

## **MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 24, 2014 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

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

At 7:36 pm, the Chair opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Mr. Canada moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on February 17, 2014. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Bronson was absent but Mr. Deschaine reported that as of last Monday, February 17, 2014 there was a balance of \$6,725,899.04 in the general checking account.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Life Scout Joey Winslow is working on his Eagle project and asked the Board if he could replace the sign by Planet Fitness as his project. Mr. Canada moved that pending approval from the property owner, Frederick Leopold, that Joey will be allowed to rebuild the sign. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 7:41 pm, Mr. Canada opened the public hearing for the proposed new fee schedule for building and other permits as previously posted.

Town Planner Lincoln Daley provided the Board with the proposed new fee schedule for the building and other permits and gave a brief history as to the need for the updated fee schedule. (See attached fee schedule.)

Mr. Canada opened the floor to the public for comments and questions. There were no comments or questions asked by the public. Mr. Canada closed the public hearing at 7:43 pm, and moved to adopt the schedule as presented. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**BUILDING CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Terry Barnes was present at the meeting to update the Board on the current status of ongoing building inspections/issues, and applications before the Board of Adjustment. Mr. Barnes reported that the Lindt renovations are underway and the daycare will be moving into the temporary facility this week. There are 13 new homes currently under construction. Mr. Barnes reported that he investigated a complaint that he received about an open gate on 42 High Street where the owner has equipment in the yard that is unsightly when the gate is open. Per a previous agreement with the Town, the gate is to remain shut.

**ASSESSING:** Town Assessor Andrea Lewy reported to the Board that she will be meeting on Friday, February 28, 2014 with Keith Gagnon, DRA Monitor; Steve Traub, CNHA & Commercial Appraiser; and Christina Murdough, CNHA for the required start-up meeting for the 2014 statistical update. The discussion will include a review of Steve Traub's commercial

contract and other items the DRA will want to discuss including the Town's responsibilities, a timeline for the Town deliverables, and the appraiser's responsibilities and target dates.

**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:

Rob Cook requested use of Stratham Hill Park from July 7 through July 26 for the Stratham Fair. Mr. Canada stated that he would like to wait until Rob Cook is at a meeting to ask questions about the dates.

Richard Rugg requested use of the Stratham Hill Park 4H Pavilion on September 7, 2014 for the Greenland Vets. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

June Sawyer requested use of the Stratham Hill Park Scamman Pavilion on August 23, 2014 for the Class of 1965 mini reunion. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Leslie Blaney requested used of the Firehouse on April 5, 2014 for a Girls Scout Service Learning program. Mr. Federico moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Leslie Blaney requested used of the Municipal Center on April 12, 2014 for a Girls Scout Service Learning program. Mr. Federico moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

Mr. Deschaine reported to the Board that the application for the pole attachment license from Unitil for the banners program in the Town Center, which was written according to Unitil's specifications, has been completed. Most of the banners would be placed on Portsmouth Avenue, with a few on Winnicutt Road. The Chair of the Town Center Revitalization Committee wants to place the banners on the perimeter of the Town Center, with only a few in the interior portions of Town Center. The concern is that several of the utility poles that she wants to use do not comply with Unitil's specifications and logistically pose safety issues. Mr. Canada moved to stay with the Town Plan for the banners. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine reported that Highway Agent Colin Lavery reported that there is enough salt for 2 or 3 more storms only. He is requesting permission from the Board to purchase no more than 135 tons of salt at the current price of \$8,892.45. This should be enough to get us through this

winter season. Mr. Canada moved to allow Mr. Lavery to spend \$9,000 for salt. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine reported that he has received a quote from Bernard, Johnson & Company, P.C., Certified Public Accountants, for the Town Audit for the fiscal years 2013 through fiscal year 2015 general audit. The price would be FY 2013—\$14,000; FY 2014—\$14,500; and FY 15—\$15,500, for the general audit, with an additional cost of \$1,750 per fiscal year to do the corresponding Governmental filing. Mr. Deschaine asked the Board to authorize to enter into an audit agreement with Bernard, Johnson & Company for at least FY 2013, for the price of \$14,000 plus \$1750, or if the Board wishes, to enter into the three-year agreement. Mr. Canada moved to accept the fiscal year 2013 proposal at the cost of \$14,000 plus \$1750 for the governmental filing and to go to bid for the future fiscal years. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine brought before the Board a request from the Middle School for a raffle permit. The raffle is to raise funds for the band to go to a competition in Florida in May. The raffle tickets will be sold beginning in March until April 1, 2014. The drawing will be on April 1, 2014. The Board asked where the drawing will take place. Mr. Deschaine will confirm that the drawing will be at the Middle School. Mr. Canada moved to authorize the permit, pending confirmation that the drawing will be in Stratham. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 8:12 pm, Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Hensley  
Executive Assistant