

## **MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 30, 2009 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

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

The meeting opened at 7:30 PM.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Town Treasurer Kevin Peck reported that with the checks being signed today, the general checking account would have a negative balance of \$1,591,516.47; however, the Tax Collector is taking in significant sums of money every day and that balance should be resolved in short order. Consequently, he will be holding \$2,500,000 worth of checks, which include the two school invoices and the annual county tax invoice. With the daily deposits of this week, he was confident he would be able to release at least the school checks and that the million dollar county check could be released by its due date.

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

The Chair reviewed meetings scheduled for the coming week and there were none to report on last week due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The Board reviewed a request by the Seacoast Interfaith Hospitality Network to hold a fundraising and education program at Stratham Hill Park called a "Cardboard City". It would include up to 150 participants of adults and children. They stated they would insure that they would have at least one adult for every five children under age 18 participating. Mr. Federico expressed some concerns about the logistics of opening the Park in early April due to the possibility that the water system may not be online at that time. Mr. Copeland questioned the esthetics of hosting the event in the open fields of the Park. He also questioned the degree of supervision with the one-to-five adult to children ratio stated. Mr. Federico, as the Park's Board Liaison, will contact the group to get some additional clarifications to their concerns.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Administration:** Mr. Deschaine submitted his request to be paid for unused vacation time that job responsibilities prevented him from taking. Mr. Canada said that the Board would consider the request during a non-public session.

The Board began to discuss specific materials to be posted on the Board of Selectmen's web page on the new website. The Board reviewed a draft prepared by Mr. Canada in great detail.

The Board then reviewed drafts of two letters that Mr. Canada had created addressing concerns the Board had. The first letter was to the Fire Chief requesting that he or a representative of the Department be present on a monthly basis, preferably the third Monday of the month, as other Departments do. The second letter was to the Boy Scout Troop 185 requesting them to remove the storage trailer from the Fire Department parking lot. The letter states that there is space at

Stratham Hill Park being offered as an alternate storage site. After various comments on the draft, Mr. Canada will re-draft the letters for the Board to sign later this week.

The Board again discussed the statutes and the proposed bylaws for the Public Works Commission. Mr. Federico was unsure how the Board left the discussion last week. Mr. Deschaine and Mr. Canada stated they were to get together, possibly including Special Counsel Dana Bisbee, to discuss how to make the Commission an advisory one.

Mr. Canada brought up the Board's previous discussion regarding clearing the land behind the softball field at the Municipal Center for a future softball field development. He understood that the logger now had permission from an adjacent property owner to access the site without impacting the existing softball field. Consequently, Mr. Canada moved to accept a proposal by Greg Claar to clear a 250' by 250' area behind the Municipal Center softball field. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The proposal was to do the work at a cost of \$3,000.

The Board then asked Mr. Deschaine to be prepared after the next meeting to list all the remaining requests to be funded from the remaining Firehouse Bond Account.

In discussing the Town's new website, Mr. Canada requested Mr. Deschaine to contact Fourae Graphics about shutting down the current official Town website immediately and to retain the domain name for future use. Mr. Deschaine will do so this week.

At 9:10 PM, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss matters of personnel and contract negotiations for acquisition of property. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 9:45 PM, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the matters discussed. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:46 PM, Mr. Federico moved to adjourn. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reviewed By,

Norma Corrow  
Recording Secretary

Paul Deschaine  
Town Administrator