

Selectmen's Meeting
July 11, 2005

The Selectmen met for their regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. Present were Selectmen Charles Cheney, Charles Wheeler, Jon Homer, Donald Johnson, Jr. and James McGarr. The Board spent the first half hour signing Intents to Build, approve several residency applications, and a Land Use Penalty warrant, and a Timber Tax Warrant. They also reviewed and signed the manifest.

At 7:30 p.m. the Board met with Police Chief Warn. Chief Warn had a few general items he wished to discuss with the Board first. He explained to the Board that a recent detainee in the Police Department had ripped the security bench from its bolts at the PD. This bench had been handmade when the building was first built. He indicated that his officers were able to subdue the prisoner, but they now need to replace the bench, and he wished to purchase something more substantial. He had a pamphlet from a company called Wausau that had a bench for \$252.00 plus freight. The Board signed a purchase order so the Chief could order this. The Chief also presented the Board with an amended copy of the Town Ordinance No. 00-0003 which establishes speed limits on certain roads. He wished to propose amending this ordinance to include the addition of several roads to reduce the speed to 25 miles per hour. These roads were being added at the request of residents and the observations by officers of people using these roads. Selectman Cheney indicated that we would need to have a public hearing to amend the article. The Board agreed that they would schedule this in the near future, and would see if the Old Town Hall was available for that use.

The Board and the Chief then began to discuss the policy on searching abandoned vehicles, and the Boards concerns with this search. The Chief indicated that he was concerned about recent public Selectmen's minutes that discussed this issue, and indicated that there were scams involving people claiming they have certain items in a vehicle that in fact they never had. He felt that the minutes should be kept very general or that perhaps this should be something taken up under Non Public Session. The Board decided that there should be minutes, but they agreed that they would be under a Non Public Session. With a motion from Selectman Cheney, and seconded by Selectman Wheeler a motion was made to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, 11(c) This was voted in the affirmative by all.

The Board came out of Non Public Session at 8 p.m. as they had scheduled a bid opening at this time. They requested that Chief Warn stay around to continue discussion once the bids were opened.

Chairman Charles Wheeler officially announced at 8 p.m. that if there were any further bids that they should be presented at this time. The Board of Selectmen each then read one of the five total bids which were as follows:

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Wolcott Construction, Inc.

including fine grading shim and overlay, based on 2,170 tons @ \$43.00 a ton

Pike Industries

including fine grading, shim and overlay, based on 2,170 tons @ \$42.50 a ton
CLD Paving

including fine grading shim and overlay, based on 2,170 tons @ \$42.25 a ton

All States Asphalt, Inc.

cold mix application, based on 1,825 tons @ \$36.25

GMI Asphalt Corp.

including fine grading, shim and overlay, based on 2,170 tons @ \$39.96 a ton

The Selectmen then went into discussion about the bids. All States Asphalt has the overall low price per ton, but the tonnage is different, and they did not list all four roads, just three. GMI had the low bid for the hot mix application at \$39.96. Selectman Homer indicated that cold mix needs to be sealed, and that hot mix works better on hills. Road Agent Ray Mardin indicated that he thought that All States was including Wanosha Trail as part of Summit Road. He indicated that Waterville Estates was having some cold mix put down the next day by All States, and the Board should go check it out. Selectman Wheeler expressed concern that All States bid did not correctly identify all four roads, and felt that we could not assume that it does. Selectman Cheney was concerned that if we went with the hot mix bid where would the money come from as he knew that the Road Agent had spent a lot of money on repairs on Brayman Road over the last week. He had heard it may be in the area of \$10,000 to \$15,000. Road Agent Ray Mardin did not think it would be that much. Selectman McGarr indicated that the Town's people voted monies to have the roads repaired, and it is our obligation to take care of them. He felt that the hot mix was the better way to go, and would like to see GMI be given the bid as the low bid on hot mix. Selectman Johnson thought that the Board should table the decision on the bids until we check over the budget. Selectman Cheney agreed with this as well. Selectman Homer felt that the Town had sought these bids, and the contractors had made the bids in good faith, and that we should award the bid tonight, and the Board would find money within the budget to get the work done. Selectman Wheeler made a motion to accept GMI Asphalt's bid as per the Town's specifications, Selectman McGarr seconded it. The Board was polled: Selectman Cheney - nay, Selectman Homer - yes, Selectman Wheeler - yes, Selectman McGarr - yes, and Selectman Johnson - nay. GMI was awarded the bid.

Selectman Wheeler advised the Library Trustees that they were running a little behind in schedule, but they had a few things that they needed to finish discussing with Chief Warn, and will meet with them right after. The Board reconvened back into Non Public Session with Chief Warn. The minutes of this Non Public Session were sealed.

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The Board then met with Library Trustees, Ed Robitaille, Isabel Barach, and Diane Morrison. Selectman Wheeler indicated that he wanted to voice his opinion as a taxpayer that he has an issue with giving the part-time Librarian vacation time when Town employees who are part-time receive no such benefit. He also indicated that we have some part-timers who have worked for the Town a number of years, and it is part of the Town policy that part-time employees do not get any benefits such as sick, vacation, health or dental benefits. Ed Robitaille indicated that as the Board is aware, the Town Librarian is not a town employee. This is somewhat confusing as the Town does pay her wages the same as they do for Town employees, but there are RSA's which treat the Library, and the Trustees differently. Mr. Robitaille also indicated that the Trustees must be competitive when looking for a Librarian. Selectman McGarr inquired as to whether she had a degree in Library Science or was a certified Librarian. Mr. Robitaille was unaware of any certification for a Librarian or that Town part-time employees did not get any vacation time. A copy of the Library Trustees policies and procedures was given to the Board. Selectman Wheeler questioned whether she had taken any courses over the past year as the budget contains a line item for continuing education. Mr. Robitaille indicated that she has attended classes in the past, but he did not believe she had taken any last year or this year so far. Selectman Wheeler mentioned that when the Board met with her and the Trustees for the 2005 budget, they had requested that she use this line item this year, and take some classes. On another matter, Selectman McGarr brought up the fact that the Town is in the process of petitioning the Court to have a Special Town Meeting to buy a piece of land in August so at March Town Meeting, the Board can present a warrant article to build a municipal building. He indicated that what departments would occupy this building is still in the planning stages, and maybe a Library could be considered. Selectman Wheeler indicated that this would be a window of opportunity for the Trustees to propose such a plan to the Selectmen. The Trustees wanted to know what kind of timeframe the Board is talking about, and they indicate about six months. This could also possibly help the school with their space issues as well if the Town Library gave up their current space. Selectman McGarr indicated that the August Special Town Meeting would give the Town the canvas (land) to work on for the building design.

The Board then reviewed the minutes from the June 27th meeting. Selectman Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Selectman McGarr, and voted in the affirmative by all.

The Board then went over their correspondence. Ann Marie first brought up that tomorrow was the hearing before the Superior Court for the petition for the Special Town Meeting. Attorney Laura Spector indicated that at least one Selectman needed to attend the court hearing. Ann Marie also had some paperwork to give Laura. Selectman Wheeler agreed that he would go, and will

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meet Ann Marie at the Town Office tomorrow at 7:30 a.m. Ann Marie then gave the Board two pieces of correspondence in reference to Beebe River. The first was an email from Town Attorney Tim Bates in reference to Albert Nault's not keeping his agreement about the land the Town sold him the tax liens. Attorney Bates' position after reading the business proposal remained the same, and he did not feel there was anything further that could be done at this point. Selectman McGarr indicated that he did not feel that Attorney Bates fully understood the whole matter, and he would still like to see a letter go to the mortgageholder's attorney, rescinding the partial release of the lots involved in view of Mr. Nault's intent to sell them for residential rather than commercial purposes. Selectman Wheeler felt that we would not be putting any liability on the Town by rescinding this release. Ann Marie will draft a letter to Attorney Britain for the Board to sign. The other correspondence in reference to Beebe River was a letter from the Precinct's Attorney, Sheiliah Kaulfold in which she stated that the roads in Beebe River were still Mr. Welsh's responsibility based on the agreement that had been signed back when these lots were subdivided. Selectman McGarr had retrieved this agreement signed at the time in his Beebe River research. The Selectmen also received a notice from the Town of Plymouth's Community Planner for the Site Plan of the Lowe's Improvement Center. The Board was surprised that they would be seeking input from an outside Town about matters in their own Town. Selectman Johnson suggested that the Board send a letter supporting the project, and Ann Marie will draft a letter in response to the notice.

Under other business, Selectman Johnson indicated that he is still trying to meet with Derek from Pike about land by the Town's salt shed for the Highway Garage. Derek has been on vacation and was just returning to the office today.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Foote
Administrative Assistant