

## **MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 4, 2010 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman David Canada, Selectmen Bruno Federico and Tim Copeland, and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine.

At 7:05 PM, Mr. Canada called the meeting to order and moved to go into non-public session to discuss a personnel matter with Police Chief John Scippa. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 7:30 PM, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the personnel matters discussed. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting was then opened to the public at 7:35 PM.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Kevin Peck reported he had \$5,674,217.41 in the general checking account.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Tom Haslam was present representing the Cub Scout Pack 185, which was requesting to use Stratham Hill Park for a Winter Fun Day on February 13, 2010. The event is scheduled to occur from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. He stated that they are expecting approximately 150 people to attend and that, in the past, they have used three porta-potties at this location, two of which they brought in and the existing one that the Town has. They believe that has exceeded needs and proposed to bring in only one this year in addition to the one the town has on site. It was asked what would happen if it was very cold. Mr. Haslam said that they evaluate it on the day of the event and if it is too cold, they do cancel and do not reschedule. Mr. Copeland moved to allow Pack 185 to use the Stratham Hill Park on February 13, 2010 from 10:00AM to 3:00PM with the condition of providing at least one porta-potty. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Bob Goodrich was present to provide for the Board an annual report on the activities of the Rockingham Planning Commission during 2009. The Board thanked him very much for the summary.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Administration:** Mr. Deschaine reintroduced the question concerning repairs to the Gifford House chimneys. The initial proposal provided was from Chimney Essentials for \$1,355. At the last meeting, the Board asked to consider a more permanent repair. Mr. Canada obtained an estimate for repair of all three chimneys at a cost of \$4,500. Chimney Essentials then provided an alternate quote, which more permanently corrected the problem for an estimated cost of \$1,720. Mr. Canada moved to accept the proposal from Chimney Essentials to make the repairs to two chimneys at the Gifford House at a cost of \$1,720, which included re-flashing and re-parging the two chimneys that are in use at the Gifford House. Of these chimneys, one is unused and one is used by the building's boiler. It is felt that the third chimney, used by the woodstove, is in acceptable condition and does not require work at this time. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There was a discussion regarding Andrea Lewy's interest in attending the Assessing Standards Board's meeting this coming Thursday and a legislative hearing to occur on that same day. The Board had no objections of her doing so.

The Board then discussed the request of Josh Tymann for approval of his proposed Eagle Scout Service Project. Mr. Federico had a series of questions that he would like to ask the Scout. Mr. Deschaine will have him appear before the Board during their next meeting.

Mr. Deschaine reported on the lawsuit between NPS2, LLC, the owners of the Shaw's property and Route 11 Investments, the owners of the VIP and CVS property. A new hearing is scheduled for January 14, 2010 to review a possible settlement between the parties. If that is not approved, then the hearing on the merits will occur on January 28, 2010. Both Mr. Deschaine and Bob Law have been asked to testify at that hearing.

Mr. Deschaine then brought to the Board's attention the annual memorandum he does which outlines the health insurance costs to employees and their respective contributions based upon the health and dental plans to which they subscribe.

Mr. Deschaine also noted to the Board that the Town had been served with a suit by Brian Daigle who is appealing a decision of the Board of Adjustment denying him his Special Exception request for a Home Occupation. Mr. Deschaine asked the Board which counsel they desired to have represent the Town. Mr. Canada asked Mr. Deschaine his thoughts on using Abby Sykas. Mr. Deschaine concurred that Ms. Sykas was whom he was going to recommend using. The Board had no objections to using Ms. Sykas.

The Board then discussed the approval of pending minutes. Mr. Canada had recommended several changes to the draft minutes, which were emailed to everyone. No one objected to the changes proposed. Mr. Canada moved to approve the draft minutes as he amended of November 9<sup>th</sup>, November 16<sup>th</sup>, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, November 30<sup>th</sup>, December 7<sup>th</sup> and December 14<sup>th</sup> of 2009. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada stated that Colleen Lake has asked for the Highway Department to collect the Christmas trees that were used in decorating the Town Center over the holidays. No one objected to the Highway Department collecting and disposing of those trees.

#### **MEETINGS SCHEDULED THIS WEEK/MEETINGS TO REPORT ON:**

The Chair then reviewed the meetings held during the past two weeks and the meetings scheduled for the coming week.

At 8:46 PM, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss pending litigation, a request for a Veteran's credit and an elderly exemption, of which the applicants' privacy was to be honored. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 10:20 PM, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the matters of personnel and the privacy of an elderly exemption request discussed during that non-public session. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:21 PM, Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reviewed By,

Norma Corrow  
Recording Secretary

Paul Deschaine  
Town Administrator