Board of Selectmen Minutes of 02/12/07 **Approved 2/27/07**

I. Call to Order

Chair Emily Creighton called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Present were: Selectmen Donald Gould and Henry Marsh, Fire Chief Thomas Lambert, Building Inspector Richard Mabey and Interim Town Administrator Philip Munck.

II. Selectmen Items

- a. Ms. Creighton introduced Philip Munck who will be serving as Interim Town Administrator and read a summary of his experience and qualifications.
- b. Ms. Creighton read a letter from the Seacoast Metropolitan Planning Organization requesting appointment of a representative to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

Moved by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Gould to appoint Robert Landman as North Hampton representative to the Seacoast MPO TAC. Approved unanimously.

c. Ms. Creighton announce that there is a vacant position on the Rockingham Planning Commission.

Moved by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Gould to appoint R. Shep Kroner as North Hampton representative to the Rockingham Planning Commission. Approved unanimously.

d. Fire Chief Lambert told the Board that a request has been received to remove a street light on Willow Avenue at the entrance of Fuller Gardens and another request to install a light in the vicinity of 106 Woodland Road. The removal of the Willow Avenue light would allow installation of underground utilities and avoid having to remove several mature trees. Chief Lambert said that he and Police Chief Page had no problem with the request.

Moved by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Gould to authorize the Town Administrator to have PSNH remove the Willow Avenue light. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Gould to authorize the Town Administrator to install a street light in the vicinity of 106 Woodland Road provided the cost to install the light does not exceed \$500. Approved unanimously.

e. Felicia Sienkiewicz, 24 Lafayette Terrace, spoke to the Board of Selectmen about problems with the use of land adjacent to her property. Mr. Mabey

- discussed previous problems and the presence of some large timbers on the site that he needs to inspect.
- f. Robin Reed, 279 Atlantic Avenue, spoke to the Board about noise and offensive language problems at a nearby property. She said she would like to see an action plan about what could be done about the situation. Mr. Mabey discussed the situation and what the Town can do under its codes and ordinances. The Board said that she did not have to accept nuisances and that she should continue to call the Police Department when an offensive situation occurs.
- g. Mr. Gould discussed the status of the request for proposal (RFP) for an organizational study of the Fire Department.
 - Mr. Munck said that he wanted to inform the Board of a potential conflict of interest in the study. He explained that he is a contract employee of the Town and is an affiliate of Municipal Resources, Inc. (MRI). He said that MRI performs such studies and would undoubtedly submit a proposal in response the Town's RFP. He said that he was concerned that it might be perceived that he was in a position to unduly influence the award of a study contract. He said that he should have no verbal contact with any prospective bidder and that he not be involved in evaluating proposals. He said that former Town Administrator Mike Pardue could be engaged to provide technical assistance.
 - Mr. Munck suggested that the Board consider combining a planned study of the Police Department with the Fire Department study. He said that because of the overlapping nature of the research involved, there was a good potential for economies of scale. Ms. Creighton said that the reason for initially proposing two studies was to insure that the study firm(s) were fully qualified to perform the work. The Board said that it would look at a combined RFP and asked that the Local Government Center be contacted on the conflict of interest question.
- h. Ms. Creighton said that she had researched Town records and found that the Cherry Lane recycling center was established by Town Meeting vote in Fiscal Year 1989. Mr. Gould said that he wanted to see that all is done to insure that the property continues to be used as in the past and not to be an unnecessary burden on neighbors. Mr. Marsh said that he did not want to see the Town go beyond the past uses of the property and was not in favor of selling it.
- The Board discussed having a combined swearing in ceremony for all persons taking office.

Moved by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Gould to schedule a swearing in ceremony for newly elected officials following the statutory period for filing recount requests. Approved unanimously.

- j. The Board discussed giving special recognition to Town Clerk Delores Chase on her retirement from office.
- k. Town Clerk Delores Chase wrote the Board to request that Sarah Maloney be appointed to replace Steve Bua on the Bandstand Committee.

Moved by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Gould to appoint Sarah E. Maloney, 5 Grandview Terrace, to the Bandstand Committee. Approved unanimously.

I. Evelyn Ferland told the Board that she had requested an abatement for her property at 276 Lafayette Road on which the building had burned down and understood that she had to see the Board of Selectmen for approval. The Board told her that the abatement question would be looked into and Mr. Munck would contact her.

III. Administration/Other Business

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Munck had nothing to report other than he was glad to be with the Town.

Correspondence

Ms. Creighton read several pieces of correspondence from or concerning Coalition Communities. She said that a forums are planned for around the state and that there would be one in the Dover City Hall on March 5, 2007. She said she had received a press release from Governor Lynch's office describing the Governor's definition of an adequate education.

Ms. Creighton noted that a letter had been received requesting the Town appoint a representative to an advisory committee for the upcoming NH East Coast Greenway implementation study. The Board said that the request should be posted on the Town's web site with copies to the Planning Board and Conservation Commission.

Ms. Creighton read from a letter from the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners announcing that the County Budget's tax increase would be 1.9%.

Mr. Munck told the Board that an agreement had been received from the N. H. Department of Transportation to initiate the Route 111 sidewalk project. The Board asked for copies of the agreement to review.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Marsh to authorize the Chair to sign the agreement at her discretion after review. Approved unanimously.

Mr. Marsh said that the Town Moderator had requested that there be a uniformed officer present at all Deliberative Sessions and Elections of the Town including those of the School Department. He noted that the Police Chief and the Lieutenant both attend the Deliberative Session of the Town in uniform but that there had been no officer at the bond hearing and some other sessions.

Moved by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Gould that it shall be the policy of the Town that a uniformed police officer be present at all Deliberative Sessions and Town Elections including special elections in the Town of North Hampton. Approved unanimously.

The Board reviewed minutes of the meetings of January 2, 2007, and January 29, 2007.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Marsh to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 2, 2007, as submitted. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Ms. Creighton to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 29, 2007. Approved unanimously.

IV. Adjournment

Being no further business to come before it, the Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Munck Interim Town Administrator