



## Selectmen's Meeting Summary February 1, 2012

Selectman Ken Ross-Raymond, Chair	Present
Selectwoman Karen Sheldon	Present
Selectman Pete Ballou	Present
Town Administrator Margaret Warren	Present
Administrative Assistant Kathie Downes	Present

Visitors: see sign in sheet attached with original summary on file.

Chairman Ross-Raymond called meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

- Review and Approve Minutes of last meeting
  - January 18, 2012 - **Selectman Ballou motioned to accept the meeting summary as written, Selectwoman Sheldon seconded. Vote in affirmative.**
- Review Accounts Payable & Payroll registers: **Select board motioned and voted to accept.**

### Departments:

Road Agent MacDuffie

- Monthly Update: Although there has not been much snow – have had to deal with ice using lots of sand and salt. Culverts are okay right now – but some ditches freezing.
- Letter from Central NH Regional Planning concerning possible traffic study discussed. Studies need to be on paved roads. Board and Road Agent will review and decision will be made if one is needed this year.

Conservation Commission Chair, Cheryl Bentley in to discuss a proposed Warrant Article for this year's town meeting. Proposed article reads as follows: *To see if the Town will vote to designate an increase of 25%, totaling 50%, of amounts collected from the land use change tax for deposit into the town's Conservation Fund, for the acquisition of land and costs of acquiring easements for conservation purposes.* Selectmen asked the purpose of increase. Bentley noted that many towns have 50% to 100% of land use tax (LUT) go into such funds. At present time have \$22,000 plus 25% of amount of LUT collected in 2011 (\$4,800). Commission would like to build up the fund in event a piece of land becomes available. After general discussion Board felt this was not the year to ask for this change as town revenue is already down. Also suggest more in depth study be done on the fund – and a comparison chart with other towns our size. Bentley will discuss with CC members and have a final decision by Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> of if they will wait until next year to propose this article.

Chair Bentley also shared that CC has a request from Joe Schmidl to use this fund to cover the \$7500 cost for perpetual maintenance by Five Rivers Conservation Trust on property he wants to be put in conservation land. CC is now researching if this is a legal use of this fund.

### Preparing for Budget Public Hearing (2/9/12)

- Selectmen reviewed the final proposed budget figures, the projected 2012 revenue and proposed warrant articles. These issues will be reviewed with public at the Budget Public Hearing on February 9<sup>th</sup>. The Legal Notice for Public Hearing has been posted.

### **Old Business:**

- Meeting Reminders: Budget Public Hearing – February 9, 2012 – 7 PM – Academy Hall and Education Committee meet – February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 PM – Academy Hall.
- Town Report – Status: Kathie reports she has the report about three quarters complete – just waiting for couple of department reports and budget hearing. Should be on schedule to get to printer week of February 13<sup>th</sup> - finished product by 3/1/12.
- Reminder: Declaration for Candidacy due Friday – February 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Peg Fargo – NH League of Women Voters contacted office re: Candidates night. Selectmen suggest February 29<sup>th</sup>. Kathie will contact Peg and get things started.
- Ambulance Billing – Proposal was given to Eric Perry to review. TA will schedule him to a BOS meeting for discussion.
- Alarm Maintenance: Revised quote from Mango reviewed - \$1598 year or could do one building per year or just use on as needed basis. Selectman Ross-Raymond would like Pete Mason to be scheduled in to discuss what is needed for maintenance and get a proposal.

### **New Business:**

- Cable Issue: Have had inquiry from resident on North Road about internet service. - Selectman Ross-Raymond can check with Metrocast re: feasibility of cable service in Salisbury.
- Selectman Ross-Raymond noted that at last Recycling meeting Steve Wheeler shared a report he has put together. Ross-Raymond feels this is something we might want to consider for next year's town report.

### **Public Comments:**

**Sandy Miller:** Voiced her concern over the \$50,000 increase in town budget – and fact that raises are still being recommended. Selectman Ross-Raymond clarified that the problem is that our revenue has a short fall due to monies not received from state for flood control. Selectman Ballou noted that we are never sure what we are going to get from State of revenue. Town officials try be as economical as possible – but \$3,300 in pay increases is not the problem – we need to focus on the school budget – that is a big part of our taxes.

**Rick Sheldon:** Should have figures before committing to a raise – raises also mean costs for retirement and benefits go up for full time employees.

**Selectman Ballou made motion to adjourn at 7:25 PM; Selectwoman Sheldon seconded. All voted in favor.**

Respectfully submitted:

Kathie Downes  
Administrative Assistant

**Meeting Summary reviewed and accepted at the February 15, 2012 Meeting.**

---

Selectmen, Town of Salisbury