

MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING AND
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2016

The Board of Selectmen met at 6:30 p.m. at the Campton Municipal Building for a public hearing regarding the proposed long-term debt agreement for the purchase of a new fire/rescue vehicle for the Fire Department. Present were: Peter Laufenberg, Charles Wheeler, Charles Cheney, Karl Kelly and Carina Park, Town Administrator and Eleanor Dewey, Office Assistant (recorder). Selectman Davis was not present due to illness. Also in attendance were: Daniel Defosses, Peter Hilton, Ian Halm, Jay Wagner, Kelly Bolger, Susan B. Jayne, Diane T. Richards, Jeffrey Tobine, Brian Tobine, Craig Keeney and Ron Reynolds.

At 6:30 p.m. Vice Chair Laufenberg called the public meeting to order. Vice Chair Laufenberg explained that the hearing is being held as a legal formality for budgetary purposes for the proposed long-term debt agreement for the purchase of a new fire/rescue vehicle. Vice Chair Laufenberg called on Fire Chief Defosses who distributed to the Board a quote for financing options from the Tax-Exempt Leasing Corporation. After financing matters, concerns were discussed by Craig Keeney regarding the specs. for the fire/rescue vehicle proposed purchase and what specs are actually needed and what specs are actually wanted. Mr. Keeney expressed that if the public is not aware of the actual price, how could they vote on the purchase. Fire Chief Defosses stated that a budgetary figure was arrived at and the specs are being reviewed with the two vendors to get a more equal comparison for negotiating purposes. It is hoped that in this process the sales representatives might "throw in" certain items as the price is negotiated. Fire Chief Defosses stated that the Thornton Board of Selectmen are agreeable with the budgetary figure; however, expressed the need to work at getting the price lowered in the negotiation of specs. Selectman Cheney expressed that he understood that the two Boards, the Fire Commissioners, the Fire Department and the sales representatives were going to be able to meet before Town meeting; however, he now understands that meeting will not be until after Town Meeting. Chief Defosses did confirm that the sales representatives have agreed to meet with all parties. Specific questions were presented from the public regarding the vehicle and the necessity of certain equipment. Deputy Chief Ian Halm expressed that in his opinion, the Fire Commissioners and truck committee did a good job of deciphering the necessities and also consideration for the vehicle to last the 20-year life span. Mr. Halm expressed that the decision for galvanized frame (costing \$4,000.00 more) vs. aluminum and stainless steel is "cheap insurance" for a longer life span. A drawing of the vehicle was presented by Chief Defosses for review this evening. Discussion ensued regarding the current process being followed for the proposed purchase of the fire/rescue vehicle and Vice Chair Laufenberg suggested that the process of any future capital equipment purchases not be handled in this same manner. He recommended a plan be devised for the future in this regard. Vice Chair Laufenberg did express that he was in favor of the purchase as his concern is that as time passes in delaying the purchase, the price will continue to increase.

There being no further discussion regarding the fire/rescue vehicle, Vice Chair Laufenberg closed the public hearing at 6:55 p.m.

Work Session: Vice Chair Laufenberg opened the Selectmen's Meeting. The Board signed the manifests and signed 2 Veterans Exemptions, 1 general assessing contract with Commerford Nieder Perkins and the 2016 MS-636 – Budget for the Town of Campton.

New Business - Vice Chair Laufenberg called on Carol Lenahan regarding the proposed Municipal Buildings' signage. Mrs. Lenahan stated that she is working with Kelly Bolger and a professional sign design company in order to acquire a proposal for signage for a main sign on Route 49, signage for the Campton-Thornton Fire Department Building, signage for 12 Gearty Way (the entrance of the Municipal Building), and signage for the Highway Department and additional signage on the Durgin Building for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office. Mrs. Lenahan presented some rough drawings presented by Marvel Signs & Designs and a rough estimate of cost in the amount of \$12,498.00. Mrs. Lenahan stated that she approached the Police Chief for comments and suggestions and Mary Durgin regarding the project. Mrs. Lenahan informed the Board that Ms. Durgin gave "her blessing" on the project for the funding to come from the Durgin Trust. After discussion, the Board unanimously agreed in favor of the project and Mrs. Lenahan will present a formal proposal for the Board to vote on next week. Mrs. Lenahan thanked the Board for their time and she will acquire the final proposal for the next meeting.

Vice Chair Laufenberg then proceeded with the next item in New Business stating that Kelly Bolger presented his resignation as Emergency Management Director. After discussion ensued, a Motion was made and seconded to accept Kelly Bolger's resignation as Emergency Management Director. The Motion was unanimously approved.

Ron Reynolds was approached for the Emergency Management position and he was present this evening to speak with the Board. Mr. Reynolds expressed that he would be interested in being appointed interim Emergency Management Director. Carina Park mentioned that she, Kelly Bolger, Ron Reynolds and Mr. Hatch from Emergency Management met and Mr. Hatch discussed the possibility of presenting workshops to address what the Director position entails for individuals who might be interested in the position. Carina suggested after Town Meeting perhaps some workshops can be scheduled.

A Motion was then made and seconded to appoint Ron Reynolds as interim Emergency Management Director. The Motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes: Vice Chair Laufenberg inquired if there were any revisions or concerns regarding the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2016 and February 10, 2016 and the Final Budget Hearing Minutes of February 10, 2016. After one revision to the February 10, 2016 Selectmen's Meeting Minutes a Motion was made and seconded to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2016 as revised and to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2016 and the Final Budget Hearing Minutes of February 10, 2016, as written, and with a roll call vote, the 3 sets of Minutes were unanimously approved.

Correspondence: Carina indicated that an update was received regarding the Fairpoint litigation and the Board was provided a copy of the email from Attorney Whitelaw pertaining same.

NH Municipal Bond Bank (NHMBB) is requesting that a petition be signed to consider maintaining the current tax exemption for municipal bonds. NHMBB expressed that any change to the tax treatment of municipal bonds will have a serious impact on the cost to state and local governments for financing critical infrastructure projects. If tax-exemption is capped or eliminated, higher interest rates on municipal bonds will result thereby increasing the cost to municipal issuers, thereby having a negative effect on municipalities.

Carina informed the Board that a copy of a letter was received from Jeanie Forrester, NH State Senator, District 2 expressing her concern with the recent schedule and location of the public hearings relative to the Northern Pass Transmission Project. In light of her concern to assure more public input from communities, Senator Forrester sent a letter to the NH Site Evaluation Committee addressing the matter. A copy of the response letter addressed to Senator Forrester from the Law Firm of Brennan Lenehan Iacopino & Hickey was provided to the Board this evening.

Carina expressed that Information was received regarding the 2016 Salmon Press Plymouth Community Guide publication which is free to the public; however, advertising is expensive. After discussion with the Board, it was decided that Carina would get some additional information to perhaps put an ad in the Guide next year for the 250th Town of Campton Celebration.

Carina stated that North Country Council forwarded information regarding appointing a Transportation Advisory Committee representative from the Town of Campton. The Board agreed not to participate at this time.

There being no further correspondence, Vice Chair Laufenberg continued the meeting by calling for a **Motion to go into Non-public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A: e, II (a-j). The Motion was made by Selectman Wheeler and seconded by Selectman Kelly, and with a roll call vote, the Board went into Non-public Session at 7:30 p.m. The Board came out of Non-public Session at 8:10 p.m.**

Vice Chair Laufenberg continued the public meeting by calling on Selectman Wheeler who made a Motion to seal the Non-public Minutes. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Kelly, and with a roll call, the Board unanimously agreed to seal the Non-public Minutes.

Board Concerns and Directives: Discussion regarding the submission of Kelly Bolger's February 11, 2016 resignation as Fire Commissioner ensued. After discussion, a Motion was made and seconded, to not accept Mr. Bolger's resignation as Fire Commissioner dated February 11, 2016. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.

Vice Chair Laufenberg called on Carina who indicated that Lakes Region Community Service inquired if they could use the Municipal Building Community Room for a cooking class which would involve Campton residents. The Board declined as specific guidelines have to be followed for the use of the Community Room, i.e. limited to Town Department events.

Vice Chair Laufenberg stated that he drafted an explanation of the Warrant Articles (for the Board to review) which will be placed in the Town Report for Town Meeting. Vice Chair Laufenberg requested that if there are any revisions, to please bring the revisions to the meeting next Monday.

Privilege of the Floor: None.

Adjourn: There being no further business, Vice Chair Laufenberg declared the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor M. Dewey, Office Assistant and recorder