

MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2008

The Board of Selectmen met for their bi-weekly meeting at 6:45 p.m. in the Town Office Meeting Room. Present were Selectmen, Charles Wheeler, Charles Cheney, Craig Keeney and Marsh Morgan. Selectman Sharon Davis is on vacation. The Board spent the first half hour going over the manifest and reviewing the bills. They signed 3 Building Permits, 3 Residency Applications, 1 MS-1 Extension Request form and 1 Tax Abatement.

At 6:45 p.m. Acting Chair Charles Wheeler called the meeting to order. First on the agenda were the Boy Scouts. Two of the scouts interviewed Vice Chair Charles Wheeler, who was Acting Chair for the evening. After being participants in the Selectmen's Meeting, one of the scouts will become an Eagle Scout and the other Scout will acquire three more badges before becoming an Eagle Scout. The scouts also inquired as to whether or not there were any work activities that the Town Office needed that the scouts could perform.

At 7:00 p.m. Acting Chair Charles Wheeler called on Ann Marie to review the correspondence. Ann Marie stated the Local Government Center sent a nomination form for a Municipal Volunteer Award to be submitted. A particular individual was suggested as a nominee and the Board fully agreed with the choice to be submitted.

Time Warner Cable 2008 Franchise Fee check was received in the amount of \$8,693.70.

Ann Marie indicated a copy of a letter addressed to Robert O'Neill was received from the Department of Environmental Services regarding Red Sleigh Condo Water System and the issue of Mr. O'Neill shutting off the water.

Ann Marie stated Carl Rodrigues responded to the Board's letter regarding the swale to be installed on his property on Southmayd Street. Mr. Rodrigues indicated the work would be completed by August 18, 2008.

A letter was received by Robert and Ann Whitehouse regarding the maintenance of Whitehouse Circle and confirming that Robert Whitehouse Sr. of Spring Hill Road is responsible for the care of Whitehouse Circle and that any calls pertaining to care of this road should be directed to him.

A resignation letter from Paula B. Prescott was received and it was expressed by the Board that Kathy Tobine, Supervisor of the Checklist, make a new appointment fairly soon.

Ann Marie stated a letter was received from Deachman & Cowie regarding Six Flags MHP, LLC and a particular electrical problem that was brought to the Board's attention previously. It was concluded by Deachman & Cowie that this problem is solely the responsibility of the mobile home owner, and not Six Flags MHP, LLC.

Ann Marie indicated a thank you letter was received from CASA for the Town contribution in the amount of \$300.00.

Ann Marie also distributed a Summary of Budget as of July 31, 2008 to the Board for their review.

There being no further correspondence, Acting Chair Wheeler proceeded with Minutes from the previous meeting. With a motion from Selectman Wheeler, and seconded by Selectman Marsh Morgan the Minutes were approved as written.

At 7:10 p.m. Greg Jencks was called on by Acting Chair Wheeler. Mr. Jencks indicated that while he did not have an appointment on the agenda, he would like the Board to be aware of a problem he is encountering with the Conservation Commission regarding a letter that was addressed to him from the Conservation Commission and to the Department of Environmental Services. He indicated that this letter has erroneous facts pertaining to his work activities on his property off Bog Road. Mr. Jencks also indicated that because of this letter, the DES has “put a halt to his work” at the present time. Acting Chair Wheeler indicated that the Board would review this letter and would like the Conservation Commission and Greg Jencks to be on the agenda for the Selectmen’s Meeting scheduled for September 8, 2008 to hopefully resolve this problem.

Next on the agenda was the discussion of Bump Bridge with Robert Durfee, from the office of Dubois & King. Stan Graton of 3-G Construction was not present, but Mr. Durfee presented Mr. Graton’s proposal for repairs to be completed in order to reopen the Bump Bridge together with possible additional repairs to be done. The cost of repairs in order to reopen the bridge are in the vicinity of \$130,000 to possibly \$145,000. The additional recommended repairs exceed \$16,500 (with some unknown costs not being able to be calculated at the present time due to escalating prices). Mr. Durfee also presented Dubois & King’s proposal for services in the amount of \$23,000 which included Dubois & King’s generous \$10,000 reduction award to the Town. After much discussion regarding funds for this project, Ann Marie will be in touch with DRA and she will also check to see if funds could possibly be extracted from the Durgin Trust fund for the funding of this project together with monies in the capitol reserve. In the meantime, Mr. Durfee will proceed on getting the necessary permits. The major issues on getting this application expedited quickly are: the DOT closed the Bump Bridge; it will take approximately 8 weeks to finish the job once started, so it would be advantageous to start in the fall (to be completed before winter) and the detour route is a hardship to residents in the area as it is steep and narrow. Also, there is an extreme possibility of losing the bridge completely over the winter. The Board thanked Mr. Durfee for his presentation.

At 7:45 p.m. Acting Chair Wheeler called on Fire Chief David Tobine as the next appointment for the evening. Chief Tobine distributed an updated Emergency Operation Telephone Plan List for the Board to review and sign off on and presented the completed “All Hazards Mitigation Plan”. Fire Chief Tobine indicated that the Plan needs to be approved by public hearing in order to receive Federal funds. Ann Marie will arrange to have the Plan placed on the town web site and hopefully then schedule a public meeting, possibly at the Historical Society.

Fire Chief Tobine indicated that the Town of Ellsworth contribution to the Campton Thornton Fire Rescue had not been received as yet and Ann Marie will be in touch with the Town of Ellsworth.

Fire Chief Tobine also indicated he would like a quote on the work to install the lines for pumping water to fill the fire trucks as he would like to include that in his budget for next year.

Fire Chief Tobine discussed his letter dated 7/21/08 addressed to the Board concerning a Beebe River Apartment Building which is a hazardous concern to the Town because of possibly collapsing issues and possible asbestos issues. It was agreed by the Board that a letter would be addressed to the property owner to encourage him to board up the building. The Board then thanked Fire Chief Tobine for coming to the meeting.

At 8:05 p.m. Acting Chair Wheeler called on Police Chief Chris Warn. Chief Warn requested the Board go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3; with a motion from Selectman Wheeler, and seconded by Selectman Marsh Morgan, the Board went into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 with a roll call vote: Selectman Wheeler – yes, Selectman Morgan – yes, Selectman Cheney – yes and Selectman Keeney – yes. The Board came out of Non Public Session at 8:15 p.m.

At 8:15 p.m. Acting Chair Wheeler called on Selectman Keeney regarding other business. Selectman Keeney presented a contract from L.E. Johnson regarding the work to be done for the well to be installed at Blair Cemetery together with the e-mail price quote that Ann Marie provided from Capital Well. The Board agreed to go forward with the contract and the quote from Capital Well.

Selectman Keeney also discussed the possibility of a personnel review system to be devised for the heads of departments as one is not in effect at the present time. The Board agreed this would be beneficial, but had concerns about coming up with an effective system. Ann Marie suggested that Selectman Sharon Davis has experience along these lines and felt the Board might consider Selectman Davis for this task. Ann Marie will include this item on the tracking report and will also check with the Local Government Center for any information they may have.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by a Motion from Marsh Morgan and seconded by Selectman Charles Cheney at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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