

Selectmen's Meeting – August 15, 2007

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

Chairman Tatro called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Financial Matters. Selectmen reviewed and approved accounts payable and payroll manifests.

Town Treasurer. Selectmen met with Town Treasurer Bill Hutwelker discussing current investment policy and current investments of the town. Selectmen voted to re-adopt the town's investment policy – Attachment #1. A recent change in state law allowing consideration of appointment of a town treasurer by communities was discussed. Selectmen will consider whether to present that option to voters at the next annual meeting. How to encourage community involvement in town affairs and activities was also discussed.

Department of Public Works. Selectmen met with DPW Director Lee Dunham reviewing department matters.

Paving & Reclamation Bids. Dunham reviewed with board members the results of the bid opening conducted at Town Hall on Monday, August 13th. Three vendors participated in pre-bid and 2 bids were received. Pike's total bid was \$187,857.75 and Warner Brothers submitted a bid of \$ 165,216.50. Details of the bid submissions were reviewed. Funding for the scope of work included in the bid documents was discussed with Dunham recommending that \$100,000 of the work proposed be funded from the road reclamation/reconstruction/rehabilitation expendable trust and \$65,000 through the department operating budget – asphalt line item. Dunham recommended awarding the contract to Warner Brothers without the maintenance of traffic item. Selectmen voted unanimously to accept the bid of Warner Brothers (without the maintenance of traffic item of \$1,000) at a price of \$164,216.50 with funding sources for the work authorized as recommended by the DPW Director.

Roundabout at Routes 10/101 and Winchester Street. Representative Lerandeau discussed with members the positive comments to date about the newly opened roundabout recommending the town provide feedback of its impressions of the project to NHDOT.

FEMA Funding, Carlton Road Extension and its Repair. Dunham advised that engineering for the project was underway and that it was expected that borings would be done early next week.

Pending Projects. Fox queried regarding the time line for repair of the Lower Wilson Pond Dam gate and whether notice to property owners would be necessary. Also timetable for closure of Page Court was discussed.

Cresson Bridge. Dunham reported that this project is proceeding on schedule and should be complete by week's end.

Drainage – Hackler Drive. Selectman Tatro queried about a concern expressed by Larry Waters about drainage running off Hackler Drive on to his property and whether anything could be done to improve/reduce water running through Larry and Martha

Waters's property. Dunham reviewed some of the drainage history of the area and the drainage "systems" installed as part of the area developments. Whether re-routing the water so it remained on the west side of Hackler Drive and moved southerly toward the cemetery was discussed. Dunham will investigate the feasibility and price out the cost of modifying the drainage.

Kendall Lane. Status of the subdivision road was discussed with Fox advising that the deed conveying the right of way from the project developers to the town had been received. Whether road construction is satisfactory was discussed with DPW Director Dunham advising that he was awaiting a final written report from Underwood Engineers confirming that construction of the road was in accordance with the project's plans.

Citizen Concerns - Cresson Bridge. Sawyers Crossing Road resident Roger Conway expressed his frustration regarding expenditure of tax dollars to repair the Cresson Bridge for no reason. Town forces are currently replacing portions of the deck on this bridge worn by traffic since is re-opening after rehabilitation in 1995. Conway attributes deck wear to the lack of a stop sign on the east side of the bridge and impact of traffic hitting the bridge deck as it moves on to it. He requested Selectmen ask NHDOT for permission to place an additional stop sign on the east side of the bridge. Selectmen requested staff draft a letter to NHDOT requesting consideration of the additional signage. Support of the police chief should be sought. Selectmen also advised they would keep Mr. Conway informed of what feedback was received from the State.

Public Hearing – RSA 31:95-b, FEMA Funding and Repair of Carlton Road Extension damaged by Flooding in April 2007. Chairman Tatro called the public hearing to order at 7:38 p.m. Dunham reviewed the project area and anticipated scope of work. Initial FEMA estimates for repairing the road indicate that work required will exceed FEMA's small project threshold of \$59,700. Current FEMA estimates place the cost of repair (if it can be accomplished through installation of sheet pile) at up to \$200,000. Engineering to determine exact repair method is currently underway. Under FEMA's large project repair program, FEMA will reimburse 75% of the actual project cost plus a small administrative allowance. Under the disaster declaration the state will fund an additional 12.5% and the town will be responsible for funding the balance (approximate \$25,000 if total project costs are \$200,000). Funding for the town portion will be either through the operating budget or the expendable trust for road rehabilitation. With no further testimony offered, Chairman Tatro closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m. Selectmen voted, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b, to accept and expend funds from FEMA and other sources for repair of damage caused to the Carlton Road Extension by flooding in April of 2007 with project costs anticipated to exceed FEMA's small project threshold of \$59,700.

Fire Department. Selectmen met with Fire Chief Bob Symonds and Captain David Page who reviewed research and proposals collected to date by the department's truck committee. Department need and station limitations were considered by the committee in its evaluation and a pro/con list of three trucks specified for the committee has been developed – Attachment #2. Proposed is rotation of the 1987 Pierce at the East Station to second line status and purchase of a new first line engine. The 1976 Mac, serving as the station's second line apparatus currently, could be re-assigned to another station or sold.

Funds available in capital reserve and payment options related to purchase of a new truck were discussed. Equipment options for the new truck, related to ladders and port-a-tanks were discussed at length with Selectmen requesting several modifications be considered and priced. Chief Symonds advised that the department's next priority in the truck replacement schedule would be a tanker at an estimated cost of \$175,000. Chief Symonds provided Selectmen with a list of SOGs to be developed for the department and a timetable was established for their presentation to Selectmen – Attachment #3. Symonds also provided Selectmen with a stipend proposal. Selectmen deferred consideration until a future meeting. Symonds also advised that regular monthly officers meetings had been scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Non-public session, RSA 91-A:3IIb – Fire Department. Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to go into non-public session at 8:40 p.m. Selectmen came out of non-public session at 8:45 p.m. voting by roll call to seal the minutes of the session. Present for the session were Town Administrator Beth Fox and Fire Chief Bob Symonds.

Consideration of Minutes of Previous Meetings. Selectmen reviewed and approved the minutes of their meeting of July 25, 2007 as written and the minutes of their meeting of August 1, 2007 with a spelling correction on page 2 – deemed.

National Save for Retirement Week. Selectmen adopted a resolution supporting the town's participation in the 2007 National Save for Retirement Week October 22nd to 28th – Attachment #4.

Correspondence, Permits and other matters. Selectmen reviewed and approved the following:

- Veterans Tax Credits, Tax Map 87 Lot 2-5086, 86/7-1, 26/9, 26/21, 25/4-5, 12/4-39, 14/12, 19/2, 18/126 & 88/1-10.
- Raffle Permit #2007-14.
- Event Permit #2007-11.
- Event Permit #2007-12.
- East Swanzey Fire Pond was discussed with Selectman Tatro querying if it was scheduled to be cleaned out.

Submitted by,

Elizabeth A. Fox
Town Administrator