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Present: John F. Fairbanks, Laila J. Michaud, Joseph E. Flanagan

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Fairbanks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen’s Office at Town Hall. He announced that the meeting was being broadcast live and recorded by Ashburnham Westminster Community Access TV; he also confirmed with those present that no other party was taking an audio or video recording of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS/MINUTES

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board approve the regular session minutes of January 10, 2011 as printed. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board members reviewed and approved the following warrants:

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| January 31, 2011 | Accounts Payable #48 | \$ 78,629.08 |
| | Payroll #47 | \$162, 165.92 |

PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Fairbanks read the following announcement from Mike Gallant, Building Commissioner; It is important that the Townspeople keep all power vents from furnaces, water heaters, pellet stoves and dryer vents clear of snow for about 18” on all sides of the vent pipe where it exits the outside of the building.

With the large amount of snow we already have on the ground and with the heavy amount of snow we are going to have on Tuesday and Wednesday, it is important to know where these vents are on the outside of your house and to keep them clear of snow and ice.

It is also important to start clearing the snow off of your roof especially with the upcoming snow on Wednesday which is expected to be a heavy wet snow with accumulations of 12+ inches.

ADVISORY BOARD – FY2012 BUDGET REVIEW

Advisory Board members in attendance were Tom Maeder, Jim DeLisle, Ken Burstall, Keith Harding, Joe Serio, and Brian Ruland. School Committee members in attendance were Len Beaton and Jamie Rheault.

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There were lengthy discussions about the two methods of assessing the FY2012 school budget; the present Regional Agreement which goes by student enrollment numbers in each town, and the new method of funding the School district referred to as the aggregate wealth model, where the cost per pupil is based on the state’s aggregate wealth formula.

All Boards agreed to continue the conversation about the funding methodology at the tri-board meeting scheduled for Tuesday.

The Board of Selectmen also agreed to consider forming a committee to look into de-regionalizing if the Advisory Board is in favor of this.

SCHEDULE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING (South Street Project)

Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board vote to schedule a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at the Westminster Elementary School for the South Street Project. Ms. Michaud seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVE – SCHOOL NEGOTIATIONS

The Board agreed to have John Fairbanks continue as the Municipal Representative for school negotiations after his term on the Board of Selectmen ends in April.

SICK LEAVE BANK COMMITTEE

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board appoint:

- Stephen Hemman, Personnel Board Representative
- John Fairbanks, BOS Chairman
- Karen Murphy, Town Administrator
- Darlene Boucher, Personnel/Payroll Administrator
- Patricia Driscoll, Non-contractual employee
- David Monty, Firefighters’ Union Representative
- Ralph LeBlanc, Police Union Representative
- Highway Representative TBA

Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PAYROLL CHANGE REQUEST

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board approve a payroll change request for a step increase for a DPW Truck Driver/Laborer position. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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8:06 P.M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Fairbanks moved that the Board enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining; further, that the Chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town, and to adjourn directly from executive session. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned from executive session at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph E. Flanagan, Clerk
(Prepared by B. Kazan)