

The regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting was called to order by the Chair, Jack Steiner at 7:00pm. Those present included Lloyd Sullivan (Selectman), and Russell McAllister (Town Administrator). George Lagassa was absent due to a scheduling conflict.

The Selectmen reviewed the meeting minutes of May 8th. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to accept the minutes of May 8th. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

- a. Administration/Business
- a. Minutes - May 8th, 2000
- b. Payroll
- c. Manifest
- d. Tax Warrant - \$4,263,256.87

The TA explained that the tax bills would be issued on June 1st and payable on July 3rd. It was noted that July 3rd was a Monday and that the Holiday fell on a Tuesday. It was noted that the tax warrant amount was equal to one half of the previous year's total tax commitment and that the tax rate would be set in September. Assessed valuation had increased approximately 10 million dollars over last year's total, from \$444 million to \$454 million.

- e. Oaths of Office for new appoints were signed by the Board
- f. DES - Coastal Restoration Program Grant Award (\$20,000)

The TA explained that the DES had awarded an additional \$20,000 grant for the Little River Salt Marsh Restoration Project. There was a required 30% match attached to acceptance of the grant. The match on the part of the Town could be in-kind which included time spent by the TA, staff and Conservation members on the project. Other activities performed by the Highway or Police Departments such as traffic control or clearing brush also were considered in-kind. The Board accepted the grant and authorized the TA to sign the papers.

- g. CDBG - Grant Draw down (manifest)
- h. Cleaning Bid

It was explained that the recent departure of the cleaning person had left the Town Office and Police Station without cleaning services. A bid was subsequently issued and the Town received one response. Mr. Steiner opened the bid from Cleaning Force of North Hampton. The bid amount was \$120 per week. The TA noted that it was the same amount that the last cleaning person was paid. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to accept the bid pending the outcome of a background check. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

- i. DOT Driveway Permit - Donna Seigle
- j. DES Wetlands Bureau. - Minimum Impact Application (Dick Wollmar)
- k. HWW - Rate Case legal expenditures

The TA noted that the PUC had sent the documentation for the legal expenses claimed by the Hampton Water Works during the rate increase case.

- l. FD Testimonials

- m. Executive Council Newsletter
- n. County Commissioners - Bond Issue notification
- o. Centennial Hall - Lease?

The Board reviewed the lease payment and terms received from the Friends of Centennial Hall for the two small abutting Town owned parcels. It was noted that the submitted dollar amount and terms (\$1 for 99 years) were inaccurate. The Board noted that the terms were \$1 per year renewable every year.

Recreation Commission - 7:15pm

Summer Hires / Discussion of Recreation Director Position

Pat Shepard briefed the Board on the new summer hires for the summer recreation program. Ms. Shepard also briefed the Board on the status of the hiring process for the full-time Recreation Director position. She noted that there had been many applicants and that she was narrowing down the number of candidates to three. The Board of Selectmen would then participate in the hiring process leading to hiring. Ms Shepard indicated that the time frame for bringing the new director on board was mid July.

Selectmen's Issues

Space Needs Update

Mr. Steiner provided a brief review of his and the TA's meeting with Rich Correll the previous week. He noted that Mr. Correll had provided some RFP language the Town could use to solicit bids. They had also reviewed some older plans that were developed in 1987 for the entire municipal complex. Mr. Steiner explained that the upstairs work could be more generic in nature. The space could be designed for meetings and allow office space for the Recreation Director, Building Inspector, the Highway Department as well as alleviating crowding in the Fire Department. Plans developed in 1987 incorporated additions on the existing Town Office, which would serve to alleviate the overcrowding there. Mr. Landman asked whether there was need for Planning Board involvement. Mr. Sullivan noted that there were two issues that addressed long and near term needs.

Discussion of Conservation Commission Appointments

Mr. Steiner noted that Jim Kierstead had submitted his resignation to coincide with the end of his appointed term. There was some question regarding whose terms were expiring and whether there were members interested in continued service, or whether alternate members would convert their status to full members. The Board tabled discussion until the next meeting when these issues were resolved.

Review of abatement applications

The Board reviewed abatement applications and noted that there were eight. Five of the applications requesting abatements had been adjusted by the Town's contracted Assessor Howard Promer. The TA explained that Mr. Promer reviewed, researched and followed-up on all abatement applications and made recommendations based upon his research findings. Mr. Steiner noted that the Board usually approved Mr. Promer's recommendations. The TA then informed each applicant of the Board's decision and invited them to address the Board regarding their application. Mr. Steiner made the motion to accept the recommendations of Mr. Promer regarding the abatement applications. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Questions & Comments

Robert Strout announced that this year's paving would commence on June 5th and included Chapel and Maple Roads, Spruce Meadow and Lafayette Terrace. Mr. Strout also noted that he was negotiating with RH White over resurfacing of North Road. The contractor had not properly resurfaced North Road after waterlines were installed. The Town held a bond on the road and would use it if the contractor did not

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follow through. Mr. Steiner asked how Mr. Strout handled the conflict between landowners that planted their lawns right up to the edge of the pavement. Mr. Strout explained that the Town owned the shoulders of the road, but that he usually talked with the individuals offering them a choice. The town could gravel the shoulder or the property owner could have a lawn to the edge of the road. If they chose the lawn, then it became their responsibility to repair any damage to the lawn caused by winter snowplowing.

Lucille Ellingwood commented that it was a real tragedy that the Town did not buy the apartment building near the Town Office when it was up for sale.

Mr. Simmons inquired as to whether the Board had forwarded the letter from his attorney to Town Counsel for review. Mr. Steiner replied that no action had been taken noting that the attorney for Mr. Simmons was not a practicing New Hampshire attorney. Mr. Simmons next relayed that he had read a newspaper account of him in the newspaper that characterized his remarks and actions as a fishing expedition. Mr. Simmons inquired what Mr. Steiner had meant by it claiming that he [Mr. Simmons] had received numerous phone calls asking what "fishing expedition" meant. Mr. Landman noted that he was present when the reported was interviewing Mr. Steiner and that it was out of context. Mr. Landman also noted that many people were calling him up asking what the heck was going on, too. In a gesture of good will Mr. Sullivan agreed to send the letter to Town Counsel for review.

There being no further business to come before the Board the public meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15pm. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to convene in non-public session under RSA91-A:3 II (a) to discuss personnel issues. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister
Town Administrator