

Selectmen's Meeting - March 21, 2007

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

Selectman Tatro administered the oath of office to Selectman Carlson and Selectman Davis.

Town Administrator Fox called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Election of Officers. Pursuant to the board's rules of procedure the following board officers were elected:

Chairman: Bruce L. Tatro

Vice-chairman: Nancy L. Carlson

Secretary: Deborah J. Davis

Planning Board Selectmen's Representative: To rotate with each member serving 1/3 of the year - Carlson, Tatro then Davis.

Open Space Committee: Nancy L. Carlson

Selectman Tatro assumed the role of meeting chair.

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

Monadnock Regional School Board. Selectman Carlson reported on discussions at the previous evening's school board meeting.

Monadnock Regional School District Budget Committee. A memo directed to Selectmen by Neil Moriarty of the District Budget Committee was reviewed. State law regarding authority to appoint replacement members, RSA 671:33, designating the budget committee as appointing authority were reviewed. Rules of Procedure adopted by the budget committee have been requested. In the interim Selectmen requested that the vacancy be posted and nominations solicited. They discussed some of the qualities they would like to seek in a budget committee member representing the town.

Fire Department. Selectmen met with retired City of Keene Fire Chief Brad Payne who reviewed with members the qualities, training and experience which he felt were important to seek in a fire chief. He also reviewed some of the challenges faced in the fire service today. He recommended that selectmen focus on seeking a leader who was interested in building a team, was a good communicator and did not seek to advance a personal agenda. Communications with a large group of volunteers is a particular challenge for a chief. Need to keep efforts to train personnel moving forward during this transition is also important. Selectmen should seek help if they need it and consider as a resource that NH Fire Standards and Training. Need to continue to move forward to complete department position descriptions was also discussed.

Department of Public Works Vehicles and Equipment. Selectmen met with DPW Director Lee Dunham who reported continued mechanical problems with the sidewalk tractor “O” rings when running the snow blower. In addition, Truck #4 blew a hose resulting in damage to its tandem drive hydraulic value pump which now only works on one side of the pump. Cost of a new pump is \$1600. Investigation of whether it is cost effective to repair the damaged pump is underway as 2 other trucks use this same type of pump. Selectmen authorized purchase of the new pump so the truck could be put back in service.

West Street Bridge. Dunham advised he had contact with project engineers and that the contractor was expected to be returning to repair the “seal” and install the curbing required. Once that is complete, the guardrail subcontractor can do work needed and final paving can be placed.

Subdivision Road Specifications. Dunham advised work on this project requested by Selectmen is still underway.

DPW Recruitment. Dunham advised he hoped to work on job descriptions for the vacant full time position shared between streets and highways and cemetery, parks and facility maintenance and the temporary full time summer positions within cemetery, parks, facility and grounds maintenance before he left for vacation. Recruitment efforts would be launched in April.

Water Precinct pick up truck. Dunham requested Selectmen give some consideration to acquiring the pick up used by the water precinct scheduled for replacement by Commissioners. Consideration should be given to whether it has utility as a tool vehicle for cemetery, parks, grounds and facility maintenance.

Open Space Committee. Selectmen discussed an application received from T. DiLuzio expressing interest in serving on the committee requesting that she be scheduled to meet with the board.

Light Bar on 27E1. Selectmen reviewed quotes received for strobe and LED light bars approving purchase of a strobe light bar at a quoted cost of \$1,365.70.

Rescue Truck 43R1. Selectmen were advised that the truck had been taken to Valley Fire Equipment at the direction of the town’s insurer for evaluation of the damage caused in the March 16th accident on Swanzey Lake Road.

West Engine 43E2. Selectmen were advised that the truck was expected to be put back in service today.

Turn out coat. Selectmen approved purchase of a new turn out coat for Karasinski at a cost of \$1,006.

Past Due Property Taxes eligible for Deeding. Selectmen authorized extending the deadline for payment of taxes to avoid execution of a tax deed on property owned by Peter Cole until April 20th.

Carpenter Home. Correspondence dated 3/20/2007 from NHDHHS in follow up to recent inspections by state personnel was shared with the board. No deficiencies were identified by NHDHHS.

Honey Hill Trail Eagle Scout Project – James Toye. Selectmen endorsed the project developed by James Toye working with property owner Bruce and Victoria Barlow advising they would execute a letter of support provided Mr. Toye reported the results of his efforts to the board at the project's conclusion.

Indemnification. Selectmen voted unanimously to adopt the provisions of RSA 31:104, 31:105, 31:106 and 508:12-b indemnifying and holding harmless town officials.

Non-public session – RSA 91-A:3IIb, Recruitment. Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to go into non-public session at 9:10 p.m. Selectmen came out of non-public session at 9:45 p.m. voting by roll call to seal the minutes of the session indefinitely.

Non-public session – RSA 91-A:3IIa, Employee Compensation. Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to go into non-public session at 9:47 p.m. Selectmen came out of non-public session at 10:00 p.m. Selectmen approved pay rate adjustments for several town employees.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting. Selectmen reviewed and approved as written the minutes of their meeting of March 14, 2007.

Correspondence, Permits and Other Matters. Selectmen reviewed and approved the following:

- Event Permit #2007-01, 2007-03 and 2007-4.
- Correspondence to Iona Faulkner regarding exemptions.
- Pole Licenses for Massey Hill Road and South Winchester Street.
- Statement of Appropriations, MS-2, Attachment #1.
- Open Containing Permit, Brown Memorial Field Committee.
- Confirmation of Nomination, Gary Davis – Swanzey Revenue Development District Advisory Board.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Submitted by,

Elizabeth A. Fox
Town Administrator