

Selectmen's Meeting – November 15, 2006

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

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Cheshire County. County Commissioner Robert Moore met with Selectmen thanking them for the support his campaign received from residents. Discussion center on the need for a new county jail and the financial impacts on Swanzey if sited on scarce commercial/industrial land. Selectmen requested a letter be prepared to members of the delegation accompanied by an illustration of the town's tax base.

IRS Mileage Rates. Selectman Carlson advised that the IRS rate for 2007 had been set at 48.5 cents. Town policy tracks the federally set rate.

Abatement 2005. Selectmen met with property owner Timothy Cloutier who expressed displeasure that his 2005 abatement application was not approved. He advised that he felt his property was assessed much higher than others on the street and doesn't feel that its assessment should reflect its commercial use unless other properties on the street are also assessed commercially. Currently, other parcels on the road are approved for residential use only (even though zoned business). He also felt that his assessment should be adjusted to reflect wetlands on the property estimated at 1/4th to 1/3rd of an acre. Selectmen advised Mr. Cloutier to file a new abatement application as the 2005 application had lapsed. RSA 75:11 was discussed with it being determined that research was necessary to respond to his query related to the statute. Mr. Cloutier expressed his opinion that the town should act on his 2005 application.

Fire Department. Selectmen met with Fire Chief Sly Karasinski reviewing department budget requests for 2007. Proposed budget amendments to conform to NFPA and current stipends paid members were reviewed. Capital planning for the department was discussed. Variances in the ambulance proposal from 1998 were reviewed with Selectmen concurring that the majority of the changes proposed were acceptable to the board. Input from Town Counsel was still pending so action on the proposal was deferred.

Department of Public Works. Selectmen discussed correspondence from Attorney Bentley regarding Owens Drive and requesting acceptance by the Town. Selectmen advised staff to schedule a hearing to accept testimony regarding acceptance of the road. A hearing on C.L. Lane and Woodland Heights Drive (Phase IIb) will also be scheduled.

Cemetery & Parks Maintenance Garage. Selectmen authorized expenditure of \$5,523.25 for roofing and wall materials for the garage under construction as recommended by DPW Director Dunham. Purchases that will be required to complete the facility include windows, doors and wiring. Funding source for the roofing and wall materials was designated by Selectmen as the DPW Facility Improvements Expendable Trust.

Public Health Emergency & Pandemic Planning Grant. Selectmen approved funding of stipends from the grant to be paid to personnel involved in the planning effort. Selectmen authorized stipend payment for up to 40 hours of additional effort to EMD Bohannon between now and year end.

PEG Access. Selectmen approved locating the point of origin for PEG access in the gym at MRHS.

Rondeau Property. Selectmen reviewed correspondence from Attorney Watson and a survey map of the property authorizing its assessment as 3 parcels and advising staff to amend records necessary to do so.

SWRPC Roadway Inventory. Selectmen designated Lee Dunham to complete the requested roadway inventory and report back to the board for final approval.

Carpenter Home Septic System. Concern about odor has again been received. Staff advised they were querying whether CDBG funds might be available for the leach field replacement. Pricing for the system if constructed by town personnel with supervision of a licensed installer needs to be developed as well.

Swanzy Revenue Development District. Selectmen voted to appoint Gary Davis as Cheshire Fair Representative to the advisory board. Mr. Silk is no longer associated with the fair organization.

General Government. Budget numbers developed to date for general government were reviewed with board members.

Monadnock Regional School District. Selectmen approved a payment schedule for the district running from January 2007 to June 2007 – Attachment #1.

Holidays 2007. Holiday schedules for personnel – Attachment #2 & #3 were approved by the Board.

State Aid Sewage Treatment Grant 2007. Selectmen voted to authorize Sewer Commission Chair Glenn Page to act on behalf of the town relative to the anticipated 2007 grant payment for 2007 related to the west facility.

Added Property Taxes. Selectmen approved warrant #2006-003 for added taxes in the amount of \$3,901.

Inventory Penalty. Selectmen executed correspondence to M. Swazey regarding an inventory penalty assessed for 2006 and filing of the annual form.

Cruiser Accident Deductible. Selectmen approved posting of the \$500 deductible associated with the Cruiser accident in January to the Police Operating budget.

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting of November 8, 2006. Selectmen approved as written the minutes of their meeting of November 8th as written.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Submitted by,

Elizabeth A. Fox
Town Administrator