

MINUTES
January 3, 2008

The Selectmen met at the Campton Historical Building for their weekly meeting. Present were Selectmen Sharon Davis, Craig Keeney and Charles Cheney. Selectmen McGarr and Wheeler were unable to attend due to employment commitments. The Board spent the first half hour signing an Intent to Build, several residency applications, a letter to Nancy Mayville at the DOT in reference to the Blair Bridge, a letter to the Trustee of the Trust Funds requesting withdrawal of funds for expenditures for 2007, one abatement slip, and an appointment for an alternate to the Planning Board.

At 6:30 p.m. the Board met with Walter Stockwell from the Campton Historical Society to go over their 2008 budget requests. Walt spoke about some of the projects that the Society has undertaken over the past year including the installation of the kerosene chandelier in the meeting room, repairs to windows in the Grange, and unfortunately some unanticipated repairs to windows in the front of the building due to vandalism by a beebe gun. He had indicated that due to fuel and electrical increases that the operating costs for the building have gone up for this upcoming year. The Society is taking a more proactive role in fundraising this year with membership drives and different events to raise monies. They are updating their articles for sale which in the past included the tee shirts and note cards. An effort is being made to record more oral histories from local people in Town, and the Society would like to have the building opened more hours to the public. The budget request for this year is actually down from \$10,000 to \$7,500. The Society would also like to request that \$2,500.00 be added to the special Capital Reserve set up for the building's upkeep and repair. The Board thanked Walt for his hard work and dedication in keeping up the building and working on the various programs.

At 7 p.m. Vice Chair, Sharon Davis opened the public hearing addressing the addition of Vintinner Road to the Town Ordinance pertaining to a speed limit of 25 miles per hour. In order for the Town to be able to lower a speed limit on a Town Road which is set at 35 miles per hour, the Board must hold a public hearing and notice the hearing in the newspaper. By meeting these requirements, the Town can legally lower the speed limit to 25 miles per hour. Jane Kellogg inquired as to how this particular road came into question. Selectman Keeney indicated that he was concerned about the way people come in and out of the parking lot especially on weekends. The opening of the State Liquor Store in the Plaza has added to the traffic, and Ski Fanatics has a lot of traffic when the skiers return ski rentals at the end of the day. Selectman Cheney also indicated that a few years ago there was some discussion about changing the openings of the parking lot when a Site Plan Review was done for the Meredith Village Bank's teller machine, but the Planning Board had determined that they did not have the authority to make the owner change this traffic pattern. The Highway Department will put up speed limit signs in the spring when the ground thaws.

The next item on the agenda was the Conservation Commission's proposed 2008 budget. Jane Kellogg presented the budget, and introduced other Commission members present. The budget request for 2008 remains the same as 2007 - \$850.00. The Board and the Commission also discussed the Land Use Change Tax Fund and the amount in this fund now totals over \$230,000.00. Jane invited the Selectmen to the next Conservation Commission meeting at which members from Trout Unlimited would be in to discuss the possibility of seeing if some work

could be done around Campton Pond to make it suitable as a swimming and recreation area again. In the past, other groups have explored this as well, but the Forest Service who owns the land has not wanted to do any dredging of the pond. Unfortunately, the Selectmen have another meeting, but some of the Board Members will try to attend if the budget meeting gets over by 8 p.m. when this presentation is scheduled.

The Board then reviewed the minutes of the December 17th meeting. One correction was made, and with a motion from Selectman Cheney, and seconded by Selectman Keeney, the minutes were approved as corrected by all.

The Board then reviewed their correspondence. Ann Marie distributed copies of the proposed 2008 budgets for the Campton Thornton Fire Department and the Campton Thornton Transfer Station. Both budgets will be reviewed and discussed at a joint meeting of the Campton, Thornton, Ellsworth Board of Selectmen, Fire Commissioners, and Department Heads on Wednesday, January 9th at 6 p.m. at the Campton Fire Station. Ann Marie also distributed copies of a proposed 2008 Parks and Recreation budget, and will schedule Lisa Ash to come in and discuss the budget. Robert Mann from DES had called about the status of Beebe River's well, and wanted to know if the Board would have any objections if he or a representative came in to view the title work that Lynn Wheeler did for the Town and the District. Selectman Davis indicated that she has not been able to contact an attorney to review this material yet, but perhaps the State representative could find it useful as long as the work did not leave the office. The other Board Members agreed. A letter was received from the residents of Page Hill commending Jeff Hebda for his snow plowing of their roads, and urging the Selectmen to renew his contract next year. The State has sent in our 2008 Highway Block Grant Aid breakdown which will total \$101,178.29 this year which is up from \$94,371.11 in 2007. A letter was sent to a local contractor who had been taking too much sand from the Town's pile, and had used the Town's equipment without authorization. He was reminded that personal use of sand is allowable up to a 5 gallon plastic bucket full. The sand pile is not for plowing driveways, and in no circumstances should the Town's backhoe be used by anyone but Town Highway Employees and the plowing sub-contractors.

Ann Marie introduced Kelly Bolger to the Selectmen. The Board signed an appointment for Kelly to be an alternate on the Planning Board. Kelly has a vast knowledge in constructing buildings, and offered to help the Town's Building Committee with anything they may want him to do. He is retiring, and would like to be more involved in volunteering on various Town projects. Selectman Davis indicated that she would notify him of the next Building Committee meeting, and thanked him for his interest.

With no other business, the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Foote
Town Administrator