

June 21, 2010

The Selectmen met for their meeting at the Town Office at 6:30 p.m. on the above date. Present were Selectmen Sharon Davis, R. Marsh Morgan, Jr., Charles Wheeler, Charles Cheney, and Craig Keeney.

The Board spent the first 15 minutes reviewing and signing the check manifest. They also had a number of items in the signature file including: a supplemental tax warrant, a 2010 Boundary Validation Map from the US Census Bureau, a letter to the Town of Plymouth's Fire Chief, an entertainment permit for Waterville Estates Village District for the NH Liquor Commission, 2 Intents to Cut, 3 residency applications. 2 Requests for Leave, 5 Intents to Build, 1 sign permit, 1 driveway permit, 4 abatements that were granted, 3 abatements that were denied, and a notification to the Department of Revenue Administration that we will not be needing or sending out Inventory Forms.

Jeanie Forrester, candidate for State Senate in the upcoming Republican Primary was the first appointment of the evening. Ms. Forrester has been visiting a number of the Town within the district she wishes to represent. She currently lives in Meredith and is a small business owner of an environmental technology company. She has previously worked for John Sununu, has been the director of the economic development Main Street program in both Plymouth and Meredith. She served as Town Administrator in Tuftonboro, and Interim Town Administrator in New Durham. She feels that the State has been downshifting costs to the Towns through the elimination of shared revenues, increasing the Towns' share of the NH Retirement System, and the increase of Rooms & Meals to local businesses. When questioned by the Board on how she would expand revenues in this economy, she indicated that she felt that cutting expenses was the answer to the State's problems, not revenue. She informed the Board that the State has 357 Commissioners and Directors, and each department has their own Human Resources and IT departments. She would also like to see tax incentives to help small businesses. Selectman Cheney expressed his concern about some of the cuts that have been made in the Department of Environmental Services where they do not have enough personnel to do some of the inspections that they should be doing. Ms. Forrester left some of her cards with her phone and mailing address, and thanked the Board for their time.

At 7 p.m. the Board met with Six Flags Mobile Home Park Business Manager, Andrea Porazzo and Park Manager Susan Ayers. Andrea explained that she is the former wife of park owner Robert Von Hagel, and they are still business partners in the ownership of the park. Andrea was concerned about the problems they are having with mobile home owners abandoning their homes, and leaving them in bad shape with a great deal of delinquent taxes owed. She

felt that the Town needed to make a better effort at collecting taxes, and deeding property when they reach the three year point. The Board explained that the Tax Collector sends out a number of friendly reminders, certified notices, and works with the Selectmen to set up payment plans for taxpayers who get behind. One of the mobile homes that was discussed was a recent home that had been stripped by the supposed owner of the mobile home, however, no proof of deed has ever been found, and the former owner has not been able to be located. Andrea indicated that the Campton Police and Chief Warn were very helpful in trying to determine what obligation or potential charges are involved in the destruction of this home. The Police placed yellow tape around the mobile home. Andrea also was frustrated that when someone wanted to pay the taxes on one of these abandoned homes that they would told they could not. Ann Marie explained that the Tax Collector cannot accept payments unless the person owns the property. Selectman Davis pointed out that there are legal remedies as to how the park could obtain ownership of these homes by quieting the title, seeking action through Probate Court on the home owned by a deceased person. Selectman Wheeler commented that they are in a business and must run their business and keep track of who owns and sells property in their park. The Town has no control over this. Andrea did indicate that she has credit, criminal and pedophile checks done on anyone who comes into the park. She also indicates that the park is an old park and they are trying to upgrade the electric. The Selectmen agreed that if she could get the ownership issues resolved on their abandoned homes that they would work with her on getting the delinquent taxes cleared up with the goal of getting these homes out of the park. Ann Marie also suggested that she might want to include in her park rules what another park owner in Town is doing which is making it grounds for eviction if they don't keep up on their taxes. The park has more power to encourage the residents of the park to keep up on their taxes than the Town does. Both parties will talk again when the ownership issues are addressed. Andrea thanked the Board for their time.

There were a few minutes before the official opening of the paving bids so the Board requested that Ann Marie bring forward some quick business. She shared an email from the State about the upcoming salt bids for this winter season. Granite State Minerals, who the Town has been buying salt from for several years, got the State bid this year. The price will be \$61.83 per ton up from 2009 price of \$59.73. There was some discussion between the Board and the Road Agent about the email requesting written notification of the Town accepting this bid before July 31st. Road Agent Butch Bain indicated that in the past he has just had to call Granite State and give them an estimate of what we feel we will be using for salt this winter. He will contact them, and see if a letter is needed.

At 7:30 p.m. the Selectmen proceeded to open the bids for the 2010 paving proposals. This year the Town will be paving Loft Circle, a portion of Beech Hill Road, approximately a mile in length starting from the Plymouth townline, and a portion of Town Pound Road. Four bids were received and opened by Chair

Sharon Davis. After Selectman Wheeler ran some calculations on the bids to determine total numbers, the results were as follows: Paquette Bryant Paving - \$202,215, Pike Industries - \$198,989, R&D - \$192,282, GMI - \$181,598. Selectman Wheeler made a motion that GMI be awarded the bid as the low bidder, and previous satisfaction with their work. This was seconded by Selectman Morgan, and voted in the affirmative by all Board Members.

Next on the agenda was Nick Sceggell who is working under a grant with the State to help Towns upgrade their groundwater reclassification. The Campton Village Precinct Commissioners and the Conservation Commission have been working with Nick to originally reclassify the aquifer for the Village Precinct, but as the work progressed decided to include groundwater for aquifers in the Town. The Board had mixed feelings about this project and had requested that Nick come in and continue the discussion about this further tonight. Selectman Davis was very concerned about the additional burden of the office staff and the costs for the inspections of businesses to see if they are using best management practices for the handling of more than household quantities of regulated substances. Both Nick and the Conservation Commission had identified and spoken with a number of business operations that fell under this category, and identified 15 businesses that would need to be inspected within a three year period once the application was processed. Under the plan put together by Nick, this responsibility would come under the duties of the Code Enforcement Officer who have be trained to educate and work with business owners for this safe handling. An inventory would have to be kept of any businesses added or eliminated from this list. Written communication would be needed between the Town and the business to identify any violations or problems discovered from the inspections. The Department of Environmental Services would be contacted to enforce any violations. Under State Law, these violations are currently under the responsibility of DES. Selectman Cheney felt that the State should be doing this job as it is their responsibility. Both Selectmen Wheeler and Morgan felt that if the Town could help prevent problems with contamination of groundwater before it happens, it would be a good idea for the Town to do these inspections. Jessica Halm, co-chair of the Conservation Commission was present, and she indicated that she had spoken with several businesses, and they seemed to have no problems with the idea of these inspections. She felt that we were lucky to have Nick's expertise and help from the State grant, without any cost to the Town, and that these inspection would help the Town watch its self rather than depend on the State to implement this work. Selectman Keeney indicated that as a small businessman himself, he was against this, and felt that small businesses are already subject to too many regulations. It was pointed out that gas stations are already regulated under other guidelines, and the horse stables located next to the Campton Precinct wells are regulated by the Department of Agriculture.

Ann Marie then reviewed correspondence with the Board. An invitation was received from North Country Council for a presentation on strategic mill use. The

Campton Old Home Day Committee invited the Selectmen to participate in the parade. Health Officer James McGarr is working with Attorney Whitelaw on a health issue.

The Board then went on to review the minutes. Selectman Morgan had three minor changes. Selectman Wheeler made a motion to approve the minute as amended, seconded by Selectman Morgan, approved by all.

With no other business, a motion was made by Selectman Morgan to adjourn and seconded by Selectman Davis.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Foote
Town Administrator