

## MINUTES

### SELECTMEN'S MEETING

February 8, 2016

The Board of Selectmen met for their weekly meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Campton Municipal Building. Present were Selectmen, Charles Cheney, Karl Kelly and Peter Laufenberg, Charles Wheeler and Carina Park, Town Administrator and Eleanor Dewey, Office Assistant (recorder). Selectman Davis was not present due to a conflict in schedule.

A member of the public who attended this meeting, but was not on the agenda was Kelly Bolger.

During the work session the Board signed the manifests and reviewed the bills. The Board signed one blind exemption.

Call to Order: Vice Chair Peter Laufenberg called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and inquired if there were any changes to the agenda. Carina stated that there was an addition to New Business at 7:00 p.m. - citizen Town Meeting Concerns.

Approval of Minutes: Vice Chair Laufenberg inquired if there were any revisions or concerns regarding the Public Minutes and Non-public Minutes of February 1, 2016. There were no revisions. Vice Chair Laufenberg called on Selectman Wheeler who made a Motion to approve the Public Minutes and the Non-public Minutes as written. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly, and with a roll call vote, the Public Minutes and Non-public Minutes of February 1, 2016 were unanimously approved as written.

Correspondence: Vice Chair Laufenberg called on Carina who informed the Board that a letter was received from the NH Municipal Association (NHMA) stating that all clients' files in their possession older than January 2010 will be destroyed unless the Town specifies that they want the records pertaining to Town business. The NHMA will then honor the Town's request, if the Board decides to acquire the documents, and they will make those documents available for pick up or for mailing. After discussion, the Board would like to have Carina speak with Attorney Crean for advice, but did agree that if the documents could be electronically submitted to the Town, the Town would definitely like the documents.

Carina stated that the Board received copies of correspondence from Attorney Crean pertaining to Town Meeting and procedures regarding amendments. **After discussion by the Board, the Board unanimously agreed to make no changes to procedures at Town Meeting and to follow the same procedures as in previous years.**

Carina stated that Attorney Crean, through his correspondence, confirmed that under the Right-to-Know RSA 9-A, it is not necessary for justification to be provided for a request to access public records.

Carina stated that Mr. John Buchet has sent a letter (copy of which the Board has) requesting the viewing of a Town Charter map. Carina explained that Mr. Buchet has been referred to the Town

Clerk/Tax Collector as the Selectmen's Office does not have the map available in the Selectmen's Office. Mr. Buchet is concerned about a right of way for the electrical company, but has not found any right of way indicated on the tax map. After discussion by the Board, it was agreed to invite Mr. Buchet in to a Planning Board Session to discuss further. Carina will inform Mrs. Brosseau in order to arrange.

Carina stated that Attorney Crean emailed his recommendation for the tax prepayment resolution. Carina stated that Attorney Crean suggested using the same resolution that was approved by the Board, but adding additional language as follows:

**Prepayment of taxes in instances where the Taxpayer and Town have entered an agreement regarding payment of past-due taxes shall be subject to the provisions of that agreement which generally shall seek to have the taxpayer make payments on all amounts due under the agreement prior to prepaying current or future taxes via the prepayment mechanism.**

**After discussion, the Board agreed to add the language.**

New Business: Vice Chair Laufenberg called on Kelly Wieser regarding the Campton Elementary School Board Concerns. Mrs. Wieser explained that the sidewalks in front of the school, on Route 175 are not being cleared and it is a safety concern of the School Board not only for children who walk to school, but also during evacuation. Mrs. Wieser stated that Mr. Whitney, of the Village Precinct stated at a Selectmen's Meeting that there were grant funds available from the Federal government for sidewalks; however she has been unable to reach anyone from the Village Precinct. It was confirmed that the Village Precinct is responsible for the sidewalks in question. Discussion ensued pertaining to money issues and equipment that would be needed for the clearing of snow. However, the Board agreed that the problem needs to be addressed. It was also suggested that perhaps the Police Department could schedule traffic duty in the a.m. and school dismissal time. Mrs. Wieser inquired if she should approach the Police Department directly. The Board suggested she approach Chief Warn directly. The Board thanked Mrs. Wieser for coming to address the issue and asked her to keep the Board aware of the progress in resolving the problem.

Vice Chair Laufenberg then inquired if Craig Keeney was the next new business regarding Citizen Town Meeting Concerns. Mr. Keeney explained that it had come to his attention that the Board was going to be making an announcement at Town Meeting regarding a new procedure to follow regarding amendments to Warrant Articles. Vice Chair Laufenberg explained, that as of right now, the procedure will be the same as in the past. Vice Chair Laufenberg explained that Attorney Crean was contacted regarding this matter, and after discussion this evening, the Board agreed not to follow a different procedure and any amendments to Warrant Articles will be handled in the same manner as they have been in previous years.

Mr. Keeney also stated that Police Chief Warn presented a presentation at the last budget hearing regarding the need for another full time police officer. Mr. Keeney stated that he did some statistical research himself and he proceeded to explain his research. He had a hardcopy and the Board asked Mr. Keeney to provide the members with copies. Mr. Keeney expressed that he had concerns about the budget, the salary of the Police Chief and a problem with the proposed additional full time police officer.

Mr. Keeney expressed that there should be full transparency of costs involved with the hiring of a new full time police officer, i.e. the full compensation wages, including benefits. Mr. Keeney asked that the Town be able to vote on any new full time positions. After discussion, Vice Chair Laufenberg called on Selectman Wheeler who made a **Motion that in order to create a new full time benefited position, a Warrant Article will be created to be voted on at Town Meeting and the Warrant Article is to include all compensation wages and benefits. Selectmen Cheney seconded the Motion and Vice Chair Laufenberg inquired if there was any discussion. Vice Chair Laufenberg stated that this is a major change and suggested the Board contact Attorney Crean first. After further discussion, the Board, by majority, agreed that a Warrant Article be created for any full time benefited position, to be voted on at Town Meeting.**

Vice Chair Laufenberg inquired if Mr. Keeney had considered in the Police Chief's salary the fact that he does prosecution work. Mr. Keeney confirmed he did not; however, Selectmen Cheney confirmed that the Chief requested a \$2,500.00 in his salary when he started doing prosecution duties. Mr. Keeney mentioned that with wages and benefits the total figures for the Police Chief, he believes, is approximately \$95,000.00. Selectman Wheeler inquired if years of service were considered when Mr. Keeney was researching. Mr. Keeney did state that years of service were considered and he quoted a few local Police Chief's years of service.

Mr. Keeney also inquired about the \$40,000.00 line item for gravel. He expressed that he didn't care what the figure was as long as there is a plan in place for the distribution of the gravel. Vice Chair Laufenberg expressed that there is no plan in place at the moment; however an inventory of the roads will be done with recommendations as to what are the needs and a plan will be set forth. However, Vice Chair Laufenberg stated this is going to take some time, but he assured Mr. Keeney a plan will be in place. Mr. Keeney also inquired as to the \$34,000.00 that was expended in 2015 for gravel as to what roads were involved. Vice Chair Laufenberg stated that question will have to be presented to the Road Agent.

Vice Chair Laufenberg called on Kelly Wieser who expressed that she liked the idea of the road plan.

There was also discussion concerning University of NH students assisting in the Inventory of the roads and it is believed that Butch Bain has been in contact with the college. Vice Chair Laufenberg also stated that the student from Plymouth State University who will be assisting with the mapping project in in the Town of Campton will be very helpful in ensuring that the road inventory is accurate.

Old Business: Carina informed the Board that Police Chief Warn previously addressed the Board regarding business alarm activations and charges racked up by a local business in Town in the amount of \$325.00. Because of the way the ordinance is written, and the fact that Police Department can't hold the business owner responsible for additional fees, the Chief has turned over the decisions as to how to move forward to Carina, so that she could present the question to the Board. Discussion ensued and the Board would like to find out what the maximum fee is. The Board would also like a copy of the ordinance. Selectman Wheeler and Carina Park both volunteered to visit the business owner once a decision is made as to the total fee calculated.

Carina informed the Board that she has Direct Deposit information from the payroll service and there are some fees involved to the Town and the employees, which fees she listed such as a \$25.00 initial fee due by the Town and a \$5.00 one-time fee due by the employee. Additionally, a \$.80 fee charged to each employee for each deposit transaction. Vice Chair Laufenberg suggested that Carina get some payroll service bids as he was of the opinion Direct Deposit would save the Town money. Carina did point out that it will save money on the price of printed checks that are quite costly.

There was no Non-public Session this evening.

Board Concerns and Directives: Vice Chair Laufenberg called on Selectman Cheney who suggested that both Boards (Campton and Thornton) meet to review the specs. for the proposed purchase of the fire truck/rescue vehicle as there are more questions that need to be answered. Commissioner Kelly Bolger suggested to arrange for the sales representative (from Four Guys) to meet with the two Boards, the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief and Mr. Bolger and Fire Commissioners to review the specs. Selectman Cheney expressed it is the intent to get the purchase price lowered. Mr. Keeney inquired why a solid figure had not been arrived at. There was discussion about gross budgeting and the fact that an appropriated amount was reached for budgeting purposes, (by both Boards) but is not to exceed that amount. Vice Chair Laufenberg expressed that the time lapse of not going forward with the purchase last year caused a price increase; hence, the compromise was to move forward with a maximum amount with the hope of getting a reduced price before there was more time lapsing and the price going even higher. Commissioner Bolger informed the Board that the Fire Chief has been negotiating with Four Guys and has already gotten some of the proposed price reduced. Mr. Bolger will work with Carina to arrange a joint meeting with the sales representative from Four Guys.

Vice Chair Laufenberg asked Carina to speak with Police Chief Warn regarding the separate Warrant Article for the full time police officer's position.

Carina stated that the Thornton Board of Selectmen requested that the addendum to the Intergovernmental Agreement for Fire/Rescue be incorporated into the agreement with no addendum. Carina explained that the revised agreement has been completed and she is now waiting for the Town of Ellsworth to sign, and then she will forward the agreement to the Attorney General's Office.

There was no Privilege of the Floor.

There being no further business, Vice Chair Laufenberg declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor M. Dewey, Office Assistant and recorder