

Selectmen's Meeting – October 14, 2009

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

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Bid Results – Thompson Covered Bridge Scour Protection and Fire Sprinkler System. Bid results for the project were provided to the board. Assessment of how to proceed with the project, bid jointly with the dam removal, is currently underway as the bid results are higher than expected.

Warmac Road Bridge. Following receipt of a critical deficiency report from NHDOT on 10/8/2009, this bridge was closed to traffic on 10/9 by the DPW. Emergency services have been notified and through use of the CODERED system approximately 1,800 households were advised of the closure. DPW Director Dunham will be contacting state bridge inspectors to assess whether any short term fixes could be implemented allowing the bridge to re-open and will report when that assessment is complete. Construction funding is available for replacement of this bridge in July 2011 through the state's municipal bridge aid program.

Monadnock Conservancy. Selectmen met with Ryan Owen, Executive Director of the Monadnock Conservancy, who sought the board's support for an LCHIP grant application seeking funding in support of acquisition of a conservation easement on Tippin' Rock Farm. Selectmen expressed their support for the grant application noting that if successful, it is likely financial participation by the town will be requested. Selectmen voted to authorize the Chair to execute on behalf of the board the portion of the application indicating community support.

Non-public session, RSA 91-A:3IIa – Town Hall. Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to go into non-public session at 6:35 p.m. pursuant to RSA 91-A:3IIa. Present for the session were Town Clerk Lori Belletete and Tax Collector Ruth Snyder. Selectmen came out of non-public session at 7 p.m. voting by roll call to seal the minutes of the session until resolved.

Police Department. Selectmen met with Chief Busick reviewing several department matters. Staffing of the patrol function, with 2 patrol positions not currently available to fill shifts, was discussed. Patrol personnel shortages reduce the ability of remaining employees to utilize leave. After discussion, Selectmen authorized amendment to Section 20.2 of the town's personnel policy for calendar year 2009 to allow conversion of up to 40 hours of unused paid time off in accordance with the remaining provisions of the policy. In addition, Selectmen reviewed with Chief Busick information developed regarding sworn personnel pay scales and recommended adjustments. Costs for recruiting and training new personnel were reviewed. After discussion, Selectmen voted to approve adjustments outlined to the sworn personnel wage scale effective November 1, 2009. In addition, to assist in funding the adjustments, Selectmen approved Busick's plan to restructure the department eliminating the part time detective's position effective 12/31/2009.

Wellness Committee Grant Application. Selectmen re-iterated their support for the committee's grant application which provides for renovation of space at the Carpenter Home to support wellness activities. It was noted that if approved, some funding support by the town will be needed to accomplish its scope of work.

WS Renovations to accommodate Ladder Truck. Selectmen were advised that the shorelands and related permit application for this project have been submitted to the state. Selectmen discussed the need to authorize a budget for the project and approve it to move forward once the permits or approvals necessary are received. After discussion, Selectmen voted to authorize the implementation of the West Station addition project upon receipt of approval from NHDES (if required) establishing a project budget of \$12,722 (with town forces and volunteer forces and donated materials excluded). Funding source designated by the board for this project is the expendable trust for fire stations.

Property acquired by Tax Deed – 140 Warmac Road. Selectmen reviewed an offer received for the property. How to proceed to sell this property acquired last spring by collector's deed was discussed. Selectmen decided to schedule sale of the property in the spring of 2010 requesting staff advise the party submitting the offer.

Health Officer Recruitment. Selectmen authorized proceeding to investigate recruiting with Fitzwilliam to fill this position.

Town Hall phone system. Selectmen authorized expenditure of up to \$1,450 to improve the phone system to improve its ability to handle incoming calls.

Fire Department Purchase Orders. Selectmen approved the following expenditures:

- \$3,199.30 for repairs to Scott Airpaks to be funded from a new line item to be established entitled equipment repair. Selectmen also authorized transfer of \$1,880 from the FD recruitment line and \$1,320 from training to fund the new line item established.
- \$3,116 for 8 pagers/chargers to be funded from the expendable trust account for emergency communications equipment.
- \$1,347.45 for hose nozzles to be funded from department's tools and equipment line item.
- \$1,464 for the purchase of ventilation saw to be funded from the department's tools and equipment line item.

Consent Agenda. Selectmen approved the following consent agenda items:

- Raffle Permit #2009-27,
- Event Permit #2009-18.

Non-public session – RSA 91-A:3IIa, Employee evaluation. Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to go into non-public session at 9:15 p.m. pursuant to RSA 91-A:3IIa. Present was Town Administrator Beth Fox. Selectmen came out of non-public session at 9:30 p.m. voting by roll call to seal the minutes of the session indefinitely.

Approval of Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting of 10/7/2009. Selectmen reviewed and approved as written the minutes of their meeting of 10/7/2009.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Submitted by,

Elizabeth A. Fox
Town Administrator