

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 13, 2012 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

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

At 7:30 pm, the Chair opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Mr. Copeland moved to approve the amended minutes from the regular meeting on 08/06/12. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kevin Peck reported that he had \$6,539,878.82 in the general checking account.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Rob Cook was present at the meeting to discuss his Department's activities.

Mr. Cook reported that Engine 1 has been repaired and is back at the Firehouse. He stated he has not seen the invoice yet, but is not expecting it to be as much as originally thought.

Mr. Cook stated that the inspections on the trucks are due in September. He stated he will look into the possibility that the law has changed to getting inspections done just once a year. The Board had no objection with Mr. Cook spending the necessary funds for the inspections.

Mr. Cook stated the Fair Chairman, Stan Walker, has stepped down. The Fair Association nominated, and Mr. Federico moved to appoint, Francisco Marin as the Chairman of the Stratham Fair Committee. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board signed the amended Emergency Response Policy for Town employees.

Mr. Cook stated that 2-Way Communications completed the narrow banding Department-wide.

NEW BUSINESS:

The group then opened the sealed bids for the sale of the fire tanker truck:

- Michael Ahearn \$21,650
- Hillsboro Ford \$16,700
- Orlando Vargas \$5,000
- Remi-Sons, Inc. \$1,510
- Paul Ouellette Trucking \$9,878
- Asian Auto \$1,986.32
- McDevitt Trucking \$15,555
- John Purdy Trucking \$21,888

The Board agreed they would like to do some research and discuss this again next week. Mr. Canada will contact the high bidder to possibly negotiate the price a bit.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS CONTINUED:

The Board informed Mr. Cook that the matter of Fire Department detail pay is still a work in progress and they will be discussing this again.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Chief John Scippa was present at the meeting and reported that the Town was the site for the first Hepatitis C testing clinic that was put on by the State. He stated it went very well and they tested over 1,000 people.

Mr. Scippa stated that in response to complaints of speeding on the newly paved Stratham Heights Road, officers conducted a speed enforcement program from July 17th to the 27th. During that time, 174 vehicles were logged, of which 8 vehicles were stopped for speed and one summons was issued.

Mr. Scippa has been working with the Town Clerk regarding the warrant for unlicensed dogs. Officers made contact with the last 35 people on the list today.

Mr. Scippa presented two quotes from Adamson Industries to get the new police cruiser completely outfitted. With an exterior light bar is \$8,256.55 and for a low profile set up where the lights are actually inside the car is \$7,710.50. Mr. Scippa expressed a preference for the low profile option. Mr. Copeland moved to authorize Mr. Scippa to spend up to \$7,710.50 to outfit the new police cruiser with the low profile system lights and package. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Scippa stated that during the Fair, officers got into quite a scuffle affecting an arrest, which resulted in damage to the hood of a car in the parking lot. He stated they have been working with the owner of the car, who received an estimate of \$1,846 for the damages. Of that, \$1000 is not covered by the owner's insurance. The Board expressed a desire to compensate the owner and asked Mr. Scippa to work with Mr. Deschaine and the Town's insurance carrier on this matter.

Mr. Scippa stated he received a quote from the Dowling Corporation to install a new compressor in one of the air conditioning units at the Police Station for \$1,759. Mr. Copeland moved to authorize Mr. Scippa to allocate up to \$1,759 for a compressor. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Scippa stated they recently had a problem with their generator being "in alarm" and it was necessary to call a technician in from Power Up Generator. The technician found that the automatic transfer switch would not start the generator from the test button. He received a price of \$4,083.20 to replace the transfer switch control. The technician did fix it at the time and there have been no problems with the weekly testing of the generator since then. The Board agreed to hold off on the transfer switch replacement.

Mr. Scippa wanted to make the Board aware of a resident in Town who will be having a house party that is open to the public. There could be over 100 people at this party and he is requiring that the resident hire a police detail. Mr. Scippa has been working with the Liquor Commission to verify compliance with all liquor laws and regulations. The question arises because there is a suggested donation to gain entry to the party and there is going to be ostensibly free alcohol provided in the form of taste testings.

Mr. Scippa requested to use a vacation day on August 24th. The Board had no objection.

At 8:27 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session with Mr. Scippa to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 8:56 pm, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the nature of the matters discussed. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The group then discussed the private trail owner's MOU and the enforcement of Town ordinances. They discussed whether or not it would be a good idea to have something in writing from each landowner allowing the police to enforce ordinances on their property. This would be in lieu of a more formal lease arrangement with the Town. Mr. Scippa will work with Mr. Deschaine and Parks and Recreation Director Seth Hickey on creating a letter from the landowner to the Police Department giving them such permission.

Mr. Scippa stated that the narrow banding for his Department's radios is complete. This was necessitated by changes in Federal licensing rules.

MEETINGS: The Chair then reviewed the meetings scheduled for the coming week and reviewed the meetings held this past week.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Mr. Canada offered condolences on behalf of the Board for the loss of Bob Cushman this past week and stated that their thoughts go out to the Cushman family at this difficult time.

PARK PERMITS/MUNICIPAL CENTER RENTALS:

The following Park permits and Municipal Center rentals were discussed and acted upon:

Maya Patel requested the use of the Municipal Center on August 19, 2012 for a community event. Mr. Copeland moved to require a \$50 deposit from this applicant due to concerns with the use of the facility. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Dileep Kolli requested the use of the Municipal Center every Sunday from September 2, 2012 through June 2, 2013 for family events. Mr. Canada moved to approve the requests with the understanding that the Board reserves the right to reassign them or cancel specific dates, and with the stipulation that both the floors and the general cleanliness of the room are left in the same condition as when they arrived. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine presented seven applications for the Assistant Custodian position. The Board agreed to review the resumes and have Mr. Deschaine conduct the interviews. Mr. Deschaine will then bring a recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Deschaine received a request for a contract extension from the Rockingham Planning Commission regarding the Exeter and Stratham infrastructure study. Mr. Canada signed the extension with the Board's approval.

Regarding the Gifford House roof estimate, Dan Crow stated he can do the work as previously estimated with the exception that material costs have gone up \$225. The original amount quoted for the roof replacement was \$12,500. Mr. Canada moved to allocate \$12,725 for the replacement of the roof at the Gifford House per Dan Crow's proposal from earlier this year, as amended. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board then signed the lease agreement to the Park Ranger house.

Mr. Deschaine stated the accounting software transition has been going very well and is much easier to use. However, the system is not geared towards a monthly accrual of leave time. The recommendation is to accrue leave time at 2.77 hours per pay period (72 hours / 26 pay periods). Mr. Deschaine will make the necessary amendments to the employee manual after January 1st and bring it before the Board for their review. Mr. Copeland moved to accrue leave time at 2.77 hours per pay period. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

The group discussed filling the vacancy on the Board of Cemetery Trustees. The Trustees had recommended Fred Hutton be appointed. The Board will discuss this further next week.

When the time comes to install the Town Center signs, Hayden Equipment has agreed to provide a skid steer with an auger attachment at no cost to the Town.

At 9:49 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a contractual issue. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:23 pm, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the nature of the matters discussed. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:24 pm, Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey J. Grella
Executive Assistant

Reviewed by,

Paul R. Deschaine
Town Administrator