

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2005, 5:00 p.m.

### Corner Meeting House

Chairman Brian Watterson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Also present were Selectman Reginald Caldwell, Selectman Roy Roberts, Administrative Assessor Jeanne Beaudin, Councilor Raymond Burton, Fire Chief Richard Siegel, David Morse, Sue Roberts, Albert Akerstrom, Brad Lawrence, Renee' Jesseman, and Melanie Nelson of the Citizen.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Minutes**

Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved the minutes of the meeting held on January 11, 2005 as written. Chairman Brian Watterson seconded the motion and the motion passed with one abstention (Selectman Roberts).

Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved the minutes of the meeting held on January 24, 2005 as written. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed with one abstention (Chairman Watterson).

### **Public Hearing (RSA 31:95-c)**

Chairman Watterson opened the public hearing in accordance with RSA 31:95-c relative to amending the terms of the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund at 5:05 p.m.

Selectman Roy Roberts read the proposed Warrant Article as requested by David Morse.

Chief Siegel explained that the during his meetings with the Budget Committee regarding the proposed purchase of a Ladder truck, the Committee had recommended that funds continue to accumulate in the Comstar fund so that the purchase of large ticket items such as a Ladder truck could be bought with the revenues. He noted that should an amendment come from the floor of Town Meeting for the Ladder truck, he would not support it.

As there were no additional public comments, Chairman Watterson closed the Public Hearing at 5:10 p.m.

Selectman Roy Roberts moved to remove Article #3 from the Annual Meeting Warrant relative to amending the terms of the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund. Selectman Reginald Caldwell seconded the motion. Chairman Watterson explained that the Board had proposed the article, as they were uncertain if a petitioned warrant article would be submitted for the Ladder truck, as a result of the proposed article, a public hearing was required in accordance with the Municipal Budget Law. Chairman Watterson called for a vote on the motion; the vote was unanimous to remove the warrant article.

### **Councilor Raymond Burton**

Chairman Brian Watterson introduced District One Executive Councilor Raymond Burton. He noted that Councilor Burton was present at the meeting to give the Board and the Community an overview of council duties and upcoming 2005 matters of interest to Belknap County and Belmont.

Councilor Burton highlighted the day-to-day activities of the Council. He explained that the Council is responsible for appointing over 300 boards and commissions and should any residents of Belmont be interested in serving; they should contact Cathy Good in the Governor's Office at 271-2121. He also noted there is a vacancy on the Fish & Game Commission for a representative from Belknap County. Selectman Roberts noted that one of his concerns and he was sure it is shared by the other members of the Board, is property taxes and how the new Governor will look to fund education. Councilor Burton distributed information to the Board and those present and thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend their meeting. Chairman Watterson, Selectman Caldwell and Selectman Roberts thanked Councilor Burton for attending tonight's meeting.

### **Old Business**

#### **Call Company Vacancies**

Chief Siegel was present at the meeting and reviewed his proposal to fill two vacancies in the call company of the Fire Department. He highlighted the qualifications of each of the two candidates. Selectman Roberts inquired if a criminal background is done the candidates and Chief Siegel noted that they do a criminal and motor vehicle background check. Selectman Caldwell asked if the Board would be meeting the prospective candidates; Chairman Watterson explained that he did not feel it was necessary, and that the Board should have confidence in their department heads to make hiring recommendations. Selectman Caldwell agreed, and Selectman Roberts suggested that perhaps at a later time the candidates could just stop in to a meeting and be introduced.

Selectman Roy Roberts moved to hire Randy Danforth as a member of the Call Company effective immediately. Selectman Reginald Caldwell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved to hire Lisa Storez as a member of the Call Company effective immediately. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Public Hearing – 2005 Budget**

The public hearing on the 2005 proposed budget will be held on Wednesday, February 9, 2005, at 6:30 p.m., at the Corner Meeting House.

### **Annual Meeting Warrant**

The Board reviewed and approved the Annual Meeting Warrant.

### **New Business**

#### **Conservation Commission Appointment**

Selectman Reginald Caldwell moved to appoint Shari Colby as an Alternate to the Conservation Commission for one year. Selectman Roy Roberts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Recreation Commission Events**

Administrative Assessor Jeanne Beaudin explained that the school had contacted the Town relative to Recreation Commission events and had inquired if the Board sanctioned the events. Jeanne recommended that the Board move to sanction the events sponsored by the Recreation Commission so as to provide coverage for the events under the Town's liability policy. Selectman Roberts recommended that the Facility Use forms be authorized by Tina Fleming as Recreation Commission Chairman, Donald P. McLelland, Sr., Town Administrator or Jeanne Beaudin.

Selectman Roy Roberts moved to sanction Recreation Commission sponsored events, and further that Tina Fleming, Donald P. McLelland, Sr., or Jeanne Beaudin authorize the School Facility Use forms. Selectman Reginald Caldwell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Other Business**

Chairman Watterson agreed to serve on the Sargent Fund Committee and asked to be advised as soon as possible of the date of the meeting.

Discussion followed regarding the Town owned lots located on Dutile Road and the lots located in the same subdivision that are subject to Tax Collector's deed in 2005.

The Board requested a map of the area and further information on merging the lots from the Conservation Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

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Brian Watterson, Chairman

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Reginald Caldwell

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Roy Roberts