

MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2015

The Board of Selectmen met for their weekly meeting at 6:30 p. m. at the Campton Municipal Building. Present were Selectmen, Sharon Davis, Charles Wheeler, Charles Cheney, Karl Kelly and Peter Laufenberg. During the work session of the meeting the Board signed the manifest and reviewed the bills. They signed 2 Notices of Intent to Cut, the signature page for the proposed revision to the Campton/Thornton/Ellsworth Intergovernmental Fire/Rescue Service Agreement and 5 Quitclaim Deeds.

While the Board was in work session, Chair Davis called for a review of the Public Minutes and Non Public Minutes of October 26, 2015. After one revision to the Public Minutes and one revision to the Non Public Minutes, Chair Davis called for a Motion to approve. The Motion was made by Selectman Wheeler to approve the Public Minutes and Non Public Minutes as revised. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Laufenberg and with a roll call vote; the Public Minutes and Non Public Minutes were unanimously approved as revised.

During the work session, Chair Davis called on Ann Marie to review correspondence. Ann Marie indicated that a Cease and Desist Order was received concerning a particular investment company that the Securities and Exchange Commission requested. Ann Marie was happy to report that this particular investment company has no involvement with the Town's Trust Funds.

Ann Marie stated that Robert "Butch" Bain has requested a vacation leave of 10 ½ days starting November 10, 2016 and returning November 30, 2016.

A "Rural Hitch" publication of Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association was received. Board members previously received a copy of the publication. Kelly Bolger, Fire Commissioner, was proud to point out pictures of the Campton/Thornton Fire Department in the publication together with an award issued to an individual in the Campton/Thornton Fire Department.

A letter was received from United States Department of the Interior indicating that the Town is eligible for, and has been issued, a total payment of \$6,311.00 under the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program.

A letter was received from the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) pertaining to an "Unregistered Dam" that DES discovered (while on another assignment), and is now identified by the DES as NH Dam #D035034 and named "Beebe River Waste Lagoons." The DES is claiming that the Town of Campton owns the Dam. Ann Marie explained that the Town does not own the Dam and a letter will be sent to the DES informing them of that fact.

A letter was received from Frank Guinta, Member of U.S. Congress, indicating that he introduced legislation to fully repeal the excise tax, commonly referred to as the “Cadillac Tax”, on health care benefits contained in the Affordable Care Act. Mr. Guinta explained that both public and private employers cope with this 40 percent tax on the health benefits they offer employees, millions of Americans across the country are at risk of losing access to their health insurance and paying more in taxes. Hence, Mr. Guinta expressed that the passage of this legislation is a great victory.

North Country Council sent an update along with brochures and a request for the Town to consider renewing membership with the Council again. Selectman Laufenberg requested a copy of the update for his review.

Ann Marie indicated that NH DRA is now reviewing the MS434 (revised revenues) for the setting of the tax rate so the rate should be forthcoming.

There being no further correspondence, Chair Davis continued with review of the Tracking Report indicating that there were no changes this week on the report. Ann Marie indicated that R.J. Dragon is now researching a quote for disability and dental insurance premiums.

At 6:55 p.m. Chair Davis called for a Motion to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II(c) regarding a tax matter. The Motion was made and seconded and the Board went into Non Public Session at 6:55 p.m. The Board came out of Non Public Session at 8:06 p.m.

Chair Davis continued the public meeting with Other Business Agenda Items and called on Kelly Bolger, Fire Commissioner Chair regarding an update pertaining to the approval of the Campton/Thornton/Ellsworth Intergovernmental Fire/Rescue Service Agreement. Also appearing with Mr. Bolger were Dan Defosses, Fire Chief and Ian Halm, Deputy Fire Chief. Mr. Bolger explained that the Town of Ellsworth approved the revised Agreement (along with the Town of Campton). However, the Town of Thornton has not approved the revisions. Mr. Bolger and the Fire Chief were informed that the revised agreement is now being reviewed by the Town of Thornton’s Attorney. In the meantime, a request from the Thornton Board of Selectmen was made to Fire Chief Defosses to provide a copy of the employment contract between him and the Fire Commissioners and a copy of his job description. Mr. Bolger explained that Attorney Laura Spector (Town Attorney, at the time the documents were drafted) stated that this information was “privileged information” and with that being said, Fire Chief Defosses does not want to release this information to the Thornton Board of Selectmen. Mr. Bolger also explained that this information is not relevant to the approval of the revised agreement. Mr. Bolger acknowledged that Jim Demerit had previously reviewed the contract and job description and he expressed there was nothing in the documents that pertained to the matter at hand. However, Fire Chief Defosses is forwarding his “privileged information” to the Campton Fire Department’s legal counsel for advice as to whether or not to release this information to the Thornton Board of Selectmen. Chief Defosses stated that if legal counsel confirms to go ahead and release the information, Chief Defosses will do so. In the meantime, Mr.

Bolger and Fire Chief Defosses expressed concern (through their conversations with the Thornton Board) that the Thornton Board of Selectmen may not sign the revised agreement and they would like suggestions (from the Campton Board of Selectmen) on how to move forward. It was determined that the Thornton Board of Selectmen, at the present time, has not specifically stated that they would not sign the revised agreement. The Campton Board of Selectmen recommended that if the Thornton Board of Selectmen agreed not to sign the revised agreement, the next step would be to schedule a joint meeting between the respective Boards to discuss the issues at hand. It was agreed that Mr. Bolger and Fire Chief Defosses will update the Board as to any progress before the Town of Campton moves forward to schedule a joint meeting. Mr. Bolger, Fire Chief Defosses and Ian Halm thanked the Board members for their time.

Chair Davis continued the public meeting by calling on Police Chief Warn to present the 2016 Proposed Police Department Budget. Sergeant Payer was also present at the meeting. Police Chief Warn first presented the Board with the completed Policy Manual which was completed on October 23, 2015.

Chief Warn then distributed to the Board a copy of the 2016 Proposed Police Department Budget. Chief Warn explained that he is requesting another full-time, certified Police Officer and he explained the need. Chief Warn stated that (through Sergeant Payer's efforts) the Department has 2 certified officers interested who will be appropriate for the position. In the beginning of the written Proposed Budget, Chief Warn prepared a lengthy written introduction to the Police Department with compensation comparisons, expenditure comparisons from 2015 Budget, actual 2015 expenditures and 2016 requests. Chief Warn also prepared an explanation of the needs of such expenditure requests, as requested by the Board. Chief Warn stated that the increase in wages reflected the 2% maximum merit raise. Chief Warn explained the sizeable increase in the Dispatch line and the fact that the Department has no control over this figure as the figure is set by the Town of Plymouth. Discussion pursued pertaining to how the Town's portion is calculated and the fact that it is based on a percentage of usage. The Town of Campton's usage is 11.6%. Chief Warn proceeded to discuss suggested Warrant Articles for a cruiser (estimated cost - \$43,000.00) and computers (\$15,000.00) and the necessity of such. Chief Warn informed the Board that Risk Managers at Primex performed a review of the police station this year and offered a report regarding suggestions for changes and additions to make a better work environment and less liability to the Town. An addition of adequate storage was suggested, amongst other things. Chief Warn suggested that a committee be formed to address Primex's findings and the committee meet with various people and businesses to then make recommendations to the Board at a future date. Ann Marie confirmed the storage issues that now exist in the Selectmen's Office and Community Room in order to accommodate various departments. Chief Warn continued by reviewing the expenditure changes that have been reduced, i.e. Fuel, Part-time Account and Prosecution/Legal and giving explanations for such reductions. Chief Warn acknowledged the need for Board members to review the Proposed Budget at their leisure and digest it before any decisions were made. Chief Warn informed the Board that he would get the final quote for the cruiser within the next two weeks and he will update the Board. The Board thanked Chief Warn for his presentation.

Chair Davis continued the Public Meeting by calling on Robert “Butch” Bain, Road Agent to review the 2016 Proposed Highway Department Budget. Mr. Bain first informed the Board that he received the final bill from GMI Asphalt for paving and it was \$1,200.00 more than the quote. Mr. Bain explained that after he discussed the issues with the owner of GMI Asphalt concerning a mistake on Bog Road and the issues on Eastern Corner Road, the bill was then reduced to \$195,168.80.

Mr. Bain then proceeded to review the Proposed Highway Department Budget. He pointed out the wages and salaries were figured on the 2% maximum merit raise. He included figures for hiring Harry Hughen full-time (as discussed with the Board previously). Mr. Bain continued to go down the Proposed Budget line by line. The increases noted were for Paving Appropriation/Bridges \$245,000.00 up from \$195,000.00, Overtime \$15,000.00 up from \$10,000.00, Telephone & Internet \$3,200.00 up from \$3,000.00, Gravel \$60,000.00 up from \$30,000.00, (the Board suggested the need for this increase) and winter sand \$27,000.00 up from \$25,000.00. Additional expenditures were for Longevity \$1,900.00 and road sweeping \$6,000.00. The Sub-Contractor line was reduced if Harry Hughen is hired full-time. Explanations of each line item were given (as requested by the Board).

Mr. Bain also presented a price quote for a backhoe in the amount of \$124,900.00. He went over different warranties offered, comparing different companies. The Board agreed they will look at the backhoe quote when Mr. Bain returns to speak with the Board on finalizing the Proposed Budget. In the meantime, the Board requested that Mr. Bain come back with an idea of what roads need to be paved (with a list of the roads that will be scheduled for paving in 2016), and an idea of what is needed to be done for improvements on all the roads. Mr. Bain confirmed that he will set up a meeting with Bruce Davis from Allstate Asphalt to review the roads.

Chair Davis mentioned that there are software programs that track roads that might be of benefit to Mr. Bain. Ann Marie stated that she will contact Mr. John Kubik, Thornton’s Road Agent, as he is familiar with a road management program. The Board then thanked Mr. Bain for his presentation.

Chair Davis then called on Hannah Joyce, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, who requested a Non Public Session. Chair Davis made the Motion to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II(c) regarding a personnel matter. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Wheeler and with a roll call vote: Selectman Davis – aye, Selectman Wheeler – aye, Selectmen Cheney – aye, Selectmen Kelly – aye, and Selectmen Laufenberg – aye, the Board went into Non Public Session at 8:25 p.m. The Board came out of Non Public Session at 8:40 p.m.

Chair Davis continued the Public Meeting with Other Business, Selectmen’s Input and called on Selectman Cheney. Selectman Cheney inquired about a computer program (that the Town of Waterville uses) to keep the public informed. Carina Park briefly explained the program known as Nixle (a subscriber based program) and she expressed

that it is quite effective and is offered as a free service. She will acquire more information and inform the Board.

Chair Davis suggested (after discussions with Ann Marie regarding concerns and the fact that it might be financially beneficial) that requests for proposals (RFP) be sent out to 3 assessing firms and 3 auditing firms. Ann Marie stated that the current Assessors have presently started the reciprocal work and it has been promised to be completed by the end of the year. No contract has been signed for assessing for 2016. It was suggested that Greg Colby be sent a request proposal for auditing. The Board did indicate they would also like to meet with Tyler Paine, Lead Auditor with the Town's current auditing firm.

Chair Wheeler inquired if the Supervisors of the Checklist have scheduled a meeting with the Board. Ann Marie stated that letters were hand delivered on Friday, October 30th to the Supervisors of the Checklist addressing concerns and requesting that they schedule a time to meet with the Board within the next 2 weeks to present their plan to ensure compliance with legal publishing and posting requirements.

Chair Davis inquired if there was any further Selectmen's Input. There was none.

Chair Davis then made a Motion to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II(c) regarding a personnel matter. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Wheeler and with a roll call vote: Selectman Davis, aye, Selectman Wheeler – aye, Selectman Cheney – aye, Selectman Kelly, aye, and Selectman Laufenberg – aye, the Board went into Non Public Session at 8:45 p.m. The Board came out of Non Public Session at 8:55 p.m. Ann Marie Foote was excused from the Non Public Meeting.

Chair Davis continued the Public Meeting by making a Motion to seal the Non Public Minutes. The Motion was seconded and with a roll call vote: Selectman Davis – aye, Selectman Wheeler – aye, Selectman Cheney – aye, Selectman Kelly – aye, and Selectman Laufenberg – aye, the Non Public Minutes were sealed.

There being no further business, Chair Davis declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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