

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES  
October 21, 2013

Present: Jim Ameden, Steve Prouty, Paul Gordon, Peter Pagnucco, Bob Cowles, Kevin Beattie, Duane Hart, Kelly Pajala, GNAT TV, Danny Cobb, George Lang, Melvin Twitchell, Jim Twitchell, Roger Sheehan, Debbie O'Leary, Sharon Crossman.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Announcements-** Paul attended the VLCT selectboard conference recently. There was much useful information.

The Morris Hazard Mitigation Buyout closing occurred today, transferring ownership of the property to the town.

**Pay orders** were signed.

**Champion Fire Co.-** Several members were in attendance. They have solicited several bids for a new pumper. They gave notice to the selectboard that the request to the town for money will be delayed until the 2015 town meeting. At that time they will be asking for assistance from the town to purchase the pumper. George Lang discussed funding possibilities and the need for the town to become NIMS compliant in order to obtain grants.

**Cemetery Commissioner-** Commissioners Dan Cobb and Melvin Twitchell asked if it was necessary right away to replace commissioner David Williams, who recently passed away. The selectboard agrees that a replacement can wait until town meeting in March.

A motion was made for the town to make a donation of \$125.00 to the rescue squad in memory of David Williams. The motion was unanimously passed.

**Park Board items-** To date the fundraising effort has brought in just under \$14,000.

Kelly brought up budgeting for park expenses. Currently the only item budgeted for in the town budget is for the portable toilets.

The Parks Board would like to keep the parking lot plowed this winter at Pingree Park, for winter use of the park. They will look into getting volunteers to help with this. The timber sale will be happening this winter so the road and parking lot will be kept open by the logger for part of the winter.

The Athletic Association has indicated that they will take care of mowing the ball fields during the playing season.

**Sign issues-** A local business had lodged a complaint about unequal enforcement of the town's sign rules in the zoning bylaws. Sharon Crossman was in to express the Planning Commission's interest in looking at this issue. She reminded the board that there was a previous effort to bring enforcement of the sign rules into line, but it fell by the wayside several years ago. The selectboard agreed that they should meet with Paul Dexter. Kevin will set it up for next meeting if possible. It was also agreed that the sign standards should have a fresh look as to whether what we have is appropriate. The Planning Commission has plans to do that.

**Use of the Town Hall after November 1-** The "After the Flood" group would like to use the Town Hall for a meeting on November 21. We normally don't use the building after October 31 due to heating costs. The board agreed that the meeting is a town function and use of the building would be appropriate. Since currently the Baptist Church is paying for the heat, Kevin will speak with Chris Blackey to be sure there won't be a problem with it.

**Minutes of the October 7th meeting** were approved and signed.

### **Roads and bridges-**

**Town office fuel tank-** Duane has determined there is 5" of water in the underground tank. We have already switched over to the new tank in the basement.

Plow frames are going on the trucks along with general prep for winter. The sand shed is full. The old dump body off the '02 Mack was traded to the company we purchased sand from. There are still some culverts to put in before winter. The culvert inventory is under way.

**Executive session-** A motion was made to go into executive session at 8:15 to discuss employee matters.

Came out of executive session at 8:35.

**Resignation-** A motion was made and unanimously passed to accept a letter of resignation from Josh Dryden. We will advertise and post notice of a job opening to replace him.

**Route 121-** Steve was contacted by Peter Chamberlain, Windham Treasurer, about the section of Rte 121 that is in Londonderry. In the past, there was an agreement between the towns for Windham to plow that section of road, as well as the Londonderry end of Scott Pet Road. Kevin will contact him about renewing the old agreement.

### **Transfer Station-**

**Bottles-** Wayne Blanchard has offered to take care of bottle sorting and transport to the redemption center, with no charge to the town. A motion was made and unanimously

passed to accept this offer. The town will provide 6 barrels for sorting. Paul Gordon offered to letter the barrels.

**BBA student-** The board agrees that there is not an opportunity at this time for the BBA student who was interested in working part time at the Transfer Station. A motion was made and unanimously passed to reply to BBA that we have no opening at this time.

### **Old business-**

**Budget process timeline-** Last year we met with all departments and boards in November and finalized and passed the budget on December 20. The board agreed to a similar timeline for this year.

Kevin asked if we could purchase a larger monitor to be able to display working spreadsheets during budget meetings. We have room in the computer hardware budget for it. The selectboard agreed to the purchase.

**Fire Department article for the Warning-** Jim Ameden proposed separate articles for the two departments, for the amounts typically raised by the town for the departments.

**Fiscal year change-** A decision would need to be made very soon, before the budgeting process, if the change were to happen this coming year. Kevin suggested holding off another year. The treasurer should be involved in that decision so the board took no action at this time.

### **New business-**

**Dog complaints at Magic Mountain-** There have been ongoing complaints of barking dogs for several years. The animal control officer has discussed it with the dog owner, but otherwise no action has been taken. We will research our dog ordinance to see how this complaint is covered and what action should be taken.

**RACES radio antenna-** Some towns around us are installing these for emergency communications during emergencies when normal communications are compromised. Kevin feels as EMD that this is a low priority item so it was tabled.

**Signature ratification-** Kevin signed property transfer documents for the town at the Morris closing today. A motion was made and unanimously passed to ratify the signatures.

**Employee pay period-** Any change to the pay period was tabled until the treasurer is present.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:45.**