

**TOWN OF CAMPTON
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
JANUARY 29, 2007**

The Selectmen met this date. Present were Selectmen Bill Cheney, Chairman, Charlie Wheeler, James McGarr, and Jon Homer.

Selectmen Cheney called the meeting to order at 6 PM.

The Board spent the first half hour going over the manifest, signing three residency applications.

Chris Kelly came in to speak with the Selectmen in regard to his road for his subdivision on Perch Pond Road. He would like the Selectmen to come and inspect it. Selectmen McGarr said that he would check on the road, Tuesday, January 30, 2007.

First on the agenda, the Police Department 2007 proposed budget. Chief Warn presented the 2007 budget reviewing two scenarios with the Selectmen. Scenario one was a 5% increase and scenario two was a 3.3% (COLA) increase. This budget includes the 53rd week for 2007. Chief Warn is advocating for the 5% increase for his staff as well as an increase for himself. The Chief gave the Selectmen a breakdown of the hours worked. The schedule requires 24 shifts per week which equals 192 hours per week. The Chief explained that they are doing more training outside the Police Academy, in Durham. The Chief went over the line items in his budget. The Selectmen requested that the Chief come in next week with some revisions in his budget for more review. Selectmen Cheney took the Wage Salary and Benefit Handbook for review.

Next on the agenda, Town Clerk/Tax Collector 2007 Budget. Hannah Joyce, Town Clerk/Tax Collector reviewed her proposed 2007 budget with the Selectmen. Hannah went over the deeding process, additional help, and that she wanted to start doing the town ballots herself. Hannah presented the Selectmen with a paper ballot voting machine called Acuvote, which tabulates for you, and you only have to count the write- in votes at election. This would mean that we would not have to have volunteers for the counting of ballots. The cost is \$6,500.00 with a two year payment plan and a two year warranty. The Acuvote machine would cost a minimum of \$440.00 per election. Hannah said that New Hampshire would always be a paper ballot state. The Town of Ashland uses the Acuvote machine. They provide training and someone stays for the first election. Ann Marie said that this would come under the equipment budget line. Selectmen Cheney said that we should put the Acuvote under this budget line. The Selectmen agreed. The Selectmen agreed that the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's proposed budget for 2007 looked good as presented.

Next on the agenda, the Highway Department 2007 proposed budget. Butch Bain the Road Agent presented his 2007 Highway Budget. Butch reviewed his budget with the Selectmen. Butch would like to bring Dave Goodwin's hourly rate up \$2.00, because he has a light equipment operators' license. This would be considered a Wage Rate Adjustment. The Selectmen agreed. Butch gave the Selectmen a copy of the Lease/Purchase quote for two trucks, One 2008 International 7400 Plow Truck and One New Ford F550 Truck. The Selectmen discussed the Lease/Purchase financing and the repayment structure. The Selectmen agreed that the Highway Department needs these two new vehicles. The Selectmen and Butch went over the list of roads to be paved. The Selectmen reviewed the quote from R & D paving, and the Selectmen reduced the paving figure by \$25,000.00. Selectmen McGarr brought up the letter from the State of N.H., Department of Transportation regarding the Beech Hill Bridge repairs that are needed. Selectmen Cheney wanted to know how the subcontractors were handled. Butch said that they are under his direction. The Selectmen thought that the rest of the proposed Highway Budget looked good, as presented.

Next on the agenda, Ann Marie reviewed the correspondence with the Selectmen. Mitch Manseau, from the Capital Improvement Committee gave the Selectmen a spreadsheet and a report for the 2006 Town Report. Mark Nieder sent the Selectmen a letter regarding considering the upcoming cases from Pine Ridge awaiting hearings before the BTLA. Mark attached a spreadsheet, which illustrated the recommended assessments for 2004, 2005 and 2006. The BTLA looks favorably on parties attempting to settle cases prior to the scheduled hearing. Mark feels this is a good faith effort to do just that. Ann Marie said that Mark can defend the numbers. Selectmen Wheeler suggested that the Board follow Mark's recommendations. The Board agreed.

Next on the agenda, Ann Marie reviewed correspondence on workshops on Bridge Maintenance held in Swanzey, NH, April 4, 2007. The State of New Hampshire, Department of Transportation sent a letter to the towns regarding their list for pavement resurfacing in Campton. Attorney Bates sent a copy of a letter to the Grafton County Superior Court, regarding Richard Knowles verses the Town of Campton. The motion to enlarge time with consent to the Grafton County Superior Court has been granted. The Pemigewasset River Local advisory Committee sent the Board of Selectmen their 2006 Report and wanted it put into the Town Report. The Board decided not to put it into the Town Report. Ann Marie gave the Selectmen a copy of a letter from Arthur Vanek regarding the Bog Road property. Ann Marie will send a copy of the letter to Attorney Laura Spector. Ann Marie reviewed with the Selectmen a copy of a letter from Attorney Bates regarding EMC Mortgage Corporation v. Debbie J. Collett & Town of Campton & Philip J. Browne, et al Grafton Superior Court. EMC is willing to pay Mr. Browne and other abutters the sum of \$4,682.81 in return for an agreement that this would revive EMC's mortgage and allow a new foreclosure to proceed. If a settlement is

Page 3

achieved, EMC's mortgage, and the town's welfare liens, would be revived by order of the court, but then the subsequent new foreclosure would extinguish the town's welfare liens.

Selectmen McGarr made a motion to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (e). Selectmen Wheeler seconded the motion. The Board of Selectmen voted in the affirmative, unanimously.

Selectman Wheeler made a motion to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, III. Jon Homer seconded the motion. The Board of Selectmen voted in affirmative, unanimously.

Selectman Wheeler would like to offer Compass, the on-line registration, at no cost to the Town, to the Campton residents. Ann Marie said that the Selectmen should talk to the Town Clerk about Compass, as she is familiar with the program's pros and cons

Selectman Wheeler wanted to sign the abatement form for Vincent Capece. Ann Marie said that she has to get the amount of interest from Tax Collector, before she can have the abatement form for the Board to sign.

Selectman McGarr and some friends have made an ice skating rink on the Bog Pond, and has invited people to go skating on the pond.

The Selectmen discussed the meeting in Thornton regarding the Fire Truck. The Town of Thornton Selectmen decided not to put this article on the warrant. The Campton Board of Selectmen has encouraged the Fire Chief to put in a petition article on the Thornton Town Warrant for the Fire Truck.

Selectmen Wheeler stated that he had heard that there could be a lawsuit coming forth regarding the Dunkin Donuts non compliance.

The Selectmen adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**May Brosseau
Assistant to the Town Administrator**

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