Selectmen's Minutes 27 November 2000 7:00pm

The Chair, Jack Steiner at 7:00pm called the regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting to order. Those present included Lloyd Sullivan (Selectman), and Russell McAllister (Town Administrator). George Lagassa was on an excused absence.

The Selectmen reviewed the meeting minutes of November 13th. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to accept the minutes of November 13th. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

- a. Administration/Business
- **b.** Payroll
- c. Manifest
- **d.** Cemetery Deeds
- e. Tax Refunds Veteran Credit (Ryerse \$100 / Morris \$100) Building demolished (Milliken \$1,079.99)
- **f.** Tax Abatements State (\$907.12) Town (\$462.37)
- **g.** Coakley Minutes
- **h.** Executive Council Newsletter
- i. DES Wetlands Permit
- j. NHNH Library Request for \$3,000 funding for Community Newsletter

The Board reviewed a request by the Library to have the Town fund \$3,000 in printing costs associated with the Friends of the Library Newsletter. Other contributors included the Friends of the Library (\$1,600), the Library (\$1,600), PAL (\$2000), the Elementary School (\$2,000) and the Town (\$3,000). The newsletter will be published six times a year. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to add the cost to the proposed budget for next year. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

k. NH Forever - Work Session for Wednesday Morning 7:30pm.

The Board decided to meet with the North Hampton Forever committee on Wednesday morning at 7:30 so that Mr. Steiner could attend.

l. CFNH - Execute Renewal Option.

The TA asked whether the Board was still interested in extending the Town's contract with CFNH for Workers Compensation another three years. The extended renewal lowered costs for workers compensation by \$10,000. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to extend the contract for another three years. Mr. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Selectmen's Budget Review

The Board reviewed this year's warrant articles which are listed below.

Fire Department Capital Reserve

Shall the Town 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, 2001.

Police Cruiser

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$23,000 for the purchase of on police cruiser for the Police Department and to be funded from the fund balance as of June 30, 2001.

Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$25,000 to be added to the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund and to be funded from the fund balance as of June 30, 2001. The current estimated total amount of unfunded vacation and sick leave is \$75,000. The current Trust Fund total is \$25,000.

Tennis Court Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 to be added to the Tennis Court Capital Reserve Fund.

Assessing Package

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$25,000 to purchase a Municipal Assessing package that includes a Computer Aided Mass Appraisal (CAMA) module, and integrates with the Town's GIS system and to be funded from the fund balance as of June 30, 2001.

Mr. Steiner noted that the current system is licensed and supported from the state of New Hampshire, has not lived up to its promise, and has very little in the way of technical support from the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA). It was also noted that future technical support for the product from the DRA was unlikely given the ongoing legal battle between the "Donor Towns" and the State over the Statewide Property Tax.

Records Storage

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$25,000 to hire a Records Storage Consultant to inventory, index, collate, organize, store and make accessible Town records in an easily retrievable manner and to be funded from the fund balance as of June 30, 2001.

The TA explained that record consultants had been contacted and would be interested in competing for the record storage work. Mr. Sullivan noted that this would bring the Town in line with its responsibility to have records available for public review.

Mosquito Control Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Mosquito Control Expendable Trust Fund. The purpose of establishing the fund is to fund the costs of a Mosquito Control program to safeguard the public health from mosquito borne viruses that pose a threat to human health and safety.

Mr. Steiner noted that the Town was seeking to establish a Mosquito Control Expendable Trust Fund with one article, and then to fund it with another warrant article. An expendable trust fund would allow the Board to act more quickly to mosquito outbreaks that posed threats to human health, as in the present case of the West Nile Virus.

Mosquito Control

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$40,000 to fund Mosquito Control Expendable Trust Fund and to be funded from the fund balance as of June 30, 2001.

Copier Purchase

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$13,200 to purchase two photocopiers. The first copier to replace the 7 year old copier in the Town Office. The second copier to replace the 14 year old copier in the Fire Department and to be funded from the fund balance as of June 30, 2001.

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Mr. Sullivan questioned the cost of the copier article for the replacement of the two copiers in the Town Office and Fire Department. He suggested that further research be conducted. The TA agreed to do so.

Fire Department - Tank Truck

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$225,000 for the purchase of a tanker fire truck for the Fire Department and authorize the selectman to withdraw (\$XXXXX) plus any accrued interest, from Capital Reserve Fund #4, and to act as agents for the Town in connection with the purpose for which the fund has been established in accordance with NH RSA Chapter 35, section 15, and to be funded from the fund balance as of June 30, 2001. Any money received by the Town from the sale of the 1969 pumper fire truck being retired is be used to offset the purchase cost of the new truck.

Architectural Services

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to pay for professional architectural services for the design and space planning for the renovation of the Town Office Complex and to be funded from the fund balance as of June 30, 2001.

Mr. Steiner explained that the Architectural Services warrant article would provide professional architectural services that will evaluate the municipal complex as a whole in terms of space needs and future growth. The services will provide cost estimates associated with construction and renovations of the municipal complex.

Completion of the second floor office space of the Police Station

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$130,000 to pay for completion of the second floor office space of the Police Station and to be funded from the fund balance as of June 30, 2001.

Mr. Steiner explained that he had been consulting with heating, plumbing, electrical and construction contractors regarding the costs associated with finishing the second floor office space above the police station. The numbers looked solid and the price included sheet rocking, suspended ceiling, heating & cooling, wiring, a handicap lift, flooring and partitioning. Furniture was excluded. The space will be designed for easy reconfiguration using the partitioning. The space is designed to alleviate the space crunch in the Town Office and provide office space for the Recreation Director, Building Inspector, Fire and Highway Department. There will also be more space for meeting rooms to accommodate the Planning & Zoning Boards, Conservation Commission, Board of Selectmen and other community groups.

Mr. Sullivan made the motion to approve the warrant articles, with further research to de given to the copier warrant articles. Ms. Steiner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Selectmen Issues

Mr. Sullivan discussed the municipal fire alarm system. He explained that it should either stay or go. He noted that no one was required specifically to use the system. Fire Chief Lambert noted that such was the case, but that particular types of businesses were required to have some type of alarm system installed whether municipal or private. Mr. Sullivan noted that presently there was no fee associated with the municipal service. The cost of maintaining the system averaged \$1,600 a year. Chief Lambert noted that other cities do charge for the service and that those fees ranged from \$10-\$230 per year. Mr. Sullivan suggested that the Board decide at the next meeting whether to implement fees or not, if fees are implemented, then how much will the fees be, and whether the service will be phased-out over the next several years. Mr. Steiner agreed and also noted that he was interested in preserving the Town's space of the telephone poles as well.

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Mr. Sullivan asked about safety conditions at the intersection of Atlantic Avenue and Mill Road and whether a set of traffic lights might be a safer alternative to the existing 4-way stop. Both the Fire and Police Chief noted that it was a state road. Another problem with installing a set of traffic lights was the hill on Atlantic Avenue, which blocked the sight of Mill Road. If a traffic light were installed at the intersection drivers would not see it until they began descending the hill on Atlantic. Any vehicles stopped at the light on Atlantic would be in danger of collision from the rear by the approaching traffic cresting the top of the hill. Wet, icy or snowy conditions would make the intersection that much more dangerous.

There being no further business to come before the Board the public meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30pm.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister Town Administrator