

MINUTES
December 11, 2006

The Selectmen met for their weekly meeting at 6 p.m. Present were Selectmen James McGarr, Sharon Davis, Charles Cheney, Jon Homer, and Charles Wheeler. The Board spent the first half hour reviewing and signing the manifest. They also signed some abatements, an Intent to Cut, and an Intent to Build. The Board discussed a driveway permit that the State wishes the Town to sign for the new Dunkin Donuts being built on Tower Road. The State feels that the traffic coming off of Tower Road, onto Southmayd Road, both Town roads, emptying onto the State's NH Route 49 is going to be greatly increased. Ann Marie advised the Board that when John Pillsbury from DOT came to the office last week, and wanted this signed, that she questioned this as the Town is not the owner of the project, and nothing similar to this was required when the Post Office was built nor the Community Guaranty Bank. Highway employee David Goodwin went to a meeting at the DOT office in Gilford, and brought back notes from the meeting. The Board decided that they did not feel comfortable signing this permit, and wanted to get advice from our Town Attorney on how to handle this matter.

At 6:30 p.m., the Board met with Peter and Maria DeMarco to discuss their roads at Panorama which had been voted to be accepted as Town roads, but still need some work done on them after inspection by the Selectmen. Arthur Evans who has done the roadwork for Mr. & Mrs. DeMarco was also present as was Ian Rollison, owner of a home on Silver Dawn Road, part of the subdivision. Road Agent Butch Bain was present as well, and he has looked over the roads as well. Both Selectmen Homer and Cheney have looked over the roads, and discussed the items that needed to be completed which included some shoulder leveling, ditch line work, a header on a culvert, and a sinkhole by a culvert. Mr. Evans took a copy of the list that Selectman Homer had compiled, and it was understood by all what needed to be corrected when they left. It was agreed that once they have completed this list that they will contact the Selectmen to go back and inspect the work. Greg Jencks was scheduled to come in and discuss the work on Cindy's Lane, but he did not appear at this point in the meeting.

The Board met next with Plymouth Fire Chief Brian Thibeault. Campton Thornton Fire Chief David Tobine was in attendance as well. Chief Thibeault came to discuss the new proposed contract for ambulance service, and to explain the changes that will be occurring the first of January. The most significant change is that residents of the Town will now be billed, and required to pay for ambulance service. Previously residents of the Town were not billed, only non-residents paid. Chief Thibeault indicated that a committee had been formed in Plymouth, and looked at the ambulance expenses. It was determined that Plymouth was undercharging the existing Towns, and some of the expenses that were coming out of the Fire budget, needed to be allocated to the ambulance budget. Chief Thibeault also indicated that he has been asking for 4 more full time people to be added to this department over the past few years. He indicated that in reality he needs 8 people, but has tried to get 4. As of this year, he still has not received approval for the additional personnel. Selectman McGarr questioned what procedures were in place for collecting from residents, and what about the people who do not have insurance or the ability to pay. Chief Thibeault admitted that they did not have a plan in place at this time. The 2007 budget amount for Campton will be \$46,363.31. The 2008 figure combined for both

Campton and Thornton, in the worst case scenario, could come in at over \$96,000.00. The Selectmen were concerned about both the increase in the ambulance service plus having to advise residents that they will be billed for the service as well. They felt that both Towns and the Fire Chief needed to look into other options, and see if they were feasible or whether we stay with the service through the Town of Plymouth. Chief Thibeault was thanked for coming in tonight to speak with the Board.

Greg Jencks had come in while Chief Thibeault was discussing the ambulance, and the Board agreed to discuss his road, Cindy's Lane with him. Both Selectmen Homer and Cheney had looked over the road. Selectman Homer had made a list of items, and some of these items were certainly able to be corrected like some culvert, ditch and shoulder work. Selectman Homer did indicate that beyond the Tuchon's property that the road still needed a lot of work. Selectman Cheney indicated that he felt that the driveway profiles were not done right, and gave Mr. Jencks a copy of the diagram that accompanies the driveway permit. Some of the drainage is directed towards land with a mobile home on it at the bottom of the hill. Mr. Jencks indicated that he had previously owned this property, but he did not have an easement for the drainage. The biggest concern that the Board had was the entrance where the grade of the road was more than 2% within 50 feet of an intersection. This factor made it impossible to be able to consider accepting the road this year. Mr. Jencks will go back and talk to his surveyor, and see what can be done in the spring.

Road Agent Butch Bain stayed on for a few moments to discuss his department. Ann Marie noted that he had provided the Board with an inventory of the highway equipment as well as a list of paved roads. This information was also provided to Mitch Manseau for the Capital Improvement Plan. Both Butch and Dave Goodwin have been very helpful with providing assistance at the Town Office when maintenance items have been needed, and have taken over the trash removal while Tommy Johnson is undergoing some issues with his back. Butch mentioned that Malcolm Avery will be out most of the winter with hip replacement, but he felt that he and Dave were prepared to take care of the winter operations.

The Board then went on to review their correspondence. Ann Marie distributed copies of the Planning Board's proposed zoning changes. The public hearing will be held on January 9th to discuss these items. Comcast will be changing over the email from Adelphia, and sent a copy of a letter to the Town apologizing that WBZ, HD will no longer be available as they chose not to renew their option with the cable company. Attorney Bates sent along some additional filing on the KC Tire lawsuit. A report from Beverly Chappell with the website statistics was given to each Board Member. Selectman Wheeler noted that the number of subscribers to the website as doubled since last year, and we now have about 86 people signed up for the site.

The minutes from last week's minutes were distributed. Ann Marie noted that these minutes had some corrections from the ones that she had sent to the Board last week. The minutes were reviewed, and Selectman McGarr made a motion to approve them as corrected, with a second from Selectman Wheeler, and voted in the affirmative by all.

The Board went on to other business and Selectmen's input. Selectman Davis indicated that she had requested that each Selectman look over the list that she had given out last week with

potential candidates from Campton and Thornton for a focus group to give input into the development, use and oversight of the Neighborfest property. Selectman Wheeler indicated that he had a hard time picking as a lot of these people on the list were already so busy with other activities. Selectman Davis indicated that they did not have to limit themselves to the list. The list was just a suggested group of people who have been involved or maybe interested in being involved in Neighborfest. The Board came up with a list of the following people: Claire Moorhead, Susan Hammond, Kent Charrington, Susan Preston, Paul Yelle, Martha Aguiar, Kelly Wieser, Donna Hiltz, Annie Brown, and Fred Anderson.

Another issue that Selectman Davis wished to bring before the Board was temporary space solutions for Town Office conference room and storage space needs for the upcoming budget year. Temporary space will be needed over the next few years even if a building plan is brought forward at Town Meeting. She felt that the possibility of a mobile unit attached to the existing meeting room could be connected to the back door of the Selectmen's Office, and provide more appropriate office and file space, and leave some area in the existing area for a meeting area. She indicated that she had spoken to both Dick Petrin and John Francis at the SAU office, and they frequently receive notices about used mobile units for sale or rent, and Mr. Francis is currently pricing units for the Thornton School. Selectman Wheeler also advised the other Board Members that both he and Selectman Davis, as the HR Committee, had met with Town Clerk/Tax Collector Hannah Joyce about the part-time vacancy in her office. Hannah explained to the Board that while customer service and counter work seemed to be going along without any problems that the filing and data entry work has fallen behind. Both Hannah and her deputy have had to work some overtime each week to get the daily work done, and anticipate that this overtime will probably continue through April with end of year work, auditors, and budget time. The HR Committee agreed that she should be allowed to advertise the position. They agreed that once she receives the applications, they will review and discuss them with her, and make a final recommendation to the other Board Members as to the successful candidate for the position. The HR Committee also discussed the unused leave time, and the different ways to address this. The Board agreed that they need to come up with a policy for next year. This year they agreed to pay for any unused leave or give the option to carry over the time next year.

Selectman McGarr had some concerns about the HR Committee's responsibilities and authority, and felt that perhaps they may have overstepped their mandate by authorizing the advertisement of the part-time position. Both HR Committee members disagreed, and felt that they had worked within the charter that the other Board Members had agreed to. The final hiring authority rest in the hands of the full Board of Selectmen. As the hour was getting late, it was agreed to take this up again next week.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Foote
Town Administrator