

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

APRIL 3, 2007

MEMORIAL BUILDING

7:00 P.M.

The following are to be considered draft minutes only until approved by the Board at their next meeting.

Present: Bob Anderson, John Chiarella, and Neal Huntoon.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

The Board welcomed newly elected Selectman John Chiarella.

Police Department: Chief Tim Julian, recognized officer Michael Beaulieu. Tim stated he is recommending the Board of Selectmen consider promoting Mike from a part-time officer to a full-time officer. Chief Julian also recognized officer Beaulieu for his responsibilities and performance of duties within the department which have earned him the stripes and title of Police Sergeant.

Bob Anderson moved to approve the promotion of Officer Beaulieu to full-time, effective as of Town Meeting on March 17, 2007, seconded by Neal Huntoon and unanimously approved.

Oath of Office papers were then signed, and Chief Tim performed the swearing in of Officer Beaulieu.

The swearing in ceremony was attended by Officer Beaulieu's wife Melissa Beaulieu, Brandt Denniston, Cynthia Anderson, as well as many of the children both present and past with their parents from Springfield K, Laura James, Springfield K Teacher; Mrs. Kaye St. Louis, Paraprofessional, and Kevin Johnson, KRES School Principal. Kindergarten students presented Officer Beaulieu with a beautiful card they had made, and refreshments were provided by Kindergarten parents. Welcome to Officer Beaulieu.

Minutes: Bob moved to accept the March 6, 2007 minutes as written, seconded by Neal and approved with 2 in favor, and John abstaining.

NL/Springfield Water Precinct: Ken Jacques, Water Commissioner from the New London/Springfield Water Precinct met with the Selectmen to provide new Board members with history of the water precinct. A petition has been received by both the Springfield Board of Selectmen, and the New London Board of Selectmen from residents living within the water precinct. The petitioners are requesting approval to withdraw from the district. Withdrawal from a water district requires selectmen from towns within a water district to approve such withdrawal, per RSA 52:5. Since the water district is located within both towns, selectmen from both towns would be required to approve such a request. A joint meeting with selectmen from both New London and Springfield is scheduled for Monday, April 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in New London.

Ken stated in 2003 a similar petition was received the joint boards denied the request at that time.

He explained the history of the formation of the district in 1925 and how the district boundaries were believed to have been created at that time.

Precinct taxes for people within the district are used to offset capital expenditure costs, and water usage rates are used to cover normal operating and maintenance costs of the precinct.

Ken explained there are many properties within the district where a developer chose not to install water service to those developments. Residents do have the option of extending water mains to their properties, but now at their cost. These residents do not pay for water use. Their precinct taxes help to support the infrastructure. He explained the similarity of precinct taxes to school taxes, and local taxes where everyone pays a tax to support the schools, or town infrastructure, whether they use these systems or not. These properties do have water mains in general locations of their properties, which could provide services in the event of a fire emergency.

He stated there are many undeveloped properties still within the water precinct that would be supplied by the precinct if the properties become developed. The water precinct commissioners have no plans to extend the existing boundaries of the water precinct.

The Board reviewed maps of the water precinct area. The Board thanked Mr. Jacques for his presentation.

Election of Officers: Neal nominated Bob Anderson as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, seconded by John with 2 votes of approval. Bob nominated Neal Huntoon as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, seconded by John with 2 votes of approval.

The Board reviewed assignment of Selectmen coverage for various town committees and boards. Neal was appointed to continue as the Selectmen's representative, a voting member of the Planning Board. Bob was appointed as the Selectmen's representative, a voting member of the Budget Committee. The list will be updated and reviewed at the next meeting of the Board.

New Business:

Highway:

Neal reported that the new "old" highway truck developed a noise in the transmission and was taken for repair as well as inspection. He had not heard what repairs may have been necessary.

Conservation Commission:

Bob stated he has seen the flyer that the Conservation Commission created to be included with building permits for informational purposes relative to soil erosion. He forgot to bring it with him for this meeting but will drop it off at the Town Office for the Board to review.

Zoning:

The Board discussed the joint work session held on March 7, 2007. The Zoning Board Meeting scheduled for April 4, 2007 has been postponed to May 2, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Audit:

Janet reported that Plodzik and Sanderson performed the 2006 audit on March 26 and 27. The preliminary report of the unreserved fund balance was discussed.

Communications Committee: The Board reviewed the minutes of the recent Communications Committee. Welcome signs at 5 entry points in town, presented at Town Meeting were discussed. The Board would like more information as to the costs, and what these signs will look like.

Correspondence:

The Board reviewed documents from the Village District of Eastman relative to a plan for groundwater withdrawal and an application to the State Department of Environmental Services for this purpose. After review, the Board agreed this should be referred to the Conservation Commission. In the past, the Conservation Commission closely monitored the activities of the Village District Water Precinct.

Board members then signed various applications for rental of the Town Hall, building permit applications, and intent to cut timber forms.

Signature authorization for the Town accounts was signed by Board members.

Board members approved purchase orders for the Highway and Police Departments.

The Board approved the estimate for the replacement of the automatic transfer switch for the emergency generator at the safety building.

Miscellaneous Business:

The Schedule of Selectmen's meetings was reviewed. The Board will return to their 2nd and 4th meeting schedule.

Fire Department: Dallas Patten met with the Board. On April 22, 6-8 fire department members will be attending a training session at the Fire Academy in Concord, with members from the Grantham Fire Department. Last year, Grantham treated SVFD members to lunch. Dallas asked and was granted permission to reciprocate this year.

A “get to know your emergency services personnel” potluck dinner is scheduled for April 28 at the Town Hall.

With no further business, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Roberts,
Administrative Assistant