

Selectmen's Meeting – April 12, 2011

Present were Selectmen Bruce L. Tatro, Deborah J. Davis and Nancy L. Carlson. Also present was Town Administrator Elizabeth Fox.

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. by Chairman Tatro.

Financial Matters. The board reviewed and approved accounts payable and payroll manifests.

NH Fastroads – Fiber Network Build Out. Selectmen met with the project's Executive Director Carole Monroe and NH Fastroads Board member Carlotta Lilback Pini who reviewed with the board the work encompassed in the project throughout the region and the project's goals. Funding for the project, aimed at making large bundle wire available statewide, was reviewed by Monroe. The project will be building an open access network on which service will be provided to users by a variety of providers. Community anchor institutions will be connected through this network too. Route proposed in the Swanzy area (running down Route 32) was discussed. In Rindge and Enfield, the project includes "last mile" fiber connecting homes and businesses. Need for a cabinet to house hardware was discussed with several locations including the police department, Carpenter Home or school computer room considered as options. Selectmen advised Fox would serve as the project's town contact point. Fox advised she would contact MRSD to determine the best person, on their behalf, to involve in this effort. A contact point for the libraries will also be needed.

School Resource Officer Data. Information regarding calls for service YTD and community demographics associated with those calls received from Chief Busick was shared with Selectmen.

Open Space Committee. Selectmen were reminded that the annual celebration was set for next week on April 20, 2011 from 4-6 p.m. at KSC camp.

Roadside Clean up Day – April 23rd. Selectmen were reminded of the annual clean up day set for Saturday, April 23.

Department of Public Works. Selectmen met with DPW Director Lee Dunham reviewing an updated draft of the RFQ developed seeking engineering services to evaluate and make recommendations regarding the Upper & Lower Wilson Pond Dams assisting with compliance with the LOD issued by the State. Feedback from the NHDES Dam Bureau personnel was reviewed. Selectmen authorized proceeding with the RFQ suggesting a few amendments relative to insurance and correction of a few typographic errors.

Selectmen authorized Dunham to hire (towards the end of April) a temporary full time employee assigned to cemetery & parks maintenance. They also authorized hiring of a temporary part time employee for approximately 24 hours a week to assist with cemetery and parks maintenance. Dunham advised he was hoping to fill these positions with candidates who had worked in this capacity for the town in prior years.

Old Homestead Association. Dunham advised Selectmen that a summer concert series had been scheduled at the Potash Bowl. Selectmen indicated an event permit should be issued for all 4 concerts and a second event permit issued for the Old Homestead Play.

FD Call & Training Pay Policy. A draft was distributed for members review with Fox advising it was likely additional modifications would be developed and distributed before its discussion scheduled for 4/26.

Public Hearing: Community Development Block Grant Application for Feasibility Study, Viewpoint Cooperative. Chairman Tatro opened the first of 3 consecutive public hearings at 7:45 p.m. Informational packets were available for the public attending – Attachment #1. Community Development Block Grant funds are available to municipalities through the NH Community Development Finance Authority. Up to \$500,000 annually is available on a competitive basis for economic development, public facility and housing projects and emergency activities that directly benefit low and moderate income persons. Up to \$12,000 is available for feasibility study grants.

This is a proposed application to the Community Development Finance Authority for up to \$12,000 in Community Development Block Grant Feasibility Study funds for the View Point Cooperative Infrastructure Feasibility Study. The funds will be used to study the infrastructure systems, primarily the sewer system, and drainage. The majority of the residents at the park are of low and moderate income.

This project conforms with Swanzey’s Housing and Community Development Plan’s Goal of: Encourage safe and adequate housing, with proper water and wastewater service, to meet the needs of all Swanzey residents of all ages and income levels. Funding request: up to \$12,000.

Selectmen Tatro invited public comments regarding the proposed application. Board members asked several questions but there were no comments or questions from the public present.

Chairman Tatro closed the public hearing at 7:48 p.m.

Public Hearing - Housing and Community Development Plan. Chairman Tatro opened the public hearing on the town’s housing and community development plan at 7:49 p.m. CDBG Grant Administrator Donna Lane reviewed with members and public present the updated plan noting that the project proposed conforms with Swanzey’s Housing and Community Development Plan’s Goal of: Encourage safe and adequate housing, with proper water and wastewater service, to meet the needs of all Swanzey residents of all ages and income levels. Comment from the public was invited by Chairman Tatro. No public comments were received. Chairman Tatro closed the public hearing at 7:55 p.m.

Public Hearing - Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan. Chairman Tatro opened the public hearing at 7:56 p.m. It was noted that this project does not involve any displacement or relocation of persons or businesses, but if the Town were to undertake a CDBG project which involved displacement or relocation they would follow this plan. The plan outlines the measures they would take to find comparable, suitable housing for persons (or businesses) displaced or relocated. Comment was invited from the public on the plan. No public comments were received. Chairman Tatro closed the public hearing at 7:59 p.m.

Selectmen voted unanimously to adopt the Housing and Community Development Plan – Attachment #2.

Selectmen voted unanimously to adopt the Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan – Attachment #3.

Selectmen voted unanimously to approve the submittal of the application authorizing the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to sign and submit the application, and upon approval of the CDBG application, further authorized the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to execute any documents which may be necessary to effectuate the CDBG contract.

Past due taxes and tax liens eligible for deeding. Selectmen were updated on the status of several accounts. Selectmen authorized Fox to develop and extend to a taxpayer (TM 88 Lot 23) a payment arrangement proposal.

Session for the Acceptance of Inventories. It was noted that Selectmen were in session to accept inventories and hear parties regarding their liability to be taxed. An inventory form was received from Bruce Tatro.

Public Hearing – Traffic Regulations. Chairman Tatro called to order at 8:15 p.m. a public hearing on several traffic regulations reading the notice provided. Public comment was invited on establishment of a 30 mph speed limit on Hackler Drive, Talbot Hill Road, Stonefield Lane, Cross Street and Davis Ave. No comments were received. Public comment was invited on a traffic regulation proposed to designate the east side of North Grove Street a no parking zone. Resident Gail Wood spoke in favor of the proposal describing the road as too narrow for on street parking. She also expressed concern that on street parking block line of sight as she left her driveway. Illegal on street parking and its impacts on snow removal operations were discussed. Chairman Tatro closed the public hearing at 8:25 p.m.

Selectmen voted to adopt a traffic regulation establishing a speed limit of 30 miles per hour for Hackler Drive, Talbot Hill Road, Stonefield Lane, Davis Ave and Cross Street – Attachment #4.

Selectmen voted to adopt a traffic regulation designating the east side of North Grove Street as a no parking zone – Attachment #5.

Deputy Tax Collector. Selectmen approved the appointment of Town Clerk Lori Belletete as a deputy tax collector.

Consent Agenda. Selectmen reviewed and approved the following consent agenda items:

- Authorized the town's participation in Household Hazardous Clean Up Days with Keene as recommended by Solid Waste Manager Dave Krisch designating Chairman Tatro as authorized to execute letter of commitment for the 2011-2012 series.
- Approved Veterans Tax Credits, Tax Map 73 Lot 22-550, 15/37 & 58/51, Service Connected Disability, Tax Map 58 Lot 16, Elderly Exemptions Tax Map 87 Lot 2-5028, 2-5047 & 2-5103, and 57/66.
- Denied Veterans Tax Credit for Tax Map 19/26 and Elderly Exemptions for Tax Map 27/1, 18/201 and 52/2.

Approval of Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting of April 5, 2011. Selectmen approved as written the minutes of their meeting of April 5, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

Elizabeth A. Fox
Town Administrator