

Selectmen's Meeting
December 12, 2005

The Selectmen met for their weekly meeting at 7 p.m. Present were Selectmen James McGarr, Donald Johnson, Jr., Charles Wheeler, Jon Homer, and Charles Cheney. The Board spent the first half hour reviewing and signing the manifest. They also signed two supplemental tax warrants, a land use penalty warrant, two Intents to Cuts, two new residency applications, and one Intent to Build.

Road Agent Dick Giehl was scheduled to speak with the Board at 7:45 p.m., but came in a little early. He sat down and told the Board that he had been looking at the budget, and felt that the Town needed to have more of its own workers and be less dependent on sub contractors. He sited that Plymouth has five employees and their budget is around \$570,000 and Holderness also has their own Highway crew. He indicated that we are getting behind in keeping up on maintaining our roads. Dick also wanted the Board to know that he was trying to keep costs down as best he could, but the last week he had received a call from Dispatch around 11 p.m. that Beaverbrook was icy. He already had it set that the subs would go out again at 3 a.m. and told the Dispatch that he would leave it up to the Chief if they wanted someone to go out now. He indicated that his theory was that no one would be on the road during that time. Chief Warn, who had just come in to the meeting, indicated that once they receive a call about slippery conditions that they feel it is a liability if they don't call to have the road taken care. At this point, the 7:30 p.m. appointment came in.

Chairman Wheeler made a motion to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (c) to discuss a tax matter. This was seconded by Selectman Johnson, and voted in the affirmative by all.

The Board came out of Non Public Session, and resumed their conversation with Road Agent Dick Giehl. Dick discussed the sand pile, and how it was pretty hard to work with as it did not have a lot of salt in it, and was pretty well frozen. They have been working with it as best they can. Dick indicated that he is trying to put off as long as possible putting up another pile as he knows that the Highway budget is running in the negative. He indicated that when he does put up a new pile that he will have Mackie or Ooley do it with the Town trucks, and if he has to use a sub contractor will use someone who is already in Town thus saving on mileage and travel time. He has gotten a bid from Irwin Motors for a F550 for \$32,000 to replace the Town truck. He was also looking into getting quotes from Fairfield and Donovan. Selectman Johnson mentioned that Hillsboro Ford has always had good prices but there is usually a 28 week wait period on orders. Dick indicated that he is looking at putting in a sander with an air flow that is similar to what we have in the International. This way the body of the truck could be used all year round. He also indicated that he is going to be sending out some letters to some contractors who have been plowing driveways and putting the snow in the road. A pile of sand has been set up for the public to

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use. The salt shed area has been cleaned up, and all the old tires and culverts are gone, and there is additional lighting in place.

The Board then met with Greg Jencks about his road, Cindy's Lane. Greg wanted to find out what he needs to do to have the road accepted as a Town road. Selectman Cheney indicated that he needs to lower the grade of the road, but Selectman Johnson indicated that the grade is under the 12% as indicated under the Town Road specs, and is probably about a 10% grade. Greg has fixed the culvert problem that caused some issues this past summer when we had a heavy rainstorm. Selectman Homer mentioned some culvert problems he saw with some of the driveways, but these have been fixed since he was last out there. Presently there are six homes built, and seven different owners. The Board explained that he needs to get a petition together to give the Selectmen asking for the road to be taken over, and have it signed by 25 registered Campton voters. Greg also advised the Board that he is going to be putting together a petition to have the current use money go back to help offset taxes rather than half of it going to the Conservation Commission.

Chief Warn then came forward. He introduced his son Eric to the Board. As part of a Civic Class assignment, Eric was to attend a municipal meeting, and is here tonight to observe a Selectmen's Meeting. He was welcomed by the Board. Chief Warn indicated that he has had no luck in finding any candidates to fill the full time officer's position. He indicated that the Part-time Academy starts in January which is a 110 hour course, and the Full-time Academy starts as well in January and runs for 12 weeks or 480 hours. He indicated that while we are close to being in line with the rate of pay for other neighboring Towns, that are rate is still on the low side. He has been advertising this position as starting at \$32,000 plus. The Selectmen were surprised that there would not be more people in the area interested in the position as this is good money base on other jobs in the area. The Chief indicated that there is a possibility that he may be losing another officer, and he would probably continue to run this advertisement. The Chief would like the Board to consider having his new part-time person go to the full time academy rather than the part time academy. The Selectmen wanted to know when he needed to have an answer. He indicated that he would have to know this week as if she did go to the full time academy, she would have to report for the physical agility next Monday. Selectman Homer indicated that he would like to discuss it further among his fellow Board Members. The other Selectmen agreed, One other item the Chief wanted to discuss was the annual leave that he and some of his officers had left. Ann Marie mentioned that it might be better if the employees could carry the time over into the next year as the budget is very tight with the Highway budget being over. The Chief indicated that he had enough money in his budget, and he would not encumber any bills so that any monies left could help with the bottom line. The Board agreed that he could do this. Before he left, they promised to get back to him on the matter of the officer going to the full or part-time academy.

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The Board then went over their weekly correspondence. They discussed the Beebe River lawsuits for awhile, and agreed that they need to take Attorney Bates' advice and not plow the roads at Beebe. Some additional litigation may also be coming from Attorney Kaulfold as well in regards to her outstanding legal fees.

The Board then went on to other business. Selectman McGarr indicated that he would like to look at the Town's current overtime policy, and consider some changes in it for the future. Selectman Cheney indicated that he had spoken with Vince Minor from GMI who emphasized that his company is known for doing good business, but at this time, will probably not be able to determine what was done on the road until spring now.

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed, and Selectman McGarr made a motion to approve them as written, and this was seconded by Selectman Homer, and voted in the affirmative by all.

The Board then decided that they needed to discuss the Chief's request further, and Selectman McGarr made a motion to go into Non Public Session, and this as seconded by Selectman Wheeler. The Board requested that Ann Marie leave as well.

When the Board finished their discussion, they took a vote with a motion from Selectman Wheeler to send Kimberly McGhee to the part-time academy, and this was seconded by Selectman Johnson, and voted in the affirmative by all. The Selectman requested that Ann Marie call the Chief and advise him that they felt that at this time that they would like to see her go to the part-time academy to see if, given that she has had no previous police work background, this is what she wants to do before investing time in the full-time school. The Board also felt that the advertising for the full-time position needs to be expanded.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Marie Foote
Administrative Assistant