

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

November 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 Ronald Cormier, Jr., Town Administrator K. Jeanne Beaudin, Administrative Assistant Cary Lagace, Water Department Manager David McLelland, Deputy Fire Chief Jim Davis, Town Planner Candace Daigle, Don McLelland, Sr., Melanie Nelson of the Citizen, Ray Carbone of the Daily Sun, several residents of Coons Point Road and several residents of Potter Road.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Hearing – Water System Regulations Amendments**

Chairman Watterson opened the Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m. for the purpose of amending the Town of Belmont's Water Rules and Regulations, which include the new water rate schedule, which will be effective as of December 1, 2005 and will be reflected in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2006 billing.

Town Administrator Beaudin and Water Department Manager David McLelland noted that there were no major changes to the rules and regulations, the majority of the changes were grammatical. Town Administrator Beaudin also noted that the document has been reviewed by Town Counsel and Underwood Engineers and their suggested changes were made to the document.

Chairman Watterson Closed the Public Hearing at 5:05 p.m. Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the Town of Belmont's Water Rules and Regulations as amended, including the new water rate structure to be effective as of December 1, 2005. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Minutes**

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on September 28, 2005 as written. Selectman Cormier seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Caldwell moved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on October 17, 2005 as written. Selectman Cormier seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Cormier moved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on October 19, 2005 as written. Selectman Caldwell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Cormier moved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on October 25, 2005 as written. Selectman Caldwell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

### **Budget Work Session**

### **Capital – Fire Department Request**

Town Administrator Beaudin reminded the Board that they had requested at a previous meeting that she get back to them with rates for bonding the Fire Department Ladder/Pumper request. She advised that she had received bond quotes from the Bond Bank and Citizens Bank to bond \$700,000 and \$500,000 and their rates are very close however, the Bond Bank's rate is better on the 15 year term. Through Citizen's Bank 4.45% is the interest rate for \$700,000 over 10 years. Through the Bond Bank 4.5% is the interest rate for \$700,000 over 10 years. For \$500,000 their interest rate is the same. It was noted that \$500,000 through the Bond Bank would be worked out in such a manner that the first payment wouldn't be due until late spring 2007.

There was further discussion regarding the Comstar fund and the next vehicle due for replacement. It was noted that the Comstar fund is accumulating approximately \$180,000 annually and the next vehicle due to be replaced is an Ambulance in 2008 at an approximate cost of \$160,000.

Selectman Cormier feels that if the need for a ladder truck isn't there now, the need will be there in the very near future, perhaps the next five to ten years and if the Town is going to go ahead with this purchase; bonding the entire amount should be considered to avoid draining the entire Comstar fund.

Deputy Fire Chief Davis explained that the vehicle being requested is actually a Ladder and Pumper in one vehicle. The unit is a good rescue vehicle with many benefits. Currently the response time from Laconia is a concern as there is no guarantee of the availability of their Ladder truck. Laconia doesn't mind assisting Belmont, however when they do respond to Belmont they are then required to provide coverage at their own station.

Chairman Watterson stated that the Fire Department had done a good job saving Comstar funds and funding other equipment more appropriately through their general expenses budget as requested by the Board last year, but thought that it would be two to three years before the Department came before the Board again to request the Ladder truck.

Chairman Watterson moved to not fund the Ladder/Pumper truck, and amend line item 4902-008 to \$0. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Public Hearing – Coons Point Road**

Chairman Watterson opened the Public Hearing at 5:35 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public input regarding the public need for conferring Emergency Lane status upon Coons Point Road.

Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the abutters had been notified of the road status and had come into meet with staff. The Board was provided a memo from the Land Use staff with their recommendation to confer Emergency Lane status on the road. Within the memo the public safety factor was outlined and the fact that the sewers pump station is located at the end of the road and requires daily access, was noted as justification of conferring Emergency Lane status on the road. It was noted that this does not change the status of the road as being a private road and the Emergency Lane can be rescinded.

Selectman Watterson inquired of what work had been done on the road recently, Town Planner Candace Daigle explained that there had been a washout creating siltation in the lake, the Town repaired the road to stop the siltation. Repairs were done to Jamestown Road also to address the same issue. The repairs to Coons Point Road were considered to be of an emergency nature.

Resident Dennis Mailhott spoke regarding problems he has had with the runoff from Jamestown Road and Coons Point Road across his property causing severe washouts and silt running into the lake. He felt he got no response from the Town so he involved DES to help rectify the problem. The Town repaired Jamestown Road and Coons Point Road after the first major rains we received this year, he felt they did a good job because with all the additional rain we have received there have been no additional washouts. He noted that during his research of getting the previous problems repaired he believes that there is not an easement for the pump station and the easement granted to the Town was for the sewer lines only. He is not objecting to the Emergency Lane but presenting the facts.

Resident Patricia Hoey was present and asked what was needed for the road to be accepted as a Town road. Candace Daigle explained there is a petition to layout a public way that would need to be submitted. It may require upgrades to the road which can't be a burden to taxpayers; she can provide a copy to who ever would like one. Selectman Watterson inquired if there are standards; Candace Daigle noted that there are standards for roads created as part of a subdivision. Mrs. Hoey noted that she has

lived there for 30 years and didn't know it was a private road, as the Town had always maintained it.

Chairman Watterson closed the Public Hearing at 5:48 p.m. Selectman Cormier moved to confer Emergency Lane status on Coons Point Road in accordance with RSA 231:59-a; the public welfare and/or safety interest is evidenced in the above testimony taken during the public hearing on said matter. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

#### **Annual Report Contest - LGC**

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed a letter received from the Local Government Center advising the Town of Belmont of their second place award in their Annual Town Report Contest, in our population category. She noted that they will hold an awards ceremony that she will attend to accept the award and the Board is welcome to join her. Candace Daigle commented that the Local Government Center looks for readability and ease of use when determining award winners, Jeanne worked hard and did a good job.

#### **Library Trustee Resignation and Appointment**

Town Administrator Beaudin advised that a letter of resignation had been received from Library Trustee Dawn Kidd and she has prepared a letter of thanks for all her years of service for the Board to sign. David Morse indicated to Town Administrator Beaudin that Trudy Brown has expressed an interest in filling the vacancy until March when she would have to run in the election to fill the balance of Dawn's term. It was felt that she would be a great addition to the Board of Trustees.

Selectman Cormier moved to accept the resignation of Dawn Kidd from the position of Library Trustee. Selectman Caldwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Caldwell moved to appoint Trudy Brown to fill the position of Library Trustee until the Municipal Elections in March of 2006. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Department of Transportation Letter**

Town Administrator Beaudin advised the Board she has received a letter from DOT indicating they have included in their plan for the Routes 140 and 106 intersection construction, the right hand turn lane as requested and will also include a sidewalk. They are requesting the Town decide which side of the street it should be on. The Land Use office will help with a recommendation.

There was discussion regarding the placement of the sidewalk and how it would best fit into the plans for that area being mindful of all abutters and how each would be

affected. Selectman Watterson feels that with DOT being so cooperative that the Town should provide an answer to them quickly.

### **Public Hearing – Potter Road**

Chairman Watterson opened the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m. to accept Potter Road as a Class V Public Highway.

Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the Town has received all the documents including acceptance documents, the deed and the plan and it is the recommendation of the Public Works and Land Use Offices that the Town accept Potter Road as a class V public highway.

Resident Todd Sanborn was present and wanted to thank Candace, Bob and Rick for all their help answering his questions and he is in support of the Town accepting the Road, however he asked why the Planning Board signed off on accepting the road when some of the culverts weren't installed properly. He noted that he had been advised that Potter Road would be coming before the Board of Selectmen in April for acceptance, and since then he has had problems with the culvert in front of his house which he has since repaired on his own. He feels the work was substandard and how could the Town accept this.

Candace explained that the culverts were put in after Planning Board approval and that the culverts in the driveways do not come onto a public road so they aren't governed by the Town. She also explained that once Bob had done his inspection he did find problems that required repair before the Town could consider taking the road over. She noted that the time between when the road was first supposed to come to the Board of Selectman in April and now, could have been shorter but the developer had put in substandard curbs and other problems that had to be fixed. Once the problems had been fixed the acceptance process could move forward.

Resident Steve Jacques was also present and expressed that he wants the Town to take over the road.

Chairman Watterson closed the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m. Selectman Caldwell moved to accept Potter Road as a class V Public Highway in accordance with the petition submitted by Gregory and Sandra Caulfield. Selectman Cormier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Other New Business**

#### **Winnisquam Fire Department Budget**

Town Administrator Beaudin reviewed with the Board the budget being proposed for the Winnisquam Fire Department. She noted that 2 part-time positions are being requested for station coverage of 50 hours per week at a maximum of \$15.00 per hour starting April first to be staffed with multiple part time call personnel. The requested budget amount is \$129,037.

Town Administrator Beaudin noted that following the last meeting with the other community representatives from Tilton-Northfield and Sanbornton, she has asked them to get back to the Town of Belmont by next week with what amount they are willing to support the Winnisquam Fire Department budget with.

David Morse asked if the budget was pending information from the other communities, why is it before the Belmont Board? Town Administrator Beaudin explained that the Town of Belmont will gross budget the Winnisquam Fire Department budget and the other community's contributions will be offsetting revenue.

Chairman Watterson felt that if their counterparts have until next week to decide how they are going to support this budget, that their support or non support may affect Belmont's decision. Selectman Cormier feels Belmont will support even if a fee for service budget is put forth, but would like to know how the other communities are going to support the budget.

Chairman Watterson expressed that the Board should wait until their next meeting to look at this budget again, once the other communities have responded.

### **Public Works Truck**

There was discussion regarding the purchase of the new dump truck to replace the one that was totaled in a recent accident. Town Administrator Beaudin advised that Public Works Director Bob Bennett had received a price on an International truck to replace the totaled truck. There was discussion of whether the new truck was to be a Mack or an International. Selectman Caldwell had thought his discussion with Bob had established that a Mack truck was being purchased so he didn't understand why an International was being quoted. Town Administrator Beaudin indicated it was her understanding through conversation with Bob that the most recent truck purchased for his department was an International and he was trying to keep them all of the same make, for ease of repairs.

After further discussion the Board felt a quote for a Mack should be requested as well as additional dealers quoting on the International. Town Administrator Beaudin noted that Bob would have to create a specification sheet for the Mack which will take some time.

### **Miscellaneous**

David Morse asked some budget related questions, first why the Board did not support the \$25,000 capital request from the Conservation Commission. Chairman Watterson explained that the Commission has a revenue source through land use change tax which will continue to produce more and more revenue for them as subdivisions continue to be approved.

Mr. Morse also asked what the Board had planned for their \$125,000 capital request for the Town Hall/Police Department project. Chairman Watterson explained that there is a huge need presenting itself and no funds set aside for it so the Board is

proposing this figure to begin to move forward with this proposal. Mr. Morse asked when the Board would be moving forward with this project, Selectman Cormier noted that it will be coming forth at a future Board meeting for discussion as to how to move forward.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting was set for November 14, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. at the Corner Meeting House for a Budget Work Session.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Brian Watterson, Chairman

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Reginald Caldwell

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Ronald Cormier, Jr.