

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING DECEMBER 29, 2010

The Board of Selectmen met at 4:00 p.m. at the Campton Town Office. This meeting was scheduled due to the cancellation of the December 27, 2010 meeting due to an all day snowstorm. Present were, Selectmen, Charles Cheney, Craig Keeney, Sharon Davis, and Marsh Morgan. Selectman Wheeler was not present due to a conflict in his schedule. The Board signed the manifest and reviewed the bills. They signed 1 Residency Application, 2 purchase orders for the Highway Department, 1 Forest Fire Report and an Appointment of Kelly Bolger as Commissioner to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Members of the public who were present at the meeting were: Dean Johnston, Stan Graton, Duane R. Johnston, Jules Doner and Kelly Bolger.

Chair Davis brought the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Chair Davis acknowledged that 2 proposals have been received for the Eastern Corner Bridge for removal of the old bridge and construction of a new bridge. Dirt Design presented a proposal in the amount of \$109,000.00 and Stan Graton, II of 3-G Construction, Inc. presented a proposal in the amount of \$88,000.00. The Board presented questions to both Dirt Design and Stan Graton pertaining to approach rails not being necessary; confirming that proposals included removal and disposal of the old bridge; concerns about "earth work" at the approaches being clarified; confirmation that the existing West end support will not be utilized; attachment of the decking; confirmation that no Wetlands permits will be needed because there will be no work performed in the river; and confirming the 20-ton load limit. Also there was discussion concerning the cost of the bridge. It was explained that the cost of a bridge increases substantially once its span exceeds 50 feet.

The Board thanked Dean Johnston and Duane R. Johnston of Dirt Design and Stan Graton, II of 3-G Construction, Inc. for coming. The Board also expressed appreciation for their expedient manner in providing the proposals and working with the Board's tight deadline date.

Chair Davis then called for a Motion to accept one of the proposals. Selectman Cheney made a Motion to accept the proposal provided by of Stan Graton, II of 3-G Construction in the amount of \$88,000.00. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Keeney and the proposal of Stan Graton, II of 3-G Construction was unanimously approved.

Stan Graton inquired if there would be a problem commencing work on the removal of the old bridge this winter and in doing so he would anticipate 100% completion by spring. After discussion, it was the Board's consensus to have Stan Graton commence the work this winter. Stan Graton also stated that he would prepare a payment schedule for the bridge and have Ann Marie present it to the Board for approval.

At 4:20 p.m. Chair Davis called for a Motion to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting. (Revisions were previously presented in writing by Chair Davis). Selectman Morgan made the Motion to approve the Minutes as revised; the Motion was seconded by Selectman Cheney; and the revised Minutes were unanimously approved.

Chair Davis then called on Ann Marie to review correspondence. Ann Marie indicated that Lisa Ash provided brochures that were created by A+/Plymouth and Campton Parks and Recreation which supply information pertaining to near by "Family Recreation" such as hiking, basketball, tubing, swimming and kayaking.

Ann Marie read thank you notes from certain Town employees expressing their appreciation to the Board for the \$100.00 gift certificates presented to full-time employees.

A letter was received from Mitchell Municipal Group, P.A., Town Attorneys regarding their decision to increase their hourly rate by \$10.00, (after three years of no increases) making their adjusted hourly rate \$170.00 an hour. Chair Davis requested that Ann Marie inquire if the attorneys would consider holding off on an increase for another year in light of the fact that the Board has made the decision to keep Town employee's wages flat for the past two years because of the economy.

The Northern Pass Community Relations Manager and Communications Manager of PSNH sent a letter with binders of general information about the project and maps showing the location of the preliminary route and alternative routes for the proposed transmission line.

An information sheet was received from New Hampshire Technology Transfer Center at UNH pertaining to a workshop regarding "Road Management for Town Officials" that will be held in June, 2011. Ann Marie will remind the Board as the date gets closer for any interested persons to register.

May Brosseau, Planning Board Clerk, requested permission to purchase a video screen (24" X 32") in the amount of \$212.86, plus \$29.00 shipping (to be taken out of the 2010 Planning Board Budget). The clarity and ease of assembly of the screen is beneficial and the screen could be used by other departments. The Board unanimously approved the purchase of the screen.

A request for funding in the amount of \$5,000 was received from Campton Old Home Day Committee for their 2011 Budget. Ann Marie will have the request available to the Board at their work session concerning the 2011 Budget.

Ann Marie informed the Board that Land Use Change Tax money in the amount of \$5,795.00 will be transferred to the Conservation Commission for the year 2010.

Fire Chief Tobine provided Ann Marie with the dispatching costs for the year 2011 in the amount of \$26,178.23, (last year the cost was \$24,684.32).

Ann Marie informed the Board that a letter was received from James Murphy and Fawn Short voicing their concerns about the Campton Library hours being shortened. Ann Marie also indicated that Fred Johnson, Librarian also expressed concern. There was discussion as to possible reasons for the shortened hours and Ann Marie indicated that she is meeting with the Library Trustees on January 12, 2011 regarding their 2011 Budget and she could present the Board's concerns regarding the shortened hours. Chair Davis stated that she will attend that meeting with Ann Marie and the Trustees.

Ann Marie mentioned concerns pertaining to an easement contemplated by the Conservation Commission and the need for a Public Hearing pertaining to said easement. It was suggested that Ann Marie arrange for the Conservation Commission to come in to discuss the procedures with the Board.

Chair Davis then called on Selectman Cheney regarding Other Business – Selectmen's Input. Selectman Cheney discussed some capital reserve funding suggestions and Ann Marie mentioned some changes in categories and certain item lines previously mentioned. Chair Davis suggested that a separate capital reserve fund be established for technology items such as computers, software, photocopiers, fax machines, etc. Previously computers have been lumped into the office equipment capital reserve fund. Ann Marie will contact DRA for clarification of language on both the technology capital reserve fund account and the fire/emergency vehicles capital reserve fund account.

Chair Davis then called on Kelly Bolger who requested an update regarding the Eastern Corner Bridge project as he was unable to attend previous meetings. He acknowledged that the proposal was approved this evening in the amount of \$88,000.00 and he inquired as to where the funds for this amount were coming from. Chair Davis explained that the money would come from encumbering funds from the current budget; and Ann Marie indicated the bulk of the funds would come from the Highway Department 2010 Budget. Mr. Bolger inquired as to who researched the history which formulated the information to arrive at the conclusion that the road was a Class V road (as Mr. Bolger mentioned that there are researchers that can be hired to perform these tasks). Chair Davis informed Mr. Bolger that Hannah Joyce, Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Ann Marie Foote, Town Administrator did the research. Mr. Bolger also expressed his concern about money being taken from town departments since the heads of departments have worked hard to keep their budgets down. Additional concerns presented by Mr. Bolger were whether or not a second legal opinion was received concerning the Town's responsibilities. Ann Marie indicated that Laura Spector, Town Attorney, had also consulted with Walter Mitchell in their law group, concerning this issue. Chair Davis explained that Laura Spector, Town Attorney, specifically met with the Board expressing her concerns about a possible lawsuit being instituted against the Town; and, after Town research, there was no solid evidence for argument in favor of the Town. Chair Davis expressed to Mr. Bolger that if the Board did not act expediently on some type of arrangements for replacing or repairing the Eastern Corner Bridge, (before the end of the year) a lawsuit was inevitable.

There being no further business, Chair Davis made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Morgan, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor M. Dewey
Office Assistant to Ann Marie Foote, Town Administrator