

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2006, 6:00 p.m.

Corner Meeting House

Chairman Watterson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., also present were, Selectman Reginald Caldwell, Selectman Ronald Cormier, Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, Administrative Assistant Cary Lagace, Public works Director Bob Bennett, Town Planner Candace Daigle, Chief Baiocchetti, Keith Pratt and Daniel Rochette from Underwood Engineers, Ron and Pam Jaynes, Brooks Payette of the Winnisquam Echo, Ray Carbone of the Daily Sun, Amy Jardin of the Citizen, Building Inspector Gary Boisvert, and Elson Moody, Code Enforcement Field Officer Rick Stroscher joined the meeting later.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the October 11, 2006 meeting as written. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Cormier moved to accept the minutes of the October 17 2006 meeting as written. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Underwood Engineers Road Management Program Presentation

Keith Pratt of Underwood Engineers was present to provide a Powerpoint presentation on the Preliminary Recommendations for the Road Management Program which was begun after 2006 Town Meeting. Some of the key elements to reviewing and prioritizing the roads for the road management program were highlighted and included, traveling each road approximately 6 times for data collection, video recording each road, and subsurface borings; then road classification is determined and prioritizing begins. Keith noted that the program is a 20-year program with the first 5 years recommendations itemized as to priority. It is the intention that the program become part of the Capital Improvements Plan. The priority list is broken out into roads to receive preventative overlays and roads to be reconstructed.

The expense associated with the recommendations presented are approximately \$1,000,000 per year. The first year there are funds, approximately \$375,000 reserved for road projects so the initial years funding would be less and the four following years would be approximately \$1,000,000. Keith suggested that due to the large expense associated with the program that perhaps the Town begin in 2007 with the recommendations and reevaluate the program for 2008. Keith is scheduled to discuss the program with the Budget Committee on November 21, 2006. Keith indicated that the final report and recommendations will be ready around December 15, 2006.

Chairman Watterson commented that an average of 1 million dollars per year was a ton of money. It was noted that 2007 would not be as difficult to fund as there is some money already appropriated. Town Administrator Beaudin pointed out that for 2007 the Highway Block Grant funding isn't going to change, but there is no way of knowing whether or not it will in the future. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of deferring some of the projects from what is being proposed and noted that it would push everything out beyond the 20 years. It was noted that all of the road will not be reconstructed at the end of the program and the program doesn't account for future roads being constructed and added to the Town's inventory. Selectman Cormier asked Keith if other Town's have similar plans, Keith replied that not a lot of other communities have such plans.

Keith offered that he will be available for other presentations such as to the Budget committee, Public Hearing and Town Meeting to get the most complete information to community members.

The Board discussed that if they were going to support the road management program that they would have to make adjustments with in the Capital requests. They need additional time to consider their options. The Board of Selectmen thanked Keith and his staff for their presentation and suggested that he reserve Town Meeting day for a presentation there.

Department of Transportation Surplus Land Letter

Town administrator Beaudin advised the Board that she had received the information from the Land Use office regarding the State surplus land on Route 3 and had written a letter to the State providing that information that was suggested by Representative Thomas at a previous meeting. She noted that Representative Thomas had reviewed it and felt it included the information needed for the State to further review the request for the Town to receive those parcels back. In reference to previous discussion regarding the value of those lots if they were on the tax roll, Chairman Watterson indicated that only one of the parcels would be able to be developed to the extent of 1 to 2 single family homes and would not provide a significant value to the tax base. The Board agreed to sign the letter to the State.

Code Enforcement Officials – Amnesty Program

Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the new Code Enforcement Field Inspector was not able to attend, however she wanted to provide a press release regarding the Code Enforcement amnesty program. The program will provide property owners that have constructed without a permit the opportunity to file an After the Fact permit with the penalty fines for those permits, which are normally doubled, to be waived until December 31, 2006, applicable regular permit fees will be charged. Chairman Watterson noted that Code Enforcement will be taken seriously and property owners will be required to follow the building rules.

Emergency Generator Bids

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed the bids for the emergency generators that were received for the purchase of two generators, one for the Public Works building in order to function as the alternate Emergency Operations Center and one for the Water Department pump house. Four bids were received, Charles Gove Inc. bid \$49,748.00, Herbert Electric, LLC bid \$55,996.05, Burpee Electrical bid \$61,398.00 and Harry-O Eletrical bid \$71,981.00 to provide 1 55KW generator and 1 80KW generator. They all bid the same Caterpillar generator. There was discussion regarding the Public Works Department doing the preparation work of installing concrete pads for the generators. Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the bid from Charles Grove Inc. of \$49,748.00. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2007 Proposed Budget Police Department

The Board of Selectmen were provided with a revised Police Department budget and a memo regarding the requested increase in special duty pay relative to the Route 3 Construction project. Although there will be offsetting revenues, the line item must be increase in anticipation of special duty coverage for that project. The Police Chief is requesting an additional \$50,000 for that line item and can't guarantee that the amount will cover the entire project. He explained that there is no way of knowing just how much police coverage will be requested by the State. He explained that if the State ends up requesting 2 officers instead of one for any amount of time the budget would be significantly affected.

There was discussion regarding a Special Duty revolving fund and that in order to implement such a fund one year of funding would need to come from taxation without offsetting revenues. It was decided to discuss the option at another time.

Selectman Caldwell moved to amend line item 4210-125 to \$100,000. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Administration

Town Administrator Beaudin noted that there were no increases to the premiums for Life, Dental or Short Term Disability insurances and the Health insurance increase is 12.8%. She noted that these policies are under the Union contract.

Selectman Cormier moved to approve line items 4155-100 to 300 \$1,170,300 as proposed. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Insurance Not Allocated Elsewhere

Selectman Caldwell moved to approve line items 4196-616 to 4196-626 \$162,000 as proposed. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Code Enforcement Field Inspector Rick Stroscher arrived and was introduced to the Board of Selectmen and audience members including the press.

Chairman Watterson called for a 5 minute recess in order for Mr. Stroscher to talk with the press.

Police Department Open House

Town Administrator Beaudin reminded everyone of the Police Department Open House being held on Saturday, November 11, 2006.

Solid Waste Curbside Pickup Proposals

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed the Solid Waste Curbside Collection bids that were received. She explained that although four requests for bids were sent out only two bids had been received, one from Bestway Disposal and one from Waste Management. The bids were composed of two elements, one for regular curbside pickup and another component for curbside recycling. The bids for the three year contract are as follows:

		Regular Curbside	Recycling Curbside
Bestway	year one	\$179,000	\$139,000
	year two	\$188,000	\$146,000
	year three	\$197,000	\$153,000
Waste Management	year one	\$219,000	\$83,000
	year two	\$230,000	\$87,000
	year three	\$242,000	\$92,000

The Board discussed the possibility of accepting a proposed component from each bid, such as regular curbside from Bestway and recycling from Waste Management. Town Administrator Beaudin acknowledged that it would be possible but in order to justify the expense of curbside recycling the Town would most likely need to implement an ordinance mandating recycling. She also pointed out that to this point the volunteer recycling program is working out well according to Town staff working the facility on Saturday as well as from Bestway's staff. The Board agreed to wait on curbside recycling and move forward with the contract for regular curbside with the lowest bidder, Bestway Disposal.

Selectman Cormier moved to accept the contract for curbside pickup submitted by Bestway Disposal as proposed. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual – Approval

The Town's Personnel Manual has been rewritten with the assistance of Devine, Millimet and department head staff to meet all current laws and within the guidelines of the Union Contract. Next year the Union contract will be rewritten and updates will have to be made at that time to correspond with any Union Contract changes.

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the revised Personnel Manual as presented. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Police Department New Hire

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed a memo from Chief Baiocchetti recommending the hiring of Joseph Marcello as a full-time police officer with a start date of November 12, 2006 at a grade 15 step 3, with the following conditions: upon successful completion of probation salary to grade 15 step 4, successful completion of a 6-month probation period, successful completion of the Department Field Training Program, successful completion of the required courses mandated by the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training. Mr. Marcello has experience with New Hampshire and Texas law enforcement.

Selectman Caldwell moved to hire Joseph Marcello as a full-time police officer with the previously noted conditions. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Police Department Tool Auction

Town Administrator Beaudin also reviewed a memo from Chief Baiocchetti regarding the \$4,135.00 in revenue received from the auction of tools received through a burglary sting a couple years back. Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the revenue of \$4135.00 received from the auction and to be put into the Police Department Professional Services line. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Town Administrator's Report

Town Administrator Beaudin noted that Don McLelland had resigned from the Budget Committee, so the vacancy was posted with interested parties to respond by November 14, 2006, prior to the Budget Committee's first meeting. She added that she had not received and letters of interest at this point.

Public Comment

Ron and Pam Jaynes were present to speak to the Board of Selectmen regarding the ruling by the courts against the Sewer Commission relative to the sewer rates being charged to the Jaynes'. They wanted the Board of Selectmen to know that they felt like the Board didn't do enough to help them when they first came forward with their rate concerns or at any time since then. They feel the Board could have done more and they plan to pursue their options against the Board of Selectmen and Sewer Commission, including taking their story to the newspapers.

Non-Public Session

Chairman Watterson moved to enter non-public session at 8:25 p.m. under RSA 91-A:3 II c – roll call was taken and those present and voting were Ron Cormier, Brian Watterson, and Reginald Caldwell. Also present were Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin and Police Chief Vinnie Baiocchetti.

Chairman Watterson closed the non-public session at 8:50 p.m. No decisions were made.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be Monday, November 20, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Corner Meeting House.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Brian Watterson, Chairman

Ronald Cormier

Reginald Caldwell