

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2008, 5:00 p.m.

Corner Meeting House

Chairman Cormier called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.; also present were Selectman Pike, Selectman Caldwell, Town Administrator K. Jeanne Beaudin, Administrative Assistant Cary Lagace, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Cynthia DeRoy, Fire Chief Jim Davis, Donna Cilley, Police Chief Vinnie Baiocchetti, Eric Zygmunt with the Winnisquam Echo, and Ray Carbone with the Laconia Daily Sun.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Selectman Pike moved to accept the minutes of the November 3, 2008 meeting as written. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CIP Planning Board Recommendations

Town Administrator Beaudin advised the Board that the Planning Board had held a Public Hearing regarding the CIP Plan and voted to pass it as proposed to the Board of Selectmen. She noted that the Board of Selectmen already reviewed the CIP and chose not to include the Fire Truck and it is now ready to go to the Budget Committee.

Town Clerk Fees

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Cynthia DeRoy was present to request approval to adjust the rate that is charged for copies. She indicated that currently there is a charge of .25 cents per copy and she is proposing an increase to \$1.00 per copy. Additionally she is requesting that she be authorized to charge for notary services, currently it is done free of charge for anyone. She would like to charge \$1.00 per page after the first 5 pages for Belmont residents and \$1.00 per page for all pages for non-residents. She noted that a lot more people are being sent to the Town for notary services as banks are doing less of it. She also indicated that many other communities are charging similar fees. The Board expressed that they didn't have a problem with the proposed fees and asked Cynthia to present them with a printed list of the proposed fees for approval.

Stop Sign at Horne/Union Road

Town Administrator Beaudin advised the Board that due to the new design on the intersection of Union and Horne Road and the addition of a stop sign that in accordance with the Town's ordinance the Board must approve the placement of the stop sign.

Selectman Pike moved to authorize the placement of a stop sign at the newly designed intersection at Union and Horne Roads. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

State of NH Auction Proceeds

Town Administrator Beaudin wanted to acknowledge Officer Kevin Baron for the hard work he put into getting several cruisers and other equipment to the State of NH Surplus Auction. His efforts earned the Town \$5,800 for 3 cruisers and other equipment that was auctioned. He coordinated the effort by making sure the vehicles; their titles and the other equipment were delivered to the auction site.

Selectman Caldwell suggested that a letter of appreciation from the Board be sent to Officer Baron.

Fire Department Call Hire

The Board reviewed a memo from the Fire Chief requesting the approval for the hiring of Thomas Murphy Jr. to the call fire company. The reason the Board has been asked to approve the hiring of this call staff member is because he is the son of Firefighter Thomas Murphy Sr. When asked what the hiring process for call staff is Chief Davis indicated that for as long as he can remember call staff is hired by the Chief and Deputy by qualifications that have been previously set.

Selectman Caldwell moved to authorize the hiring of Thomas Murphy Jr. to the Fire Department Call Staff. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Pleasant Valley Grant Administration

Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the deadline for proposals for the grant administrator for the Pleasant Valley Project has ended and one proposal was received from Donna Kerwin Lane for \$12,300. She noted that the Town has worked with Donna in the past on several other projects.

Selectman Caldwell moved to authorize the hiring of Donna Kerwin Lane for \$12,300 as the grant administrator for the Pleasant Valley Project. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Administration Budget

Town Administrator Beaudin advised that with the Boards approval of a 10% co-pay for health insurance for non-union employees, the Personnel Administration budget has decreased from \$1,292,056 to \$1,252,513.

Selectman Caldwell moved to amend the Personnel Administration budget 4155-100 through 4155-324 to \$1,252,513. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Solid Waste Budget

Town Administrator Beaudin explained that following a meeting at the Concord Regional Co-Op the rate for 2009 was set at \$45.90 per ton requiring an amendment to the Solid Waste Budget.

Selectman Caldwell moved to amend line item 4324-440 as proposal. Selectman Pike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Noise Ordinance

Police Chief Baiocchetti was present to ask the Board if they wanted to bring the Noise Ordinance back to the voters at the 2009 Town Meeting. The Board asked if there were still individuals that were pursuing that, Chief Baiocchetti indicated that the original people are still interested in it. The Board expressed similar feelings that it was tabled at last year's town meeting and if individuals are still interested in pursue that they should submit a petition warrant article. Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the deadline this year for petition warrant articles is January 13, 2009 because Belmont is now an SB2 Town.

Winnisquam Fire Station

Chairman Cormier explained that over the past couple of months there has been additional discussion from other communities regarding the Winnisquam Fire Station and some kind of regionalization or resurrection of the station. He feels the building isn't being utilized and consideration of its use should be looked at. Selectman Pike offered that there doesn't appear to be any good options regarding regionalization coming forward but feels that the building should be left as is for another year. Chairman Cormier expressed that he will not be in support of any option that involves an arrangement with other communities.

Chief Davis expressed that he doesn't disagree with the Board and that following a recent meeting with Chief DeSilva and Chief Carrier feels that operationally it would be difficult to work out. He would like to see the Winnisquam Fire Station remain status quo as it is necessary to house the equipment that is there and he will continue to run calls out of there as they currently do. Donna Cilley commented that she didn't think regionalization was realistic and perhaps the Town should consider selling off some of the equipment there and utilizing the building for another Town function such as for Parks & Recreation. Chairman Cormier expressed that he would be reluctant to sell the property but thinks looking at the other assets and considering another use made sense.

Miscellaneous

Donna Cilley expressed to the Board that it was her understanding that the SRO positions were going to be funded jointly by the school and town when the grants for the program expired and was surprised to find out some time ago that that wasn't the case. Chairman Cormier indicated that it was his understanding that because the SRO's were under the command of the Police Chief and could be pulled from the school at any time to deal with other police related work that the Town treated them as employees. Donna stated that until a couple of years ago they didn't get pulled from the school for other work and the school was getting a fulltime employee at the Town's expense. Chairman Cormier pointed out that the new SRO position will be split 30/70 with the school. Donna expressed that the school should be funding both SRO positions as Canterbury is part of their funding source and should be paying a portion as well.

Chairman Cormier stated that he isn't sure of the history of the positions but would be curious of what portion would actually be Canterbury's responsibility. Donna went on the say that the newly created SRO position is frustrating for her with a part time position being compensated \$50,000 and a position that already exists has been created adding additional staffing positions at the Police Department when the Police Department hasn't been able to staff the positions they currently have. She commented that with calls for service down there shouldn't be a need for an additional position. Chairman Cormier pointed out that although calls for service may be down the criminal calls among them have increased and criminal calls require more man hours to address. Donna expressed that the level of funding for the part-time seemed to exceed that of a full-time position. Chairman Cormier indicated that Chief Baiocchetti had an hourly rate attached to that salary. Chairman Cormier noted Donnas' objections.

Non-Public Session

Chairman Cormier opened the non-public session at 5:48 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a) - Roll call was taken those present and voting were Jon Pike and Reginald Caldwell. Also present were Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Cynthia DeRoy.

Chairman Cormier closed the non public session at 6:25 p.m.

The Board of Selectmen agreed to hold the deliberative session on Monday, February 2, 2009 depending upon availability of the High School Cafeteria. Town Administrator Beaudin had proposed that the session be held on Saturday, February 7th however they felt it should be sooner and preferred to hold it on their regular meeting night. This is subject to change depending upon availability of the school.

Next Meeting

The next regular Board of Selectmen's meeting will be Monday, December 1, 2008 at 5:00 p.m., at the Corner Meeting House.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Ronald Cormier, Chairman

Reginald Caldwell

Jon Pike