

Selectmen's Meeting – January 17, 2012

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

Chairman Tatro called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m.

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

Citizen Concerns. Representative Lerandeau reported to members on a tour of the culvert resurfacing project underway by NHDOT on Swanzey Factory Road and advised that once work was complete at this site that the State's bridge crew would be moving to a bridge project on Route 32.

Public Hearings

Community Development Block Grant Application – Swanzey's portion of funds required to upgrade and improve the Keene Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. Chairman Tatro called the first of three public hearings to order at 6:30 p.m. reading the notice provided and reporting on the posting and publication of the notice in the Keene Sentinel on December 24, 2011. It was noted that informational packets were available for the public attending. Tatro reviewed with those attending information on the community development block grant program and application detailed below.

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 \$300,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds for the Wastewater System. Up to \$25,000 will be retained for administrative costs, the remainder of the funds would help cover the costs of Swanzey's share of the capital improvements of the regional Wastewater Treatment Facility which is owned and operated by the City of Keene. Swanzey's wastewater is sent to Keene for treatment. The majority of the residents on the system are of low and moderate income.

Funding request: up to \$300,000

Tatro asked for public comment regarding the proposed application. Sewer Commissioners were also in attendance to address questions.

Being no public comment on the proposed application, Chairman Tatro closed the public hearing at 6:34 p.m.

Selectman Tatro opened the second public hearing at 6:35 p.m. on the updated Housing and Community Development Plan.

The plan was discussed and it was noted that the 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.

Tatro asked for public comment regarding the updated plan. No comments were received.

Chairman Tatro closed the public hearing at 6:36 p.m.

Chairman Tatro opened the third public hearing at 6:37 p.m. to accept public testimony and comment on the proposed Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan. It was noted that although this project does not involve any displacement or relocation of persons or Businesses, 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.

Tatro asked for public comment. No comments were received.

Chairman Tatro closed the public hearing at 6:38 p.m.

Selectmen voted unanimously to adopt the Housing and Community Development Plan – Attachment #1

Selectmen voted unanimously to adopt the Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan – Attachment #2.

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

Budget 2012. Selectmen voted to recommended the proposed operating budget, special and individual warrant articles as presented at the public hearing on January 12, 2012. Selectmen advised they would not be including in the warrant recommendations on the petition warrant articles submitted reserving decision regarding whether a fiscal note would be included. Guidance from town counsel regarding the portions of text to include in the warrant was reviewed with members.

Use of Town Owned Vehicles. Selectmen reviewed updates to the policy requesting final review be scheduled with changes proposed accepted.

Land Use Change Tax Penalty - .17 acres McClure to McIver (rear land). Selectmen determined that the market value of the property conveyed was \$500. Paperwork necessary to invoice the penalty will be prepared for the next meeting.

SRO MRSD Warrant Article. Fox advised members she had heard but not been able to confirm that the SRO warrant article was going to the deliberative session recommended by the school board but not recommended by the budget committee.

Non-public session – RSA 91-A:3IIa. Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to go into non-public session at 7:40 p.m. Selectmen came out of non-public session at 8:10 p.m. voting by roll call to seal the minutes of the session indefinitely.

DPW Loader Repair. Selectmen reviewed an email from Dunham advising that repair estimated at \$2,500 was required to the loader.

Purchase of Electricity. Selectmen were advised of the renewal rate offered of .62707 by Constellation purchasing through the Peterborough Load Aggregation for June 2012 to June 2013. Selectmen approved and authorized Fox to execute documents necessary to secure the offered rate.

Consent Agenda. Selectmen voted to approve the following items and subsequent actions:

- Authorize Chairman Tatro to execute, on behalf of the board, the agreement required to retain for bond counsel for the proposed wastewater debt service.
- Authorize Chairman Tatro to sign off, on behalf of the board, paperwork designating from the perspective of NHDOT reimbursable invoices and expenses the Ashuelot Rail Trail project.

Consideration of Minutes of Prior Meetings. Selectmen reviewed and approved the minutes of their meetings of January 3 and 12 with some typographic corrections.

Other matters. Selectman Tatro reported to board members on a follow up call he'd received from a gentleman connected with the Amazing Grace and Beyond the Horizon vehicle registrations which the board had declined to refund.

Nominations. Selectmen voted to appoint Richard Dell'Erba to a vacant alternate position on the Conservation Commission term expiring Town Meeting 2013.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Elizabeth A. Fox
Town Administrator