the necessity of having good public relations as well as using professionals to design the space above the PD. Mr. Landman noted that the heritage commission might be of some help in finding planning grants for the design. Mr. Lagassa thought that it was a good suggestion. Mr. Steiner agreed to continue working on the issue and the Board agreed to revisit the issue at their next meeting.

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Mr. Lagassa explained that there was a citizen petitioned growth management ordinance that would be discussed at the next Planning Board meeting. He also noted that the Planning Board would propose their own growth ordinance. Mr. Lagassa thought that the minds and spirits of those citizens putting forward the growth ordinance were in the right place, but procedurally the ordinance may be insufficient. The Planning Board's proposal will use a phased-in approach via a moratorium. Regardless there would likely be some controversy over the issue.

Mr. Steiner noted that there was an individual interested in donating land to the Town. In light of the recent interest in a tower being erected on school property, the donated land may well be used for the same purpose.

**Questions & Comments**

Mr. Landman noted that Al's Seafood was not on the Planning Board agenda. Lucille Ellingwood commented that she had seen the agenda in the newspaper and that Al's Seafood was listed on the agenda.

Bob Strout reported that Phil D'Avanza was scheduled to return to Town and repair the Town Hall Clock. Part of the repair could include a switch box that would automatically adjust the clock for day light savings time, or during power outages. Otherwise, someone would manually have to turn the power off and wait until the corrected time arrived before turning the power back on. The accessory item would cost an additional \$600. The TA believed that the money could be found for the purchase of the item. The Board agreed to move forward with the expenditure.

Lucille Ellingwood noted that she had seen a stand-up motor scooter with an engine going the wrong way down Route 1 without lights.

There being no further business to come before the Board the public meeting adjourned at approximately 8:10pm.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister  
Town Administrator