

Board of Selectmen  
Minutes of 02/14/05  
**Approved 3/14/05**

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Don Gould called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. There were present, Emily Creighton, Selectwoman, Jon Rineman, Selectman and Michael Pardue, Town Administrator. Mr. Pardue served as the Recording Secretary for this session.

**II. Selectmen Items**

A. Public Hearing – To Discuss the Provisions of RSA 40:14-b, Transferring the Responsibility & Authority for Developing the Annual Municipal Budget From the Board of Selectmen to the Budget Committee.

Mr. Gould opened the public hearing at 7:05 p.m. Mr. Gould provided an overview of the provisions associated with RSA 40:14-b and asked for questions and comments from the audience on this matter. There were none offered.

Mr. Gould asked the Board for approval to allow this discussion to include item “e” of tonight’s meeting agenda (Report by BOS Representative to Budget Committee Re: School Deliberative Session Proceedings) to be incorporated in the ensuing discussion. The Board agreed to this request.

Mr. Gould advised the Board that during his participation in the Budget Committee meetings, he has developed a growing understanding of the Budget Committee’s belief that they need to have more control over the school and Town budgets. With his additional understanding, Mr. Gould stated that he now supports the Budget Committee being granted the authority as outlined in the provisions of RSA 40:14-b. Mr. Gould discussed the circumstances that resulted in his changed stance on this matter.

Mr. Robbie Robinson, Chair of the Budget Committee was present and asked Board members Jon Rineman and Emily Creighton to follow Mr. Gould’s lead on this topic, providing a full Board consensus.

Ms. Creighton asked Mr. Robinson why he wants this action to occur. Mr. Robinson stated that he believes that the State legislature must have passed this RSA for a reason. Mr. Robinson stated that he suspects there was some manipulation of the default budget by some communities in the North Country. Mr. Robinson continued by stating that the current three members of the Board of Selectmen are “perfect” but that they may not always be seated as a Board.

Mr. Gould summarized his perception of why the Article should now be supported by the Board of Selectmen.

Ms. Mary Pat Dolan, a member of the Budget Committee, discussed her belief that the voters elected the Selectmen to oversee the operating budget of the Town and that the responsibility of developing the default budget is best handled by the Board of Selectmen. She stated that it is her belief that this same approach should apply to the School budget, that the School Board should continue to generate the default budget for the school. Ms. Dolan stated that she continues to have many questions concerning the fiduciary responsibility & budget oversight as related to both the Town and School budgets.

Mr. Gould responded to Ms. Dolan's comments by stating that he feels by passing this Article, those responsible for drafting the proposed annual operating budgets will do so cautiously so as to prevent a large discrepancy between the proposed operating budget and the default budget.

Mr. Rineman stated that he finds it very interesting that there is so much discussion about the default budget. He cited the amount of work that has gone into developing a sound operating budget and his belief that the discussion and energy should be focused on supporting that effort, not the change in the responsibilities associated with the default budget.

Mr. Rineman stated that he feels the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee should continue in their efforts to work together on budget development, including the development of the annual default budget.

Ms. Creighton stated that she agrees with Mr. Rineman and that whatever happened elsewhere to cause this legislation should not be what drives the Town of North Hampton and the development of its default budget.

Ms. Creighton stated that she feels the Board of Selectmen has a duty and responsibility to be fiscally responsible and that they (the Board), in her opinion, have handled this responsibility very effectively.

With no further comments being brought forward, Mr. Gould closed the public hearing at 7:26 p.m.

Mr. Rineman asked that the Board revote this matter at this time. The Board agreed to this action.

**Motion / Vote: Mr. Rineman made a motion, "shall the Board of Selectmen vote to support the provisions of RSA 40:14-b as proposed by the citizens petition presented by Mr. Robbie Robinson"? Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The motion failed 1-2 with Mr. Gould voting to support the petition and Mr. Rineman and Ms. Creighton opposed.**

#### B. Bond Release – Joseph Pandolfo, PCI Realty North

Mr. Pardue advised the Board that the Planning Board, at their meeting held on February 1, 2005, voted unanimously to recommend to the Board of Selectmen, a request made by Mr. Joseph Pandolfo / PCI Realty North LLC to reduce his posted performance bond. The request made by Mr. Pandolfo, was to reduce the performance bond from \$100,000 to \$20,000. Mr. Pardue provided the Board with a letter from the Planning Board recommending such action.

**Motion / Vote: Ms. Creighton made a motion to approve the PCI Realty North bond reduction request from \$100,000 to \$20,000 as recommended by the Planning Board. Mr. Rineman seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.**

#### C. Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan DRAFT – Ms. Theresa Walker

Ms. Walker provided the Board with an overview of the goals and objectives of the Plan. She further spoke to the outstanding efforts of the Town's department heads and staff that resulted in the draft Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Ms. Walker discussed certain sections of the Plan with the Board. Ms. Walker then asked the Board to, over the next several weeks, review the draft plan and provide comment, as they deemed appropriate. Ms. Walker advised that once she receives the Board's comments, she would present the final draft to FEMA for approval.

Mr. Rineman sought clarification regarding the Action Plan as depicted on page 45 of the report. Ms. Walker responded to Mr. Rineman's inquiry.

The Board thanked Ms. Walker for all the work she had put into the report and pledged to review the report and respond back to Ms. Walker within the next several weeks.

#### D. Report of Traffic & Pedestrian Flow at Town Library – Chief Page Presenting

Road Agent Robert Strout and Chief of Police Brian Page provided the Board with an overview of their efforts as related to the monitoring of vehicle and pedestrian traffic at the Town library during children's story hour. The Board was advised, as they (the Board) had requested, that monitoring occurred on two separate occasions. Each of the monitoring sessions found that four (4) children arrived to story hour, each accompanied by an adult. The children were well supervised in the parking lot and that no problems were observed as the children moved between the car they arrived in and the library.

Mr. Strout advised the Board that he has erected two signs at either side of the driveway entering the parking lot to the library. The signs advise motorists to be cautious of children that might be present.

## E. Questions & Comments Related to Above Topics

None.

## III. Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3 II (a,b,c)

**Motion / Vote:** Mr. Rineman made a motion to temporarily adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of entering into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A:3 II (a,d,e) to discuss a personnel matter, the acquisition of real estate and a legal matter. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. A roll call vote of the Board was taken. Motion passed 3-0.

**Motion / Vote:** Ms. Creighton made a motion to reconvene the public portion of the meeting at 8:26 p.m. Mr. Rineman seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

## IV. Administration/Business

### A. Town Administrator's Report

1. PWD – Great amount of sand & salt usage
2. PWD – Receiving a few complaints regarding Snow Fleas – they come with the snow!
3. PWD – Employee struck by falling ice from rented building at 205 Lafayette Rd.
4. PWD – To send out RFP re: Buckskin Lane work re: road bed and storm drains
5. FD – After many months of repairs, glad to report that equipment is working well
6. PD – Lost the rear-end out of cruiser #106 - \$1,000 repair
7. PD – Having to replace the propane fueled heater in the sally-port
8. TA – Awaiting report from Rye re: perambulation effort
9. TA – Town Report being printed – to be distributed during the week of 2/21
10. TA – Having many problems with computer servers – memory capacity issues
11. TA – Ergonomic review by PRIMEX finds need for new, ergonomically correct, keyboard / mouse arms – the current “market available” set-ups do not fit the desk in the Town office due to the age and configuration of the desks
12. TA – Jan attending a ½ day workshop sponsored by PRIMEX and Pilgrim Health Care for the purpose of exploring alternative health care programs with a special focus on prescription drug programs

## B. Correspondence

Mr. Pardue distributed copies of a note of appreciation that had been received by the Town, commending the work of firefighters Brad Hutchings and Steve Henry on January 19, 2005. The Board read the note as authored by Kathleen and Gordon Hurlbert of Goss Rd. The Board expressed their thankfulness for the fine work performed by firefighters Hutchings and Henry.

Mr. Pardue advised that he would pass the Board's comments and appreciation on to Chief Lambert too.

## C. Approval of Minutes

January 24, 2005 – Open Session

**Motion / Vote: Mr. Rineman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of 01/24/05 as written. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0.**

February 2, 2005 – Open Session

**Motion / Vote: Mr. Rineman to accept the meeting minutes of 02/02/05 as written. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0.**

## D. Payroll

The Board reviewed and signed off on payroll forms.

## E. Manifest

The Board reviewed and signed off on manifest forms.

## F. Other Business

The Board discussed and reviewed a "DRAFT" Scope of Architectural / Engineering Study. The Board asked Mr. Pardue to forward a copy of the aforementioned draft to each member of the Planning Board for their review and comment. The Board asked that Mr. Pardue emphasize in his cover note to the Planning Board members that the Scope of Work document that only a draft and that they, the Board, seeks and encourages Planning Board comment and input.

Mr. Rineman advised the Board that he attended the last Planning Board meeting in his capacity as Selectmen's representative to the Planning Board. Mr. Rineman advised that the Planning Board engaged in much discussion concerning the Plan NH project and that the Planning Board's consensus was to pursue this effort.

The Board engaged in discussion related to the benefits of the Plan NH effort and the costs associated with this initiative. The Board expressed considerable concern related to the funding of this effort, especially considering the minimal funds remaining in the Planning Board's budget. The consensus of the Board was that the Planning Board did not appear to have sufficient funds remaining in their FY '04-'05 budget to fund this initiative.

**Motion / Vote: Mr. Gould made a motion to not support the Plan NH effort due to the Town's fiscal constraints. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0.**

#### IV. Adjournment

Being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Rineman made a motion to adjourn at 9:01 p.m. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pardue  
Town Administrator