

1 **Town of Sandown, NH**
2 **Board of Selectmen**
3 **Minutes**
4

5 Meeting Date: Monday, December 16, 2013

6 Type of Meeting: Regular meeting

7 Method of Notification: Public Posting – Two locations at Town Hall

8 Meeting Location: Sandown Town Hall

9 Present: Selectpersons: Terry Treanor (Treanor), Tom Tombarello (Tombarello), Hans
10 Nicolaisen (Nicolaisen), James Devine (Devine), Lynne Blaisdell, Town Administrator
11 and Cynthia J. Robinson, Recording Secretary

12 Absent:

13 Late to arrive:

14 Departed Meeting:

15 Call to Order: Chairman Tombarello called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

16 Pledge of Allegiance
17

18 **Review of minutes of previous meetings**
19

- 20 • Board members reviewed the minutes of December 2, 2013. **MOTION:**
21 Selectman Nicolaisen moved to accept the minutes of December 2, 2013 as
22 written. Selectman Devine seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
23

24 Board members reviewed the non-public minutes of December 2, 2013.

25 **MOTION:** Selectman Nicolaisen moved to accept the non-public minutes of
26 December 2, 2013 as written. Selectman Devine seconded. Motion passed
27 unanimously.
28

29 **Public Comment**
30

- 31 • Donna Green Sandown's representative on the Timberlane Budget Committee is
32 here speaking on her behalf regarding the article in the Eagle Tribune in which
33 the Superintendent criticized her for speaking to the Board. Ms. Green briefly
34 recapped the article. At the next Budget Committee meeting Ms. Green told the
35 Superintendent she felt the newspaper article was an attempt to interfere with her
36 duties as an elected representative for the Town of Sandown. Ms. Green stated
37 following her comment to the Superintendent the Vice Chairman motioned to
38 censure her for actions unbecoming of Budget Committee member citing three
39 criticisms. The motion failed. Ms. Green defended herself regarding the three
40 criticisms and her position on the school budget.
41

42 Ms. Green explained the changes in this year's school budget relative to the SAU
43 budget being removed from the school district budget allowing voters to vote on

44 the SAU budget for the first time. Ms. Green went over the increase in the
45 proposed budget. Ms. Green asked the Board to write a letter to help her obtain
46 information on staffing at the school since she has been unable to obtain this
47 information as well as a copy of the ballot sheet. Also asked for was a detailed
48 cost on the proposed kindergarten, which they have not been able to obtain.
49 Selectman Devine suggested Ms. Green requesting this information under the
50 freedom of information act, which they have to respond to. Chairman Tombarello
51 expressed disappointment in the behavior of Committee members at the meeting
52 towards a Sandown member.

- 53
- 54 • Ms. Blaisdell informed the public that the Food Pantry is in need of items for their
55 Christmas baskets. Any one who has a frozen turkey to donate should call
56 Arlene Bassett at 887-3453. Any one interest in helping can go to the Sandown
57 website for more information as to what is needed.

58

59 **Review of 2014 Proposed Warrant Articles**

- 60
- 61 • Present for this discussion was Paula Gulla, Selectmen's Assistant. Ms Gulla
62 explained this is the first review of the proposed warrant articles. What Ms. Gulla
63 presented tonight consists of all the warrant articles that she is aware of some
64 are complete others still need information added. Ms. Gulla asked the Board to
65 review the articles in order to let her know if they want the warrant article
66 presented.

67

68 Warrant Articles A and C through E need additional information.

69 Warrant Articles B, G, H, K and L are okay as written.

70 Warrant Article F the figure of \$25,500.00 was added and the Board is okay with
71 the article as written.

72 Warrant Article I the Board is okay with but Ms. Gulla will reword the article.

73 Warrant Article J the figure of \$5,000.00 was added and the Board is okay with
74 the article as written.

75

76 The deadline for warrant articles is January 14, 2014. The warrant articles still
77 need to be reviewed by legal counsel. Ms. Gulla informed the Board about a
78 letter from legal counsel regarding legislative changes that could affect the
79 warrant articles; she will make copies and put it in their mailboxes.

80

81 **Mr. Joseph Lessard, Municipal Resources, Inc.**

82 **Discussion regarding contract for assessing services**

- 83
- 84 • Present for this discussion was Joseph Lessard and Scott Marsh of Municipal
85 Resources, Inc. (MRI). Mr. Lessard stated it is his understanding they are here
86 to discuss what is required for assessing and revaluation and whether everything
87 MRI is doing for the Town is necessary. Mr. Lessard began with whether the

88 cyclical inspections being done were necessary. Mr. Lessard stated the
89 Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) and statutes set the rules as to
90 what needs to be done with respect to assessments and revaluations. Mr.
91 Lessard recapped the past five years that MRI has been working for the Town.
92 Mr. Lessard went over the new requirements and how DRA checks for accuracy.
93

94 Chairman Tombarello asked what the annual cost savings would be if the Town
95 did not do the cyclical inspections. Mr. Lessard stated it would probably be a
96 cost savings of \$15,000.00. Chairman Tombarello asked what the ramifications
97 were both positive and negative to not doing these inspections annually. Mr.
98 Lessard explained the various ways towns handle the inspections/revaluations.
99 Mr. Lessard explained the purpose for the inspections and the difference
100 between the inspections and the revaluation. Because a full revaluation has
101 been done, consensus of the Board is to skip the first year. Ms. Blaisdell will
102 handle the revisions in the Service Agreement. Mr. Lessard explained the
103 credentials needed to work in the assessing field. Chairman Tombarello invited
104 Mr. Lessard and Mr. Marsh to stay for the next appointment.
105

106 **Mr. Paul Godin and residents of Mill Pine Village**
107 **Discussion regarding property assessments for Mill Pine Village**
108

- 109 • Present for this discussion were Paul Godin, Pete Stock and Bob Rioux all
110 residents of Mill Pine Village in Sandown. Mr. Godin read a statement regarding
111 the increase in this year's tax bills for the residents of Mill Pine Village. Mr. Godin
112 feels Mill Pine Village is being over assessed because of a flawed method of
113 assessment. Mr. Godin presented three homes and their assessment. Mr.
114 Godin presented the Board with three questions regarding the taxation of Mill
115 Pine Village homes.
116

117 Chairman Tombarello invited Mr. Lessard to join the discussion. Mr. Lessard
118 began by providing background information on how the revaluation process
119 works (Vision Appraisal), the role of MRI in the assessing process and how the
120 tax rate is impact by the revaluation/assessing process. Mr. Godin talked about
121 discussions he had with the Town's assessor regarding sales.
122

123 Consensus was after tax bill time the assessors will work with residents of Mill
124 Pine Village and determine how the situation will be addressed.
125

126 Chairman Tombarello called for a five minutes recess.
127

128 **New Business**
129

- 130 • There was no new business before the Board.
131

132 **Old Business**

133

- There was no old business before the Board.

135

136 **Correspondence**

137

- Letter requesting the Board write a letter of greeting for the recognition ceremony for Christopher Roland Robinson who attained the rank of Eagle Scout with Boy Scout Troop 268. The ceremony will be held on January 26, 2014 at 2:00 P.M. at the Sandown Town Hall. Board members will attend the ceremony.

142

- There will be a blood drive at the Sandown Town Hall on Friday, December 20, 2013 from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

145

- Legal letter regarding Town of Sandown – J. Scott Currier v. Cahill, et al.

147

148 **Department Liaison Report**

149

- Selectman Nicolaisen thanked the Highway Department and plow crew for their efforts during the snowstorm.

152

153 **MOTION:** Selectman Nicolaisen moved to go into non-public session per RSA 91A:3 II
154 (d) Property. Selectman Devine seconded. Roll call: Devine – aye, Nicolaisen – aye,
155 Tombarello – aye and Treanor – aye. Motion passed unanimously.

156

157 **MOTION:** Selectman Nicolaisen moved to come out of non-public session. Selectman
158 Devine seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

159

160 Chairman Tombarello announced while in non-public session the Board voted to seal
161 the non-public minutes.

162

163 Chairman Tombarello adjourned the meeting at 10:10 P.M.

164

165 Respectfully Submitted,

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171

Cynthia J. Robinson
Recording Secretary