

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 1, 2010 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

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

The meeting was opened at 6:30 PM. Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss personnel-related matters concerning the budget. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 7:30 PM, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Chair convened the public session at 7:31 PM with a call to order.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kevin Peck reported that he had \$4,238,496.98 on hand, of which \$4,000,000 was invested.

OLD BUSINESS:

Josh Jerge was present to discuss progress on his Eagle Scout Service Project. His proposed project is to construct three picnic tables and two chairs to be placed at the end of River Road at the Town Landing. He estimated it would take 184 man-hours to complete the project at a cost of \$590. He is looking for donations and trying to fundraise for the cost of the project. Mr. Jerge asked if the tables and chairs needed to be secured in some manner. Mr. Deschaine explained that there was a need to secure them because picnic tables have disappeared in the past; however, there needed to be an ability to move them. Mr. Jerge was going to investigate anchoring them with chain and lock in some manner and providing the key to the lock to the Highway Department. The Board of Selectmen asked for additional time to consider the project. Discussion turned to the materials and designs being used. Some form of plastic wood was suggested for materials. Mr. Canada moved to allow Mr. Jerge to move forward with his plan pending a determination on how to secure the picnic tables and chairs. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED THIS WEEK/MEETINGS TO REPORT ON:

The Chair then discussed meetings held during the past week and scheduled in the coming week.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Administration: Mr. Deschaine provided his weekly report. He provided estimates to repaint the Fire Tower at Stratham Hill Park by Public Utilities Maintenance, Inc. The estimate provided was \$10,800. The need for the repainting of the Tower was then discussed. Mr. Canada asked if the State could pay for this maintenance in return for continued use of the Tower for their radio components. The Board also discussed a possible adequate amount for leasing the Tower to the State. Mr. Copeland suggested perhaps \$500 a month. This would recoup the cost of the painting and repair in the next two years, which seemed to be fair. Mr. Canada asked if Rockingham County had an antenna on the Tower. Mr. Deschaine said that it had been (?) that they were on the Tower, but no one has approached the Board to do so. If the County did have an antenna on the Tower, they should also be approached about leasing terms. Mr. Deschaine

suggested having Chief John Scippa approach the State Police and the County about their continued use of the Fire Tower. Mr. Copeland will approach him about it and if he had any suggestions concerning a possible lease payment. It was agreed that the underlying discussion on painting the Fire Tower would be put off until 2011, giving time to negotiate with the State and/or County on user fees.

Mr. Deschaine then discussed a letter from the Department of Environmental Services asking what public water supplies may be used as shelters during an emergency. Mr. Deschaine observed that the Municipal Center is the only possible site that he could think of that was appropriate. The Board agreed.

Mr. Deschaine noted that Joyce Charbonneau has approached the Board about contributing to the annual dog notice that she will be mailing out this month. The Board will consider possible additions including promoting the new website address.

Mr. Deschaine then discussed the planned annual roadside cleanup sponsored by the Conservation Commission. The Commission will be hosting this event again. In order to obtain free bags from New Hampshire the Beautiful, a non-profit organization, a form needs to be signed by the Board of Selectmen. After Mr. Deschaine provided the form, the Board signed it.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the minutes of January 4, 2010 as amended by his email to the other Board members. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board then discussed the new website use policy. Mr. Canada questioned the statement in the policy that there is only one Town website, that being strathamnh.gov, when the Fire Department and the Historical Society have their own sites. Mr. Canada did admit the Historical Society is a private corporation; therefore, not affiliated directly with the Town and it is noted as such on their page; however, the Fire Department is a Department of the Town with a separate website, that being strathamfire.org. Mr. Deschaine said to state in the proposed policy that the Town somehow oversees the Fire Department website would be a misstatement. Stating that one website is the only website that we control is the purpose behind the policy statement. Mr. Canada agreed. Further discussion occurred on the website. Mr. Canada moved to adopt the policy as amended. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Deschaine will make the corrections as noted and to the new site where appropriate.

Next, a discussion was held concerning the Selectmen's Report for the Town Report. Mr. Canada had drafted a report and Mr. Copeland and Mr. Federico agreed with its content. Mr. Canada also wanted to do a comparative with what the Town was doing approximately one hundred years ago. The other members of the Board liked that idea. Mr. Canada also floated the idea of having a Town ham and bean supper before Town Meeting. Mr. Federico and Mr. Copeland thought that it would be worth trying. Mr. Canada will contact the Ladies' Auxiliary to see if there is interest in assisting the Board in this. He will also do the research for the comparative mentioned earlier.

Anne-Marie Peck had requested the use of the Municipal Center, which had been previously approved, but she now requests a waiver of the alcohol prohibition. Mr. Copeland moved and Mr. Federico seconded to waive the alcohol prohibition. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the possible start time for Town Meeting. Mr. Canada suggested starting at 7:00PM as opposed to 7:30PM as in the past. There was no objection.

At 8:58 PM, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to continue the discussion of personnel and salary-related matters for this year's budget. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 11:07 PM, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session, to seal the minutes and to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reviewed By,

Norma Corrow
Recording Secretary

Paul Deschaine
Town Administrator