

Selectmen's Meeting – June 14, 2011

Present were Selectmen Deborah J. Davis and Nancy L. Carlson. Chairman Bruce L. Tatro was absent.

Vice-chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

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

School Resource Officer. In response to an invitation extended to Swanzey School Board representatives, Selectmen, Chief Busick, School board members Eric Stanley, Bruce Barlow and William Felton reviewed the content of discussions a few weeks ago between Selectmen and School Board Chairman Thackston. Selectmen wanted to ensure that it was clear that Selectmen had advised the town had offered to continue the existing program which assigns an officer who serves as a member of the school's staff for no more than \$74,000 for the 2011/2012 school year. If that proposal was agreeable to district officials, the draft MOU would be amended to include that provision. In response to district concerns expressed during the budget review process the proposed MOU had been drafted and included specific details regarding program costs and allocations in an effort to ensure transparency. Concern that discussion around the program was no longer about its merits (as most comments have been supportive expressing desire to maintain the program and school administrators have testified their desires to see the SRO program remain in place). Busick reviewed the tenants of the SRO program and its roles which include law enforcement, teaching, counseling and mentoring. The service provided by the program to students which might be on the edge keeping them in school and engaged in their education was discussed. Provision of a part time program and concerns that some of its effectiveness might be lost were expressed by Busick. Stanley indicated support for the program and the town's funding request of no more that \$74,000 expressing a desire to ensure that the new principal had all the tools he needed to be successful in his first year. Barlow also supported the program and town's proposal. Felton indicated that he viewed the position as support staff and his priority was to retain teachers providing a memo entitled Staff line positions in Organization Downsizing to Selectmen. Whether the SRO was a staff support position or one whose focus is serving students was discussed. Lessons from this year's budget process and a recommendation that the town's participate more in the district's political process (deliberative session and school board meetings) in support of the program in future years was voiced.

Non-public session – RSA 91-A:3IIa, Personnel. Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3IIa at 7:25 p.m. Selectmen came out of non-public session at 7:50 p.m. voting by roll call to seal the minutes of the session indefinitely.

ICS Training. Information on training recommended for Selectmen provided by EMD Bohannon was distributed to members.

Ashuelot Rail Trail Project. The preconstruction meeting for this project has been conducted and Notice to Commence Work had been issued by Project Manager Bruce Bohannon. Work in the field is anticipated to begin on June 20th. A copy of the project's construction schedule was provided to board members.

Richardson Park. An email received by Selectmen expressing concerns about some kinds of behavior at the beach was discussed with staff advising that it had been shared with the Recreation Committee chair and Chief Busick to initiate discussion on remediation measures.

Selectmen were advised that an employee at the park had been involved in an altercation resulting in injury which was under investigation.

USPS & Swanzey Mail Routes. Selectman Carlson reported on the conference call conducted with representatives of the USPS and Senator Shaheen's office advising that the postal service was not going to defer moving the routes out of Swanzey. Disappointment in the organization's decision making process and continued concern about the impact on service to our community was expressed.

Cruiser #4. Selectmen were advised that the adjuster's report had been received and that repair of the car damaged May 30th was underway.

Town Line Perambulation – Swanzey & Chesterfield. Selectmen reviewed the perambulation report filed by their designee John Bridges and Chesterfield's representative praising them for the detail record provided and their efforts assisting with the statutory process.

Carpenter Home. Selectmen approved establishing a room and board rate of \$3,000 for the very small private room in the cape portion of the building.

FD Payroll. Selectmen reviewed Skantze's submission of April call & training payroll approving and authorizing its processing in the next pay period. Selectmen advised detail regarding manpower per call and call type as well as detail regarding payroll attributable to fire and EMS training was required from Chief Skantze to augment the aggregate payroll data included with this submission.

Recycling Center Invoice for Repair of Glass Crusher. Selectmen approved payment of an invoice of \$2,976.65 for repairs to the town's glass crusher to be funded by the department operating budget.

RSA 31:95-b Carpenter Home donation in memory of Robert A. Beauregard. Selectmen accepted pursuant to RSA 31:95-b a donation of \$15 in memory of Mr. Beauregard from Harold & Scott Larro.

Expenditure Report – May 2011. The May report was distributed to members.

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting of June 7, 2011. Selectmen approved the minutes of their meeting on June 7 as written.

RFP for Engineering Services – Upper & Lower Wilson Pond Dams. Selectmen met with DPW Director Lee Dunham who reported on the proposal evaluation team's interview process and recommendation. Selectmen endorsed the recommendation of the evaluation team voting to authorize staff entering into negotiations with Dubois & King for a fee for service agreement.

DPW 6 wheeled dump truck cab & chassis purchase. Dunham advised he was still working on developing information regarding this purchase in response to the board's questions and Selectmen Carlson and Davis advised it would be more prudent to discuss it when Selectman Tatro was present so consideration was deferred.

Consent Agenda. Selectmen approved the following consent agenda items:

- Request for capital reserve withdrawals of \$211.09 (Recreational Facilities Improvements – Ashuelot Rail Trail Project) and \$10,434.68 (Town Bridges not covered – Warmac Road Bridge & Cobble Hill Road Bridge Projects).
- Request for expendable trust withdrawal of \$28,583 from the FD Tools & Equipment fund for SCBA air packs purchased in December 2010.
- Request for Carpenter Home non-expendable trust withdrawal of \$38,028.41 for expenses associated with the roof upgrade at the home completed during the winter of 2010/2011.
- Event Permit #2011-11 voting to waive the event permit fee.
- Event Permit #2011-10 voting to waive the event permit fee.
- Correspondence directed to Senator Shaheen, Senator Ayotte and Congressman Bass requesting support of NHDOT's National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation Application aimed at providing scour countermeasures for the Cresson Covered Bridge.
- Letter of congratulations for 40 years of service to communities in the Southwest Region directed to SWRPC Executive Director Tim Murphy.
- Request to NHDRA for PA-28 forms for Tax Year 2012.

Fire Department. Selectman Davis advised that she had been told one of the town's trucks had been damaged in an accident the previous week. Additional information will be requested from Chief Skantze.

North Swanzey Water & Fire Precinct Commissioners. Selectmen considered their schedules deciding they could be available to meet with the commissioners on Monday, June 27th at 9 a.m.

Camp Squanto Dining Hall Certificate of Occupancy. Fox advised discussion of this matter could be deferred as it was her understanding that Code Enforcement officials and the Fire Chief had resolved the concern related to its issuance and the pending elevator inspection.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by,

Elizabeth A. Fox
Town Administrator