

Selectmen's Meeting – February 14, 2012

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

Chairman Tatro called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Town Meeting 2012. Moderator Gus Lerandeau gave a report on an informational meeting focused on election procedures and the Accuvote system conducted by Deputy Secretary of State David Scanlan in Richmond on February 13th.

Cobble Hill Road Bridge Project. Notice was received yesterday that NHDOT has approved the preliminary plans for this bridge replacement. The wetlands permit application for this project will be submitted this week too. At this point, engineers anticipate bidding this project and Warmac Road Bridge end of March/early April with construction anticipated beginning in early July. Easement acquisitions for these 2 bridge projects still need to be completed and may impact their schedule.

Rail Trail Improvement Projects. With funding opportunities through the trails bureau discontinued this year, Selectmen were updated on efforts to put together a project that funds work south of Sawyers Crossing Road with private grant dollars.

Heart Safe Community. Recognition of the town as a Heart Safe Community scheduled for Friday, 2/17 was discussed with Selectman Carlson and Fox indicating they would plan to attend with fire department representatives.

DPW Loader Replacement. Selectmen reviewed information compiled by DPW Director Dunham comparing loader options and costs – Attachment #1. Specifications and options were discussed at length with Dunham recommending accepting Nortrax's proposal for purchase of a used 2011 John Deere 524K Loader as detailed in Nortrax quote dated 1/25/2012 with the addition of a 2.75 G-P bucket with a total cost after trade of the town's 1996 machine of \$98,500 – Attachment #2. It was noted that the purchase price includes a 4000 hour/84 month full machine warranty. Selectmen voted, subject to satisfactory final inspection of the machine by DPW Director Dunham, to authorize purchase of the used 2011 John Deere 524K Loader trading in the 1996 machine now owned by the town with the \$98,500 of funding necessary for the purchase to be withdrawn from the Capital Reserve Fund for Highway and Cemetery Equipment.

Carpenter Home Renovations. In follow up to previous discussions about the renovation project to construct an additional resident room, Dunham reviewed with Selectmen a cost and time estimate received from a contractor for the work (excluding subs) of approximately \$14,000 with a 4 to 5 week project schedule. Department activity and the potential weather dependent availability of additional personnel were discussed. Selectmen authorized proceeding with the project designating as funding source for required materials and sub-contractors (estimated at under \$9,000) the non-expendable trust account income available to support the home. Selectmen requested that personnel hours of the project be tracked emphasizing the need to get the project done in an expeditious manner minimizing disruption at the home.

Upper Wilson Pond Dam Survey & Feedback from Town Counsel. Selectmen reviewed correspondence from Town Counsel – Attachment #3 - responding to the concern related to dike ownership at the Upper Wilson Pond Dam. It was noted counsel raised question regarding title of the diversion dam and canal and that correspondence from NHDES reported by Dunham advising

that others owned it had been requested. A copy of town counsel's correspondence will be filed with deed records in the Clerk's Office and in the dam and adjacent parcel's master property files.

CDBG Block Grant Application – WWTP improvements and upgrades. Selectmen were advised that Sewer Commissioners had completed the income survey and that its additional results would be reported to NH CDFA to assist in advancing the town's grant application.

Town Report 2011. Selectmen reviewed and approved the text of their annual report noting a typo in one section.

BTLA Appeals. Selectmen approved authorizing execution by Fox on behalf of the town agreements with the following taxpayers: Leristis (\$341,000), Bedaw (\$169,000), Krchuk (\$443,800), Preston (\$230,000) and Peterson (\$310,000).

Fire Department. Correspondence and information from Chief Skantze detailing repairs completed on Rescue 1 including replacement of its starter and Engine 2 (2000 Pierce) were reviewed. Repair of Rescue 2, totaling \$1,970.55, and whether it was predictable that this work would have exceeded \$1,000 was discussed. Final repair cost for Engine 2 is unknown at this point. A goal to improve advance communication regarding expenses was set.

SWNH Fire Mutual Aid. Receipt of an invoice supporting the organization's requested 2012 assessment was reported to Selectmen. Skantze had communicated to the organization release of funds would be after official ballot voting in March. Fox advised she had requested payment of the assessment be split into 2 payments for 2012 with one half being remitted in April and the second half after receipt of the July tax payments. A goal of developing a schedule calling for quarterly payments for future years was set. Whether investigation into dispatch options should be conducted was discussed. Selectmen concurred that options and modification of the governing structure of the organization should be investigated so local officials have a voice in the organization's financial decisions.

Whitcomb Hall Committee. Selectman Carlson recommended appointment of Gail Wood and Ken Sevene to the ad-hoc committee. The board concurred with her recommendation.

Consideration of Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting of January 31, 2012. Selectmen reviewed and approved the minutes of their meeting of January 31 as written.

Citizen Concerns. Selectman Davis reported that she had received a complaint regarding logging at the Sanchez property on Cobble Hill Road, investigated and found that a Notice of Intent to Cut had been filed and approved. She also advised she had received complaints about loud activity at the Short property on West Street.

Electronic Fingerprints. Members queried whether the local police department had the capacity to collect and send electronic fingerprints.

Atkinson Hill Road. Fox relayed an inquiry received about a gate at the end of the Class V portion of Atkinson Hill Road and whether property owners could install non-locking gates on Class VI roads. She advised she would look into the statute and advise the board and the concerned resident of her findings.

Economic Development Advisory Committee Nominee. Selectmen reviewed a nomination received requesting that the candidate be scheduled for a meeting with the board.

Upcoming Staff Training. Fox requested board approval to close Town Hall offices for part of the day on February 21 to allow staff to attend a training session. Selectmen authorized the closure.

Part time Recording Secretary. Need for a part time employee to assist in minute taking was reviewed with Selectmen authorizing initiation of a recruitment effort.

Consent Agenda. Selectmen approved the following consent agenda items:

- Acceptance and expenditure, pursuant to RSA 31:95-5 of donations in memory of Roger Conway to benefit the Carpenter Home from Warren Martin (\$150), Wesley Martin & Karen Piret (\$50) and Fox (\$50).
- Raffle Permits #2012-02 & O4.
- Event Permits #2012-02 & 03.
- Intent to Cut, Tax Map 90 Lot 1.
- Appointment Papers – James J. Fisher, Jr. to the position of full time police officer (probationary status).

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by,

Elizabeth A. Fox
Town Administrator