

MINUTES  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
JANUARY 12, 2009

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, and Marsh Morgan. Selectman Craig Keeney was not present due to a conflict in schedule. The Board spent the first 15 minutes going over the manifest and reviewing the bills. They signed 1 Residency Application, 2 Employee Requests for Personal Leave and 1 Forest Fire Report/Bill.

At 6:45 p.m. Chair Davis called the meeting to order and called on Danny Desrosiers representing the School Board and Mr. Jim George, School Principal who were present for the first appointment of the evening. Mr. Desrosiers pointed out that the Campton School Budget hearing is scheduled for Thursday, February 5, 2009, at 6:30 p.m., at the school and the Proposed Budget was distributed to the Board. The Annual District meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 5, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., at the school. Both Mr. Desrosiers and Mr. George acknowledged that with the shrinking population they could accomplish more and also keep the budget figures down. Mr. Desrosiers noted a couple of changes in the school budget. One being that the school is not staffing a psychologist, but will be contacting the hospital on an as-needed basis. Also, some 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers (who are qualified) are teaching certain subjects to the 6<sup>th</sup>s graders. Mr. George indicated that while this procedure does entail more work for the teachers, it has been working advantageously for all. Mr. Desrosiers stated that one significant change (which will be of interest to the Board) is that Citizens Bank agreed to change the Campton School District Bond payment due dates to February 15<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup>. These date changes will allow the Town more time to increase revenue and hopefully not have to borrow money. It was also mentioned that the School Board is trying to work with the Campton Village Precinct and the Campton Fire Chief, David Tobine regarding the flow rate with respect to the sprinkler system at the school. The Board thanked Mr. Desrosiers and Mr. George for coming in and Chair Davis added a special thank you for the school's cooperation with the Parks and Recreation Department.

At 7:15 p.m. the Board had scheduled an appointment regarding a tax matter. Chair Davis moved for a motion, Selectman Wheeler made a motion to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3,11c, seconded by Selectman Morgan, and voted in the affirmative by all with a roll call vote – Selectman Morgan – aye, Selectman Wheeler – aye, Selectman Davis – aye, Selectman Cheney - aye.

The Board came out of Non Public Session at 7:20 p.m. and Chair Davis called on Josephine Belville of the NH Department of Revenue Administration. Josephine stated that at her last meeting with the Board there was an inquiry about how the County tax was arrived at. Josephine explained how the tax was calculated and how the ratio was calculated. She expressed how very important it was to have assessment statistics up-to-date and current sales being reviewed because the up-to-date figures play a roll in the calculation of the county tax and how the ratio is determined. Josephine indicated that

she, and the Town Assessor, Mark Nieder, of Commerford, Nieder and Perkins (CNP) and the Town must work together in order to arrive at most current figures to assist in the accurate calculation of the Campton County tax and ratio figure. She felt that interior inspections should be done yearly and more follow up on the sales ratio by CNP. The Board thanked Ms. Belville for her presentation.

Chair Davis next called on the Conservation Commission as the Board's next appointment of the evening. There were several Conservation Commission members present. Jessica Halm, of the Conservation Commission, explained that the Commission had concerns about the sale of the Pattee house and how to proceed. Chair Davis explained that the sale has to be an arms-length transaction and suggested that the Commission engage a local realtor to acquire some comparable sales to arrive at an agreeable figure to put the property on the market. Selectman Davis expressed that this figure should then be available for Town Meeting. It was explained to the Commission that the Board wants the Conservation Commission to "take the lead" in gathering this information for the sale. Also, Ann Marie explained that the Warrant Article pertaining to this sale would be prepared by the Selectmen's Office and would be reviewed by the Town Attorney. Jessica Halm then thanked the Board for their suggestions.

Jane Kellogg, of the Conservation Commission inquired on the new proposed Town Office Building and how the Board was going to proceed on that issue. The Board explained that they had not completely made a decision and were still struggling with their options. Jane Kellogg expressed that she was completely in favor a Warrant Article to let the "Town's people decide whether or not to got forward with the building". Jane wished the Board good luck on their decision process and also at the Town Meeting.

Chair Davis then asked Ann Marie to review correspondence. Ann Marie indicated a notice from LeMay in Concord was received pertaining to real estate classes available for registering. A letter was received from Dave Falkenham introducing himself as the new Grafton County Forester and succeeding Nory Parr who was in the position for many, many years.

Ann Marie distributed to the Board a letter from North Country Council, Inc. requesting a 10 year plan for future projects within the Town of Campton. Ann Marie was happy to announce that the Blair Bridge was already listed in this plan. Also a letter from NH DOT was received regarding a fixed price unleaded fuel contract for Town vehicles. Effective 2/1/09 unleaded gasoline will not exceed \$1.94 to \$2.09 per gallon (at their sites) and will remain capped at that price for up to 18 months. It was explained that this was the maximum price for each of their sites that offer unleaded gasoline. It was anticipated that this fixed pricing would assist in arriving at budgetary projections. NH DOT would also be looking at fixed pricing of diesel fuel in the future.

Ann Marie indicated that the Town Web Site statistics for December 2008 arrived and the number of viewings seemed to have gone down. A letter of resignation was received from Kathy Tobine officially resigning as Supervisor of the Checklist due to the demands of her new employment position.

Ann Marie stated a very nice thank you letter was received from the Town of Franconia regarding her assistance with a survey that was conducted by the Town of Franconia. In addition, a "Report to the People" newsletter was received from Executive Councilor, Ray Burton. Notice was received of a Mutual Aid Program workshop scheduled for April 23, 2009. Ann Marie will distribute the notice to Road Agent, Butch Bain as he has already become involved in participating in this program.

Ann Marie also distributed to the Board a list of Encumbrances for 2008 pertaining to the budget regarding the Buildings Account and the Welfare Account.

At 7:55 p.m. Chair Davis called on Hannah Joyce and Kevin Hamilton who were next scheduled on the agenda to discuss Old Home Day. It was noted by Hannah and Kevin that the Town has not had a Home Day since the 1970's and they appeared to be very enthusiastic about their plans for this event in 2009 and all the wonderful volunteers who have already formed committees. Among the events they have scheduled are: a 3 mile fun walk/run; a parade; a men and women's softball game; historical tours and an adult dinner/dance. Also the PTO will be sponsoring a carnival (during this time) which will compliment the Old Home Day event. Kevin Hamilton indicated that there would be revenue coming in from registrations for the walk/run, from tee shirt sales, from the dinner/dance and advertising by local businesses; however, Hannah and Kevin's concerns were that a portion of the monies needed for expenses would be start up costs. They felt \$5,000 would be more than sufficient to cover start up costs such as trophies, an insurance policy for the Town for the event (estimated at approximately \$500.00) and any other unexpected start up fees. Some discussion stemmed around involving the Historical Society to which Kevin Hamilton stated they would contact the Society to get on their agenda to discuss. After discussion, it seemed to be the Board's consensus that a Warrant Article be drafted for Old Home Day for the \$5,000. Hannah and Kevin also expressed that they would be looking for judges for the parade and hoped the Board would assist in this event. An Old Home Day meeting is now scheduled for January 22, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., at the school. Kevin also indicated that they will have enough people available at Town Meeting to speak about the preparations. Hannah and Kevin thanked the Board for their support and suggestions.

Chair Davis then proceeded to move for a Motion to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting. Selectman Charles Wheeler made a Motion to approve the Minutes as written, Selectman Morgan seconded; the Minutes were approved as presented.

Next on the agenda was Other Business/Selectmen's Input. Ann Marie suggested the Board meet on Monday, January 19, 2009, even though it was a scheduled holiday, to further discuss the budget, person to whom the Annual Report will be dedicated and a decision on the actual cover.

Chair Davis also felt the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting would be a good time to further discuss the new proposed Town Office Building options and would like to have Kelly Bolger scheduled to be at this meeting to discuss some of these options.

Selectman Cheney inquired as to how the Board would like to proceed on Hannah Joyce, Town Clerk/Tax Collector's memo concerning delinquent taxes of certain property owners. The Board agreed, at this time, a reminder letter should be forwarded.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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