

MINUTES  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
DECEMBER 15, 2008

The Board of Selectmen met for their weekly meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Campton Town Office. Present were, Selectmen Charles Cheney, Charles Wheeler, Sharon Davis, Craig Keeney and Marsh Morgan. The Board signed the manifest and reviewed the bills. They signed 4 Veteran's Exemptions.

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. with the first appointment of the evening being Mark Nieder of Commerford, Nieder and Perkins, LLS (NCP) the Town Assessing firm and Josephine Belville, from the NH Department of Revenue Services, who is the Town of Campton's Assessing Monitor. Mark indicated that he wanted to bring the Board "up to speed" on the final revaluation process that the firm will be doing for the Town in 2009. Mark explained that the firm has done exterior assessing in 25% portions of the Town over the last four years. In 2009, the entire Town will be revalued with an interior check and reconfirm exterior measurements to make sure they have the correct data. It is anticipated that, after approval from the Board, CNP will be sending out (within the next couple weeks) letters to property owners regarding the interior inspection of their homes and scheduling an appointment with the Assessors. Mark explained that the letters would go out in approximately 6 batch mailings to different sections of Town with different time frames to respond. Ann Marie suggested that this information also be noticed in the newspapers and she will prepare the notices. Josephine Belville requested that the newspaper notice also indicate that the State will also be randomly visiting properties reconfirming certain property data. Mark distributed to the Board sample questionnaire letters to be sent out to property owners that his firm prepared in order to acquire data that would assist them in their revaluation process. The letters were formulated for apartment housing property, commercial property and to local builders pertaining to building costs in the area. The Board approved the letters and requested that the letters be forwarded on Town of Campton letterhead. The Board also agreed that an initial letter from the Selectmen be sent out to the builders previous to the questionnaire letter. Mark also explained that they would be analyzing sales, two years prior, in order to calculate the values. Selectman Morgan questioned Mark on current property values, and Mark expressed that land values will probably see an increase, but not building values. Mark felt the process of physically viewing properties would not commence until July and anticipated the completion would not be until late summer.

Josephine Belville explained that this year will be a State of NH review year of all assessing practices within the Town of Campton, and this procedure is done once every five years. She distributed a lengthy Assessment Review Information Packet containing such information as Pre-Assessment Review Meetings with Municipalities, Assessment Review Guidelines, State Laws Pertaining to Assessments and Reviews, information regarding Rules on Assessment of Open Space Land and Board of Tax and Land Appeals' Decisions. Ms. Belville explained that Commerford, Neider and Perkins, LLC would be required to file an Assessment Report with the State of New Hampshire.

Josephine indicated she would also (as Monitor) be reviewing sales data and recorded exemptions filed by property owners.

At 7:30 p.m. Chair Davis called on the Historical Society being represented by Mary Durgin, Walter Stockwell and Nancy Mardin to present their 2009 Proposed Budget. Mary presented a Summary Report of income and expenses for the past year. Mary stated their membership is doing well and their goal is to eventually have 200 members. Mary indicated that the requested amount for their budget would remain the same as last year at \$10,000, splitting \$5,000 in the General Fund and \$5,000 in Capital Reserve. Walt Stockwell explained that he is monitoring the parking lot for maintenance and the embankment in the back, which might need some fill for erosion. He felt the building was OK for 2009, but 2010 the building will need painting. Also, the Society has been very fortunate in acquiring donations of artifacts, but sometimes there is a need to purchase items such as a scale model of the Blair Bridge, that has become available to the Society. The Board was pleased with the Proposed Budget and congratulated them all on a great job. Mary Durgin and Walt Stockwell commented on what a wonderful group of people the Historical Society is comprised of and the cooperation from the Town has made their jobs easier.

At 7:40 p.m. Chair Davis called on Nancy Mardin, Trustee of the Trust Funds to present their 2009 Proposed Budget. Nancy presented a bottom line request figure of \$692.00; however, Ann Marie reminded Nancy that the Charter Trust Fund fees need to be added to the budget and Nancy concurred. The Board thanked Nancy for coming and told her to, "Keep up the great work".

Chair Davis proceeded to acknowledge Police Chief Warn as the Board's next additional appointment for the evening. Chief Warn explained that he would like to clarify the 8.5 hours used as benefit time, which Chief Warn is defining as one workday for his Department employees. The Board is presently in disagreement. Chief Warn believes the 42-1/2 hour workweek became effective in 2007. Chief Warn suggested that benefit time be accrued in "hours" as opposed to "days" because his Department has an 8.5-hour workday rather than an 8-hour workday. After extensive discussion, Chair Davis indicated that the Human Resources Committee will review and will present a suggested, "benefit time" designation for the rest of the Board to review and make a decision on. Ann Marie will also check with the Payroll Service to inquire as to whether or not their payroll system has the capacity to keep track of accrued "benefit time" for each individual employee.

Chair Davis then called on Ann Marie to review Selectmen's correspondence. Ann Marie indicated that a notice was received from NH Department of Safety regarding the fact that criminal record fees will be increasing.

A Warranty Deed from Pike Industries has been received for the remaining Pike land being purchased by the Town. Ann Marie indicated that Town Attorney, Laura Spector is having Attorney Conklin do the title search at the present time.

A Site Inspection Report from the Department of Environmental Services has been received for the Deer Run Pond Dam, which Ann Marie read to the Board. An Operation Maintenance and Response Information sheet will next have to be filed with the State.

Ann Marie stated that a questionnaire from the State of NH Department of Health and Human Services has been received inquiring on expenses for the Town Health Agency. Ann Marie indicated that she would respond stating that the only expense at the present time is the Health Officer's cell phone.

A Memo was received from Planning Board that a structure on a Campton homeowner's property has not been removed in spite of the Planning Board's decision to request its removal. Selectman Morgan further indicated that a neighbor has even volunteered to hire a crane (at his own expense) to remove the structure, but the owner has refused his offer. The Board agreed that a letter from the Town Attorney needs to be sent to the homeowner.

Ann Marie indicated that a letter from Plymouth Regional High School was received soliciting the Town for an ad in their Yearbook. The Board of Selectmen does not budget for such requests.

Vision Appraisal has forwarded a letter indicating the restructuring and reorganizing of the company.

North Country Council forwarded a letter regarding "Safe Routes to School Grants" to encourage children to walk and bike to school. Ann Marie noted this would not be practical for the Town of Campton.

State of NH Department of Safety forwarded a letter indicating that under FEMA the Town qualified for disaster relief (declared on 9/5/08) and the eligible amount is \$14,433.71 and the Federal Share is \$10,825.28.

Ann Marie indicated that she forwarded a Memo to the Selectmen's Office, Police Department, Parks and Recreation Department and the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office regarding "Centralized Depositing of Revenues. Effective January 1, 2009 all deposits of revenue for the Town will be made by the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office and the procedures for doing so are explained in this Memo. This policy adopts the recommendations of our Town Auditors and MRI and meets State Statutes.

Also, Ann Marie inquired as to whether or not the Board agreed with the proposal, as previously presented, by Jeff Andrews in his letter to the Board pertaining to his purchasing of properties located in Beebe River. The Board concurred that the proposals are what they all agreed to.

There being no further correspondence, Chair Davis proceeded with Other Business/Selectmen's Input. Selectman Morgan wanted to inform the Board that Lee Freeman came before the Planning Board regarding constructing a building in Beebe

River and leasing it to the Pemi Baker Academy School that has approximately 40 students.

Ann Marie stated that David Goodwin and David Thompson had requested to be able to carry-over a couple of vacation days into the New Year, and that the Road Agent did not have a problem with this. The Board did not want to set a precedent, and did not agree to this.

Ann Marie stated that she was asked to present to the Board, for consideration, to allow full time Town employees the day after Christmas off with pay. After discussion, the Board agreed to have employees work the day after Christmas.

Chair Davis reminded the Board of the Campton/Thornton Fire Department and Campton/Thornton Landfill Budget Meetings scheduled for tomorrow. Also, Chair Davis wanted the Board to know that Bruce Henderson (a Campton School Board member) had passed away and she will inform the Board of funeral arrangements.

Selectman Keeney indicated that he spoke to Butch Bain regarding a problem concerning acquiring the planks for the bridge on Eastern Corner Road. The intent was to purchase Hemlock planks (that are not available) so the alternative is to purchase 6 pressure treated planks at \$196.00 per plank. The Board agreed to this purchase as there are safety concerns with the bridge in its present state.

Chair Davis then moved for a Motion to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting. Selectman Morgan indicated some revisions and then a Motion was made by Selectman Charles Wheeler to approve the revised Minutes, seconded by Selectman Morgan, the Minutes were approved as revised.

There being no further business, Chair Davis then moved for a Motion to adjourn. Selectman Wheeler moved to adjourn and Selectman Morgan seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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