

MINUTES

February 18, 2008

The Selectmen meet for their weekly meeting at 6 p.m. Present were Selectmen James McGarr, Sharon Davis, Charles Wheeler, Charles Cheney and Craig Keeney. The Board reviewed and signed the weekly manifests. They also approved one residency application, Intent to Cut, and signed a letter of appreciation to the Highway crew.

At 6:30 p.m., Chairman McGarr opened the meeting for the first item on the agenda which was with Town Clerk/Tax Collector Hannah Joyce. The Board had not finalized the budget lines for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's wages, and whether it would be based on a salaried amount or hourly rate. Ann Marie had gone back to last year's payroll records, and put together a summary of the hours worked including overtime pay. The budget figure that Hannah had requested was calculated using the additional hours required for more elections this year, and it came out to the figure she had proposed. Both Hannah and Ann Marie worked up figures, separately, and came up with the same figures. The Board agreed to put back the \$740.00 that they had removed from the budget. They also decided to keep Hannah on an hourly rate for this year, and discuss the possibility of a salaried position for next year's budget.

Chief Warn was next on the agenda to discuss his 2008 proposed budget. Selectman Keeney had some questions about some of the wage amounts. He inquired as to the increase in the Chief's salary which was more than the 3%. Chief Warn indicated that based on his previous conversations with the Board, his salary was adjusted for the amount of hours that he has put in over the past 8 years, and his 2008 budget amount is based on a 42 hours workweek. He also indicated that he had gone over the other wages figures, and that he had actually under budgeted for Officer Gilman's yearly wages. His calculations were a little more complicated due to the fact that he has a current rate of pay that will change after Town Meeting, and then the rate will then be adjusted after he completes the Police Academy. Also some of the wages have been designated to the training budget when he is actually at the Academy. With a motion from Selectman Davis, and seconded by Selectman Wheeler, the bottom line of the Police budget was adjusted and approved from \$411,935.36 to \$412,394.65. Chief Warn also discussed with the Board the idea of doing performance evaluations rather than using the cost of living index to determine wages.

The Chief indicated that if the Board had time, he had a matter he needed to discuss with them in Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II (b) consideration of the hiring of a public employee. With a motion from Selectman McGarr, and seconded by Selectman Wheeler, and with a roll call vote, the Board went into Non Public Session under the above reference RSA. Approximately 10 minutes later, the Board came out of Non Public Session, with a motion from Selectman McGarr, and seconded by Selectman Wheeler –roll call vote, aye – Selectman Davis, Keeney and Cheney.

Selectman Davis made a motion to appoint Elizabeth Bolan of Campton a part-time Police Officer, contingent upon the completion of the physical and psychological testing. This motion was seconded by Selectman Wheeler, and voted in the affirmative by all.

Chief Warn discussed the cost of the new cruiser, and indicated that he would be looking at a Ford Crown Victoria, and will be able to use some of the equipment from the older cruiser to equip the new one. The 2003 cruiser will be sent down to the State Auction in the spring.

The Board then went on to review the draft of the Town Meeting Warrant. Selectman Davis indicated that she had spent some time regrouping the order of the warrant so it would be easier for the voters to follow. She grouped items by department so any warrant articles, including Capital Reserve Funds would follow the budget for that particular department. Attorney Tim Bates had reviewed the warrant, and had no problem with doing it this way. The other Board Members agreed to the new set up. It was agreed to put in the article for a contingency fund to replace the furnaces in the Town Office and Fire Station if that should be necessary in the amount of \$10,000.00. The Board agreed to the final revisions, and signed the warrants.

LGC will again be holding Regional Dinners in the area during the months of March and April. The topic for discussion this year will be the NH Retirement System's financial problems. DES sent along a flyer about auto salvage yard licensing and inspection training. The nearest site for the dinner in our area is the Common Man Restaurant in Concord on March 18th.

The minutes from February 4th were reviewed. One sentence from paragraph 3 was removed, and with a motion from Selectman McGarr, and seconded by Selectman Keeney, the minutes were approved with this one change by all.

The Board then went on to other business. Selectman Wheeler had been emailed a copy of the Capital Improvement Committee's report by Mitch Manseau. He was troubled by one paragraph in the report. Ann Marie indicated that Mitch had told her that the Board could add or delete anything that they did not feel comfortable with. The Board agreed to remove this one paragraph, but overall was pleased with the report.

Selectman Keeney and Selectman Cheney brought up the matter of a problem with the floor at the new Town Garage. Road Agent Butch Bain had spoken to them about his concern about water pooling up on the floor of the garage and not draining correctly. Selectman Keeney indicated that he had already contacted builder, Dennis Prescott, and will meet with him and Tim Saulnier, who poured the floor along with the Road Agent next week to see how the problem can be corrected.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Foote
Town Administrator