



## Selectmen's Meeting Summary November 17, 2010

Selectman Ken Ross-Raymond, Chair	Present
Selectman Joe Laycox	Present
Selectwoman Karen Sheldon	Present
Administrative Assistant Margaret Warren	Absent
Office Assistant Kathie Downes	Present

Visitors: see attached sheet

Chairman Ross-Raymond called meeting to order at 6:30 PM and Board and Kathleen Doyle will be recording the meeting. Administrative Assistant Margaret Warren is not available for tonight's meeting as she is attending the Annual LGC Conference.

### REGULAR BUSINESS:

- Review and Approve public session of 11/3/10 meeting: Selectwoman Sheldon noted she has some changes to Selectman Laycox edits. Selectman Laycox responded he is not budging from his edits until he reviews the summary and Selectwoman's edits again. **Selectman Laycox motioned to table accepting the minutes at this time, Selectwoman Sheldon seconded. All voted in favor.** Review and Approve non-public session of 11/3/10 meeting **Selectwoman Sheldon motioned to accept; Selectman Laycox seconded. All voted in favor.**
- Review Accounts Payable & Payroll registers. Select board motioned to accept.
- Correspondence:
  - Chairman Ross-Raymond announced that the Town has received a notice from Attorney Barnes on behalf of town citizen of intent to seek compensation from Town and Police Dept for damages to his and his family's reputation.
  - Selectmen have also received letters of resignation from Chief of Police Jones and Sgt. Shapiro with their reasons set forth in the letters. Some of the Selectmen disagree with reasons and since this is a personnel issue the Board of Selectmen will not entertain any comments or questions on these issues until they have reviewed with Town Counsel.

**Harold Patten:** Understands Board is not discussing the letters tonight but asked about police coverage for the Town. Chairman Ross-Raymond noted he has been in contact with Merrimack County Sheriff and has been assured they will make every effort to respond to calls until State Police take over. Board will also begin the process of filling the vacant positions in a timely manner.

## **Departments Proposed 2011 Budget Discussion:**

**Transfer Station – Ed Sawyer, Operator** in to present proposed 2011 budget figures. Not changes in salaries or equipment rental. Total overall budget is up as GAT is up. Budget figure for 2011 is \$83,319. Chairman Ross-Raymond noted they appreciate his holding budget as much as he has.

**Highway – Bill MacDuffie, Road Agent** proposed 2011 budget total same as last year - \$244,825. Road projects down from last year by \$18,500 with figure proposed \$106,500. Projects for 2011 will be Tucker Pond end of Warner Road – removing rocks and shim; pave hill on Mountain Road and replace culverts and clean ditches on Center Road to ready road for 2012 reclaim.

Selectman Ross-Raymond asked if Warner Road project for 2010 is complete. MacDuffie indicated all except for some tree cutting. Also speed limit signs will be put up. Selectman Laycox asked how this year's budget is looking – and MacDuffie feels he will probably use most of summer maintenance and should be okay with winter maintenance. Warner Road project should run about \$15,000 under the estimate.

### **Police Budget - Postponed**

#### **Department Updates:**

**Fire Department – Rick Gilman, Chief** in with monthly update. Seven runs – 2 EMS and 5 miscellaneous.

Rick noted that he has decided to step down as Chief effective December 31, 2010 for personal reasons – and assured Board it has nothing to do with the recent resignations of the police personnel. He plans to remain an active member of the Department and will serve in any capacity the new Chief and Board deem fit.

Chairman Ross-Raymond noted that Walter Scott has indicated to him that he thought he would hear from the Chief re: status of his suspension from Fire Department since the case against him was resolved. Chief Gilman will contact him.

Chief requested a non-public session re: personnel issue at end of meeting.

**Cemetery Trustees –Pete Ballou** in on behalf of the trustees to discuss remaining expenditures for 2010 – last bill for mowing/maintenance; additional improvements and stipend for Sexton. **Selectman Laycox motioned approval for these expenditures, Selectwoman Sheldon seconded. All voted in favor.**

Trustees also looking for some information regarding perpetual care at Congregational Cemetery and he was asked to contact Bookkeeper Herbert for this.

#### **Old Business:**

- Pingree Bridge Project Update – weekly update from VHB indicate everything on schedule. New bridge should be open for traffic by Thanksgiving. (11/17 update attached to original summary). Marlana Dipre asked about the paving scheduled for tomorrow – and how that will impact travel on West Salisbury Road. Bill MacDuffie noted usually paving is done one lane at a time. Kathie will clarify with Sally Gunn in AM and get back to Mrs. Dipre.

- Committee Meeting Updates: Reminder re: Energy Committee meeting Monday and upcoming Button Up NH Workshop for the general public on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

- Selectmen signed two right of interments and resigned a current use land form.

**Public Comments:**

**Anne Breene:** Understand the need to wait on discussion of Police resignations until after Board meeting with Town Counsel. Will Board be discussing at next meeting. Chairman Ross-Raymond responded as this is a personnel issue in nature Board will follow recommendation of town counsel.

**Marlena Dipre:** Although Board is not entertaining discussion on the resignations tonight – look at how many people have come to the meeting tonight – you should listen to anything public might want to say. Chairman Ross-Raymond restated they will not entertain comments or questions tonight – however, anyone wishing may submit questions and comments in writing and Board will respond appropriately.

Ms. Dipre also presented each Selectman and AA Warren with a 91-A request re: emails.

**Kathleen Doyle:** Requested the letters be read - Chairman Ross-Raymond declined to read them but noted they are public record and requests may be made under the Right to Know statute.

**Bill MacDuffie:** Publicly thanked Rick Gillman for his work as Fire Chief. Sorry to see him step down but glad he will remain on the department.

**Other:** All business that shall legally come before the Board

**NEXT MEETING:** December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

Non-Public Session: (as necessary): At 7:25 PM Chairman Ross-Raymond motioned for non-public session under 91-A:3, II (a) - Personnel Issues. **Roll Call vote taken and all voted to go into non-public session.**

Returned to public session at 8:05 PM.

**Chairman Ross-Raymond announced motion was made and voted by the Board to seal the non-public session minutes due to personnel issues.**

**Selectman Laycox made motion to adjourn at 8:06 PM; Selectwoman Sheldon seconded. All voted in favor.**

**Meeting Summary reviewed and accepted at the December 1, 2010 Meeting.**

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Selectmen, Town of Salisbury