

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 25, 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 7:38 PM.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kevin Peck was present and reported that he has \$32,693.74 in the general checking account after paying tonight's bills. He also has \$5,500,000 invested.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Parks and Recreation: Tara Barker was present to provide her monthly report. She provided the Board a final report on the 2009 Recreation Revolving Fund. The ending balance was \$90,461.03.

Recreational programming is between seasons right now. Stratham Hill Park has also been quiet. Kim Woods has been studying for the State pesticide's license test. Ms. Barker believes the test will be administered in April of 2010.

Mr. Copeland asked if the soccer goals were still outside at Stevens Park. Ms. Barker will have to check on that. Mr. Copeland also noted that he believes that the snow fence that was put up to protect the new ball field has fallen over. Ms. Barker will investigate that while she is at Stevens Park and report back later.

Fire Department: John Sapienza was present. He spoke favorably on Police Chief John Scippa's ability to evaluate medical calls. His input on scenes has assisted the Fire Department in responding to such calls.

Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector: Terry Barnes was present to give his monthly report. He reported on the effects of a small fire that occurred in a test oven at Lindt & Sprungli. There were small complications that occurred during the incident, but overall the response was well done, particularly in a construction area. Lindt is making corrections to avoid these complications in the future to include an alarm test, which is scheduled for later this week.

Mr. Barnes stated he has issued Timberland their permanent certificate of occupancy on the renovations they did to their building. He issued that certificate of occupancy last week.

He has also made inquiries into the status of the deficient fire protection cistern in the back of the Staples building. Northstar, the owner of the property, has not yet responded. He asked the Board if they still wanted him to withhold further building permits until evidence that the cistern has been corrected. Mr. Canada and the other Board members said that a permanent solution to this problem needs to be reported to the Town in order to insure an adequate water supply for the fire suppression system for that building.

Mr. Barnes commented on the committee that was formed to study the software needs of the Land Use Department. The participants on the committee have shared their needs, which was very informative to all.

Mr. Barnes also reported on an inspection done with the State Plumbing Inspector concerning the Cooperative Middle School's gas fittings to their boilers and other appliances. They were looking for a specific fitting that has been known to fail. Those fittings will have to be replaced when found.

Lastly, Mr. Barnes stated that residential building has picked up a little bit with interest shown in obtaining new building permits in the Sewall Farm Subdivision. Some building in this residential development appears to be starting up again.

Police Department: Chief John Scippa was present to give his monthly report. There is some minor flooding presently on Frying Pan Lane due to the recent rains. It appears that the catch basin is being overwhelmed due to the rain and snowmelt. Cones were placed in the roadway to warn of the hazard.

Chief Scippa and Sergeant Chris Call had to do a forced entry at a location on Aberdeen Drive for a well-being check. The individual inside was found and transported to the hospital for treatment.

Chief Scippa distributed a list of property that had been previously donated to the Police Department by the Police Association, which may not have gone through the formal acceptance process as required by the statutes. Chief Scippa read the letter from the Police Association, which enumerated various items with a total value of the donation of \$7,458.77. Chief Scippa said that there would be other items to be declared which also need to be quantified and accepted by the Town. Mr. Deschaine suggested having one hearing to accept all the items in question, rather than doing it in successive sessions. The Board concurred with this suggestion and asked Chief Scippa to have a complete inventory as quickly as he can.

There was a brief discussion on the use of holiday pay. Chief Scippa and Mr. Deschaine will need to meet to discuss the administration of holiday pay that is fair to all employees.

Mr. Federico asked about a power disruption that is scheduled to occur on High Street tomorrow. He wanted to know if there was a police detail scheduled. Chief Scippa was not aware of one being requested; however, his Department will monitor the situation.

Administration: At 8:08 PM, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a contractual issue being negotiated with Unitil. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 8:40 PM, Mr. Copeland moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the contractual negotiations discussed. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine presented a contract extension for the Cable TV Franchise Agreement. This was due to the ongoing negotiations with Comcast, which have not reached fruition as of yet. The

Exeter Cable Franchise contract is still under negotiation, the results of which we are somewhat dependant on. Mr. Copeland moved and Mr. Canada seconded to execute the extension. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine then presented a proposal from Pine Tree Engineering for monitoring the Stratham landfill during 2010 and filing the necessary reports with the Department of Environmental Services. The proposal also includes a renewal of the groundwater discharge permit. Mr. Canada moved and Mr. Federico seconded to authorize Mr. Deschaine to execute the contract as presented. The amount of the proposal was for \$7,600. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board then discussed the Southeast Watershed Alliance letter of support. The Board agreed to have Mr. Deschaine write such a letter of support and issue it when necessary.

At 9:16 PM, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a personnel matter and action to the threat of litigation. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 10:44 PM, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes due to the matters of personnel and litigation discussed. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

A review of the minutes of the Board's previous meeting occurred with Mr. Canada moving to approve the minutes as amended for December 21, 2009 and January 11, 2010 as presented. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine provided the Board a status of the heating system in the Municipal Center. Providing power to the new heating, ventilation and air conditioning system is still an issue with Mr. Canada and Mr. Deschaine working with various electricians and Unitol to solve the problem.

Mr. Deschaine reviewed a draft of the Public Hearing notice for the 2010 Warrant. This discussion then continued on specific Warrant Articles, which should be included and appear on the notice. Mr. Deschaine will post the notice by the end of the week.

Mr. Copeland noted that he would be away on vacation during the week of February 22, 2010.

PARK PERMITS/MUNICIPAL CENTER RENTALS:

Mark Hamel was present on behalf of the Exeter Lions Club to discuss using Stratham Hill Park on June 6, 2010 for their annual bike race. Mr. Canada moved to allow the use and to waive the fee associated with that use. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Sheila Ryan and Kelly Taccetta, of the SPCA, were also present to discuss their requested use of the Park for the annual Paws Walk Event on June 13, 2010. They will be providing septic tank pumpings, a police detail, an ambulance on site and payment of a \$50.00 fee to the Fire Department for the use of propane in one of the food shacks. This is all in accordance with the conditions placed on their use last year by the Board. Mr. Canada moved to allow the use of

Stratham Hill Park as described. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada then reviewed the remaining requests to use the Municipal Center, which were approved. There was a request by the Jehovah Witnesses to have a meeting at the Municipal Center on February 13, 2010 and the Seacoast Grower's Association requested the use of the Municipal Center this spring.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED THIS WEEK/MEETINGS TO REPORT ON:

The Chair reviewed the meetings scheduled for the coming week and held during the past two weeks due to the Martin Luther King holiday.

At 11:20 PM, Mr. Federico moved to adjourn. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reviewed By,

Norma Corrow
Recording Secretary

Paul Deschaine
Town Administrator