

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
DECEMBER 19, 2005**

Present: Arnold Wilson, Chairman
Hal White
Doris Sosik
William Emrich
James Malloy, Town Administrator

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To accept the minutes of December 5, 2005 as amended, by D. Sosik.
2nd: H. White
Vote: Three in favor; A. Wilson abstained.

Police Chief Thomas Button – Appointment of Police Officer

Chief Button and Michael Cloutier appeared before the Board.

MOTION: To confirm the Town Administrator's appointment of Michael Cloutier as a full-time police officer at a starting rate of \$19.31 per hour, effective starting date of December 28, 2005, by H. White.
2nd: W. Emrich
Vote: All in favor.

Joint Meeting with Tantasqua Regional School Committee

John DeStefano, Jim Glickman, Kathy Neal, Fran Simanski and Kate Alexander of the Tantasqua Regional School Committee met with the Board of Selectmen in order to choose a new member of the Committee.

MOTION: To appoint Michele Rosano Fitzgerald to the Tantasqua Regional School Committee, by J. DeStefano.
2nd: H. White
Vote: Four in favor; five opposed.

The motion was defeated.

MOTION: To nominate William Haggerty to serve on the Tantasqua Regional School Committee, by K. Alexander.

2nd: F. Simanski
Vote: All in favor.

Department Head Monthly Reports

Fire Chief Leonard Senecal read his report to the Board (copy on file). He said that inspections were done on the liquor license establishments, and it was determined that Kahula Restaurant needs a sprinkler system.

Chief Senecal noted that the Public Safety Complex has issues regarding the heating system.

Greg Morse, DPW Director, submitted his report to the Board (copy on file). He noted that there were major flooding problems due to the rainstorms during October, with approximately \$70,000 in damages incurred to date.

A. Wilson asked about the status of Well #1. G. Morse said that they will install a new motor. Regarding lead and copper, the water is slightly acidic; it will leach copper. J. Malloy noted that there was a bad batch of lime received from Canada.

Special Event #1

MOTION: To grant permission to Steve and Margaret Hall to hold a road race on May 20, 2006 to raise awareness of melanoma, with all proceeds going toward melanoma research and education, by W. Emrich.

2nd: H. White
Vote: All in favor.

Special Event #2

MOTION: To grant permission to the Hamilton Rod & Gun Club to hold motorcycle ice races from January 8, 2006 to March 12, 2006 between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., by W. Emrich.

2nd: H. White
Vote: All in favor.

Kurr Request

The Board received a request from Mr. and Mrs. Kurr of 28 Main Street for a reduced sewer connection fee. They had opted not to connect when the Phase III Sewer Project was completed, but now are faced with a failed septic system and are seeking to connect to town sewer. As retirees, they requested that the Board permit them to connect at the \$200 fee (regularly \$1200).

A.Wilson said that it would be difficult for the Board to grant their request, and suggested that the Board hold action on the matter. He suggested that they be contacted to find out if they qualify for the Senior Municipal Service Program. J. Malloy noted that there is no mechanism in place to allow them to spread the connection fee over a number of years. H. White noted that it was a business decision on their part to not connect a few years ago. J. Malloy said that he would report back to the Board at the next meeting.

ABCC Seasonal Population

MOTION: To approve the seasonal population estimate of 20,000, by H. White.
2nd: W. Emrich
Vote: All in favor.

FY07 Wage Rates and Stipend Survey

J. Malloy submitted to the Board the proposed wage rates for FY07 for both exempt (salaried) positions and non-exempt, non-unionized (hourly) positions (copy on file).

MOTION: To approve the wage rates for FY07 as submitted, by D. Sosik.
2nd: W. Emrich
Vote: All in favor.

J. Malloy suggested that the Board discuss the Fire Department Staffing Review and Fiscal Policies at their work session on January 9, 2006.

Old Business

H. White noted that the Board should acknowledge the efforts of J. Malloy and Penny Dumas for their work on the Heins property acquisition. He suggested sending a letter to Mr. Heins to thank him for his efforts and cooperation.

A.Wilson asked the Board to submit goals and objectives for the Town Administrator for next year.

New Business

D. Sosik noted that the Board will meet on Tuesday, January 3, 2006.

Ask the Selectmen

J. Malloy received a phone call from a resident who had attended the Spaghetti Dinner hosted by the Sturbridge Police Department at the Senior Center, and

commended the Police Dept. for their fine event for the seniors. He and H. White also received calls clarifying that the road race will be held in May of 2006.

J. Malloy requested that the Board take a vote, since the public agency has to determine that advertising and complying with Chapter 30B doesn't necessarily benefit the interests of the Town in regard to the acquisition of the Heins parcel, because of the particular and specific environmental and historical qualities regarding the Old Hartford Turnpike.

MOTION: So moved, by H. White.

2nd: D. Sosik

Vote: All in favor.

MOTION: To convene in executive session under MGL Chapter 39, §23B, Paragraph 6: To consider the purchase, exchange, taking, lease or value of real property; not to reconvene in open session, by D. Sosik.

2nd: W. Emrich

Roll call vote: All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knowles

BOS Clerk

Date