

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

FEBRUARY 1, 2016

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, Peter Laufenberg and Karl Kelly, Dan Crean, Town Attorney, Carina Park, Town Administrator, and Eleanor Dewey, Office Assistant (recorder).

During the work session the Board signed the manifests and reviewed the bills. The Board signed 1 Veteran's Exemption and 1 Abatement.

The attendance sheet is attached hereto, as part of the Minutes.

Call to Order: Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Chair Davis inquired if there were any revisions or concerns regarding the Public Minutes, the Preliminary Budget Hearing Minutes and Non-public Minutes of January 25, 2016. There were no revisions from the Board. Chair Davis called on Selectman Laufenberg who made a Motion to approve the Public Minutes, Preliminary Budget Hearing Minutes and Non-public Minutes as written. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Wheeler, and with a roll call vote, the 3 sets of Minutes were unanimously approved as written.

Correspondence: Chair Davis called on Carina to review correspondence. Carina stated that a letter was received from NH DOT regarding the planned paving/resurfacing for 2016. Several sections of road throughout Campton have been planned for paving.

Carina informed the Board that she has received the valid trailer registration as the Board requested; (discussed by the Board last week) hence, an abatement has been prepared for the Board to sign this evening.

Carina explained that H.G. TV for Warm Springs Production, LLC has contacted her regarding the fact that they will be doing some filming in Campton, i.e. in the area of the Welcome sign to Campton and some overhead footage of the dam. They have asked the Town for permission for filming in this area and have provided written location and material release forms for signature this evening, if the Board is in agreement for the filming. **The Board unanimously agreed and the release documents were signed this evening.**

Carina had no further correspondence. Chair Davis stated that the NH DOT approved the street lights at Exit 28 and the junction of Rt. 49 and 175. Chair Davis thanked Selectman Laufenberg for being instrumental in working with the State to accomplish this goal.

New Business: At 6:40 p.m. Chair Davis welcomed Peter G. Grote to the meeting and introduced him to the Board, Attorney Crean, Carina Park and Ellie Dewey. Mr. Grote explained that in his capacity as an

economist and financial analysis, the Franconia Board of Selectmen approached him for his assistance regarding Northern Pass and he has formed the Municipal Coalition for the Intervention at the Site Evaluation Committee for Northern Pass. The objective of the coalition is to move the route of Northern Pass to I-93, (underground). Mr. Grote explained that he has met with several Towns and Town Administrators and is encouraging Towns to participate in the coalition intervention. He informed the Board many Towns are in favor of the Route I-93 route and the entire route being underground. Mr. Grote stated that the Forest Society is in favor of Route I-93 route. Mr. Grote informed the Board that the cost would be 1 billion dollars, with an anticipated 70-year life span. Attorney Dan Crean commented that the cost, even though initially paid for by Northern Pass, would be passed on to the public. Mr. Grote inquired if the Town of Campton has signed up as an intervening party and it was confirmed that the Town of Campton has and Mr. Grote was pleased. After questions and discussion, Mr. Grote thanked the Board for their time and he assured the Board that he would get further information emailed to them on particular issues discussed this evening. On behalf of the Board, Chair Davis thanked Mr. Grote for appearing this evening.

At 7:00 p.m., Chair Davis called on Hannah Joyce, Town Clerk/Tax Collector to discuss Tax Agreements and prepayment discussion. Mrs. Joyce reiterated to the Board her understanding of the Board's resolution that was voted on regarding prepayments. Mrs. Joyce presented examples of prepayments instead of refunding and applying overpayments, and issues that can occur when mortgage companies have overpaid, whereas the money has to be refunded to the mortgage company, not applied as an overpayment for prepayment. Mrs. Joyce inquired what the Board was trying to accomplish with prepayments. It was explained that the Board's intent was to assist the tax-payer to keep current along with making payments on their tax agreement. Mrs. Joyce explained that she was in agreement with taking prepayments but would like the prepayment resolution to be amended. There was discussion pertaining to the law as to who directs where the prepayment is to be applied. Mrs. Joyce confirmed that, at present, the RSA permits the taxpayer to decide where the prepayment is going to be applied; however, Mrs. Joyce expressed that obviously, it would seem the taxpayer would apply the payment first to delinquent taxes (due to the higher rate of interest charged) rather than apply funds to current taxes due. Mrs. Joyce also gave statistics on the existing Tax Agreements and the new town guidelines in existence and how the new guidelines apply/not apply to the specific agreements. Mrs. Joyce expressed the desire to go back to the old tax agreement format and requested that the Board meet her half way by amending the prepayment resolution voted on, on January 4, 2016. The Board was not in favor of amending the resolution; however, asked Attorney Dan Crean to draft a proposed prepayment policy for the Board to review. The Board thanked Mrs. Joyce for appearing this evening.

Chair Davis then called on the Supervisors of the Checklist (SCL). Those individuals appearing representing the Supervisors of the Checklist were: Sally Moulton, Carolyn Hill and Patricia Scray. Chair Davis explained that the only concern that the Board has is to get the notices published on time for Town Meeting. Chair Davis emphasized the importance of this task by reminding the SCL of a specific incident regarding the Beebe River Betterment and notices not published on time causing technical non-compliance issues which resulted in the Town expending extra money for attorney's costs, embarrassment and the need to schedule a second hearing. The technical non-compliance also resulted

in issues regarding the Town's borrowing power for a TAN. Ms. Moulton expressed concern that no consideration has been taken for all the issues encountered by the Supervisors in attempting to get the notices published. Chair Davis explained, unfortunately, issues encountered do not get the notices published in time, therefore, are not relevant. What is relevant, is that the notice get published in the proper time frame to alleviate a technical non-compliant issue. The Board expressed concern that this issue has been discussed prior to this meeting with the SCL and there still is a problem of notices not being published in the proper time frame. The SCL acknowledged the importance of the notices getting published on time. Chair Davis, on behalf of the Board, thanked the SCL for coming this evening.

At 7:40 p.m. Chair Davis called on Fire Chief Dan Defosses and Fire commissioners to give an update on the new fire/rescue issues. Chief Defosses informed the Board that he and the Fire Commissioners met with the Thornton Board of Selectmen. Chief Defosses stated that the Thornton Board of Selectmen want the new fire/rescue truck purchase price to be lowered. The Thornton Board was concerned about certain specifics such as scene lighting, an awning that recessed into the vehicle, stainless steel vs. aluminum body and a galvanized frame. Discussion ensued pertaining to the specs and the value therefor. Commissioner Kelly Bolger assured the Board that the Fire Department was not trying to purchase the Cadillac of trucks, they are just looking for what will best serve the Towns' needs. Discussion also ensued concerning getting more than one quote, as the Town of Thornton requires 3 quotes. Chief Defosses explained that (this being his first experience with the process) he received several quotes, but by process of elimination, mainly cost related, he ended up with the lowest quote which he presented to the Boards. The Campton Board assured Chief Defosses that they are in favor of the fire rescue/truck, it is just a matter of price concerns and everyone agreeing to a figure to be presented in the budget.

There was also discussion pertaining to the purchase of a new ambulance. Chief Defosses indicated that the Thornton Board expressed putting off this purchase until 2018. Discussion ensued pertaining to positive reasons for an extra ambulance, cost amount on local service and the issue of tax payers feeling like they are charged twice (one for service and then through property taxes) and revenues not offsetting costs. Kelly Bolger pointed out that the Fire Department still is obligated to dispatch rescue even if there was no Town serviced ambulance operating. Mr. Bolger inquired, "How can you put a dollar amount on local service?" Billing and collection issues were also brought up for discussion and Attorney Crean suggested that Fire Chief Defosses speak with David Jodoin, Town Administrator of Pembroke who has experienced the issues mentioned here this evening, and Attorney Crean felt he would be a good source of information for Fire Chief Defosses. Chair Davis called on Selectman Laufenberg who recommended that Chief Defosses draft a business plan before presenting the purchase of an additional ambulance, and perhaps an excessive explanation of costs and how revenue will work to off-set costs.

The Campton Board agreed that the next plan of action will be that Carina is to speak with Tammie Beaulieu, Thornton Town Administrator in the morning on February 2, 2016, as it is understood the Thornton Board of Selectmen have their Budget Hearing scheduled for Wednesday, February 3, 2016. The Campton Board will decide what they need to do after this discussion. The Board thanked Chief Defosses and the Fire Commissioners for their update.

**Chair Davis continued the meeting by making a Motion to go into Non-public Session in accordance with RSA 91-A: 3, II (a-i). The Motion was seconded by Selectman Laufenberg, and with a unanimous roll call vote, the Board went into Non-public Session at 8:30 p.m. The Board came out of Non-Public Session at 8:55 p.m.**

**Chair Davis continued the public session and made a Motion to seal the Non-public Minutes. The Motion was seconded by Selectman Laufenberg, and with a roll call vote, it was unanimously agreed to seal the Non-public Session Minutes.**

Old Business: Chair Davis called on Carina, who explained that she wanted the Board to be aware that a bookkeeping journal entry was made to reduce the Capital Reserve Fund by \$60,000.00 rather than the Operating Fund which corrects a 2015 posting error.

Carina also informed the Board that Bruce, from W.B. Mason explained that the Town may not be able to acquire the copy machine (of choice) if they wait until after Town Meeting for purchasing. Bruce suggested he have delivered the copy machine in question, and if the Town does not vote for the purchase, he will take the machine back, at no charge to the Town. The Board agreed that the copy machine can be delivered, but it is not to be used until the purchase is approved at Town Meeting.

Carina stated that the Primary Election is Tuesday, February 9, 2016, and a schedule needs to be set up for Selectmen's coverage at the Election. The schedule was arranged with each Selectman this evening and Carina stated she will order pizza, salad and soda.

The Warrant Articles that will be taken up during the Town Meeting Business Meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. on the 9th of March, 2016 at the Campton Elementary School were discussed and revisions were made. The articles were voted on by the Board of Selectmen.

Under Old Business the local business alarm activations and charges and discussion of Direct Deposit for Employees were postponed.

Boards Concerns and Directives: Chair Davis called on Selectman Cheney who inquired about an item discussed in Non-publish Session this evening.

Chair Davis inquired if the remaining Board members had any Concerns or Directives. There were none.

Adjourn: There being no further business, Chair Davis declared the meeting adjourned at 9: 22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor M. Dewey, Office Assistant in the Selectmen's Office and Recorder