

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11, 2013 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

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

At 7:15 pm, Mr. Canada opened the meeting and then moved to go into non-public session to discuss a matter that could affect the reputation of another not a member of the Board. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 7:28 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 7:33 pm, the Chair opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Mr. Copeland moved to approve the minutes as amended from the regular meeting on 3/4/13. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kevin Peck reported that he had \$5,833,206.41 in the general checking account.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR: Joyce Charbonneau was present at the meeting to discuss with the Board doing away with the mail in written reminder notices to residents starting next year for their annual motor vehicle registrations. She currently sends approximately 425 notices per month at a cost of about \$2,350 per year. Ms. Charbonneau also pointed out that this process is not required by law, but is more of a convenience. Mr. Canada moved to have Ms. Charbonneau notify residents that as of April 1, 2014, reminders will no longer be sent out via regular mail but by email exclusively to those who have provided email addresses. The Board will discuss this matter further in March of 2014. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed 2-1.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Chief John Scippa was present at the meeting to discuss his Department's activities. Mr. Scippa stated that he will be filing a motion with the Probate Court to convert funds from an old, unused DARE checking account in the amount of \$7,499.33 to an account to support the activities of the current School Resource Officer. He further stated that during his time at the Police Department, no expenditures have been made from this account. Mr. Scippa will then bring this to the Board so they could accept that money.

Mr. Scippa stated that Cruiser #4, a 2009 Crown Victoria, has been having some mechanical problems and he has received one estimate of \$1,200 to repair and another for \$1,800 to repair. The vehicle has since been rendered inoperable at this time because more and more problems were found with it. Mr. Scippa then stated the new car they ordered from the Detail Account is in and ready to be picked up.

Mr. Scippa informed the Board that his Department did receive the sixth radio that was previously purchased through grant money.

Mr. Scippa stated the Department's new server has been ordered and should arrive within the next couple of days and should be up and running by the end of the week.

Mr. Scippa stated there is a fitness test scheduled for March 23rd in an effort to move forward with filling current vacancies.

Mr. Scippa reported that Officer Amanda Bibeau's anticipated graduation from the Police Academy is April 12th.

Mr. Scippa stated the Highway Agent has reported several acts of vandalism at the Transfer Station. They will be monitoring this situation.

Mr. Scippa requested vacation time for April 22nd through the 26th. The Board had no objection.

NEW BUSINESS:

Vicky Avery from the Stratham Fair Committee was present at the meeting to discuss the possibility of having a beer tent at the 2013 Fair on Saturday, July 20th from 3:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Liberty Lane Catering will bring in their own servers and people to check ID's. No one will be allowed to leave the tent area with any alcoholic beverages. Smuttynose Brewery is paying for the tent and the hiring of a police detail, so there is no cost to the Town or the Fair for the tent. Mr. Canada moved to accept the proposal as presented by Ms. Avery. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Deschaine stated the temporary license for the site will have to be signed by the Board.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Rob Cook was present at the meeting to update the Board on his Department's activities. He stated that they are in the process of completing all the inspections on the vehicles. He stated Car #1 did pass inspection, but needs repairs done some time this year in the amount of just over \$1,000. They were also having problems with the siren on Ambulance #1, and have since had that repaired. However, while fueling it up recently, the engine died and it had to be towed to McFarland Ford. Mr. Cook stated Tanker #8 is going to Lakes Region tomorrow to get an inspection and repair a minor oil leak. He stated the Forestry truck will also be going to Lakes Region because of a problem with a leak in the foam tank and the pressure gauge. Mr. Cook stated the Highway Department will do the maintenance on the fire pump.

Mr. Cook stated one member will be starting Firefighter II training at the end of the month. He also has two members starting Firefighter I training at a cost of \$1,300. Mr. Canada moved to approve the \$1,300 expense for Firefighter I training. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

PARK PERMITS/MUNICIPAL CENTER RENTALS:

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

Astrid Wielens from Zebra Crossing out of Dover requested the use of the Park on August 8, 2013 for a picnic. Mr. Federico moved to approve the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Leroy Kane requested the use of the Park on June 23, 2013 for a graduation party. The request was approved.

Geri Denton requested the use of the Park on June 1, 2013 for a Cub Scout crossover. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

One Sky Community Services requested the use of the Park on June 14, 2013 for a picnic. The request was approved.

ADMINISTRATION:

The group discussed proposed contracts for Recreation Department activities. The Board would like to know how many Stratham children are involved in these programs.

Mr. Deschaine stated there have been several requests to solicit voters at the general election polls Tuesday at Town Hall and during Town Meeting Friday at the Stratham Memorial School. Mr. Canada moved to allow the Ladies Auxiliary, the Girl Scouts, the Historical Society, the 76ers, the Town Planner and/or the 300th Anniversary Committee to set up tables at Town Hall as so desired. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Board agreed to have the Town Moderator talk with the School Board regarding Town Meeting since they are not authorized to make that decision.

The group then discussed preparations for Town Meeting on March 15th.

The Board agreed to send the final survey regarding the Stratham Plaza easement to Civilworks for their review. Bruce Scamman said he would donate his time to meet with Civilworks and discuss his concerns. Any charges to Civilworks would be the Plaza's responsibility.

The Board reviewed and approved a newsletter prepared by Mr. Canada to go out in an email blast to residents tomorrow morning.

The Board discussed sending out the annual letter to employees outlining their compensation. Mr. Deschaine will talk with Val Kemp as to the status of the letter.

At 8:55 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a negotiation issue. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:13 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.

At 9:14 pm, Mr. Federico moved to adjourn. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey J. Grella
Executive Assistant