

**Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes-Unapproved
October 5, 2015**

Members present: Chairman Dave Senecal, Dave Bowers, Brad Harriman, Linda Murray and Luke Freudenberg.

Staff present: Town Manager David W. Owen, Director of Operations for the Municipal Electric Department and Recording Secretary Amelia Capone-Muccio.

Chairman Senecal opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3

Mr. Owen stated a non-public session is needed under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) and (c) regarding compensation of public employees, personnel and matters which if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person.

Mrs. Murray noted she would like to add two items to the Agenda for Board discussion, the CIP List and Budget Hearing food schedule. The Board agreed to add those items.

New Business

A. Discussion-Municipal Electric Department Lineman contract

Barry Muccio addressed the Board to explain as previously discussed the Town put out an RFP for Lineman services after NH Electric Co-op went back and forth a few times as to if they would be reinstating their contract with the Town. He noted they received a verbal agreement after he and the Town Manager met with representatives from NH Co-op who indicated they have had trouble filling the five lineman slots as required for the contract, which the Town agreed to modify the bid to accommodate their request to provide four. Since that agreement was made the NH Co-op contacted the Town to state they would not be bidding after all. The Town did receive one bid from Northline Utilities, LLC which is based out of New York. He provided the review by the Town's consultant ARI on their view of the bid, noting that it is at an increased cost and noted the company would need to house the lineman in a hotel. In the analysis ARI also provided a review of the option of the Town exploring going back to managing its own electrical line workers as was done 15 years ago knowing over the last 15 years they have only received one other company that bid on the contract.

Mr. Owen noted that Northline's bid is \$200,000 more than the Town's current contract.

Chairman Senecal questioned if there are any other Municipal Electric Departments in NH and will the Town be able to attract line workers.

Mr. Muccio replied there are a few in N.H. including Littleton NH having a system comparable to Wolfeboro. He has looked into their Department which offers competitive salaries and has a contract with the IBEW Union. He stated he has provided a list of options to discuss.

Mrs. Murray noted that her concern with the bid company is that the line workers would be living in hotels and they will not be able to provide response times they we requesting as well being a rotating staff which has less of a commitment to the community. She noted they have always had luck with the current staff and commitment to the quality of service.

Mr. Muccio agreed and noted that contract line workers work in a different Union specific to them which is Local 104.

Mr. Owen noted they are not obligated to accept the bid because it was received after the deadline and the Town agreed to accept the bid to review all the options.

Mr. Harriman pointed out that in his review of the bid it looks like the total cost would be \$1.2 million dollars over than having our own line worker's over 5 years.

Mr. Owen noted that the Board will need to enter into non-public session to discuss the specifics of employing the Town's own staff for line work.

B. CIP List

Mrs. Murray stated the CIP Committee will meet one more time before it presents its recommendations to the Planning Board, but she wanted to provide the Board with the list of projects they intend to support as follows:

- Purchase Bean Freight building and land- H Bean will remove the tanks. \$125,000
- Solid Waste Building expansion. \$150,000
- WWTP annual \$125,000 contribution to Capital Reserve Account
- Replace Utility #1 \$155,000 from Capital Reserve Account
- Sewall Road Electric upgrade \$450,000 from Electric enterprise fund
- Annual Road Maintenance \$675,000
- Mast Landing Parking Lot engineering \$40,000
- Water line Whitten Neck Road \$550,000 Water enterprise fund
- Pleasant Valley Road Bridge-engineering Town's 20% \$23,000 of the \$115,000
- Pleasant Valley Road Bridge-Construction Town's 20% \$174,000 of the \$872,000
- Establish Capital Reserve for Dockside parking lot and surrounding area \$200,000
- Establish Capital Reserve for Foss Field Building \$100,000
- Establish Capital Reserve for Building Maintenance \$75,000
- Fund Capital Reserve Accounts:
 - a. Fire Trucks and Equipment \$186,000
 - b. PWD and solid Waste \$176,000
 - c. Abenaki Ski \$15,250

C. Budget review session food schedule

10/13-Dave Bowers, 10/19-Luke Freudenberg, 10/21-Linda Murray, 10/27-Brad Harriman and 10/29-Dave Senecal.

Public Comment

Steve Wood addressed the Board to state that like he stated at a previous meeting he would volunteer his time to help with the transition back to employing the Town's own line workers as they have been lucky to have NH Co-op as long as they have because this type of service is unheard of in the industry. He stated there are not many municipal owned departments in NH, but there are many more in Massachusetts. He noted that having their own department is a cost savings as any bidder needs to make money on the service. He stated he has over three decades of experience and knows that two of the first class lineman here would consider staying if the Town offers them a decent package and he would offer his assistance with that process. His only desire is see the Town goes back to its own system and once you get lineman here they will not want to leave.

Being no further business before the Board, Chairman Senecal entertained a motion to enter non-public session.

Member Linda Murray moved the Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen to enter non-public session at 7:01 PM to under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) and (c) regarding compensation of public employees, personnel and matters which if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person to discuss personnel. Dave Bowers seconded. Roll call vote: Luke Freudenberg-yes, Dave Senecal-yes, Dave Bowers-yes, Brad Harriman-yes, and Linda Murray-yes, the motion passed.

The Board re-entered public session at 8:00 PM.

Chairman Senecal stated the non-public session minutes of October 5th, 2015 were sealed by a 2/3rds vote as required by law.

Being no further business before the Board, Chairman Senecal entertained a motion to adjourn.

Member Dave Bowers moved the Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen to adjourn at 8:01 PM. Member Brad Harriman seconded. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone-Muccio
Recording Secretary