

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**JANUARY 25, 2010**

**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: Selectman John Chiarella, Don Hill, and Dave Tucker, Administrative Assistant, Janet Roberts, and John Trachy.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comments: John Trachy questioned the status of Bryan O'Day's permit. John Chiarella stated he has been notified and there has been no response. John Trachy reviewed re-appointments of Conservation Commission members. The Selectmen will take care of this.

Municipal Energy Assistance Program: Liz Canal, from Clean Air – Cool Planet met with the Board. Springfield has been approved for an energy audit through MEAP. She will be coordinating the audit for the Town. The audit will involve looking at energy use of all the town-owned buildings, vehicles, and street lighting. The most poorly performing building will be identified using square foot and energy intensity calculations and recommendations will be made for improvements. The next round of grant applications is due February 17.<sup>th</sup> The town will not be ready for this round of assistance, but would have the information necessary if assistance becomes available in the future. Town office staff will work with Liz to provide the required information for the survey.

Minutes: The Board voted unanimously to approve the January 11, 2010 minutes as written.

Joint Board of Selectmen's Meeting: John reported on the Joint BOS meeting held on January 11 in Warner. Area road agents discussed the purchase of materials that might be considered for cost saving measures. Due to districting and state grants, it was decided that the only cost that could be shared at this time is Calcium.

School energy grant: John reported concern was voiced regarding the impact the proposed energy program could have on taxpayers if the State building aid and ARRA funding do not contribute the percentage expected. Most of the towns represented are concerned that the energy proposal does not have safeguards built in if the energy package is not funded as expected. Springfield, Bradford and New London will be the primary co-signers on the funding request since they are the only towns in the district that are not currently seeking ARRA funding.

Other discussion involved pooling district wide purchases, but this appears to be logistically difficult due to the demographics of the district, but might be considered for larger scale projects on a case by case basis, if possible.

The next meeting for the JBOS is tentatively scheduled for April.

Highway Project Estimates: The selectmen spent a great deal of time reviewing the construction costs details for the highway drainage and sand shed project. Cost concerns, limitations of the existing site, and other possible locations were reviewed. The Selectmen agreed to review the information with the Budget Committee at their meeting tomorrow night.

Town Hall Painting: John Chiarella reported the town hall building has been tested for lead. He has not heard back from any contractors he knows who deal with the lead abatement. At the budget committee meeting Jeff Milne offered to check to see how they have handled this at Proctor. The Board discussed plans for repainting. Don stated the original clapboards may not necessarily have historical value and replacing siding could turn out to be more cost effective in the long run in terms of long-term viability versus the unknown integrity of the existing clapboards. New siding could be phased to be a more manageable project. New siding would address concerns of any decayed siding and would take care of any lead concerns. The issue of settling of insulation and other existing issues could be addressed at the same time. The Board discussed reconvening the buildings committee to make recommendations. The Selectmen agreed not to include an article for painting on the warrant this year.

Star Lake Update: The Planning Board has scheduled February 25<sup>th</sup> for a public information presentation regarding the proposed Town Warrant to discontinue roads within Star Lake, the proposed Star Lake Conservation Easement, and Road Covenants.

Warrant Articles: The Selectmen reviewed wording for wind powered and solar powered energy exemptions for the Town Warrant. Their purpose for such an article is to encourage reduced carbon emissions without the disincentive of increased property tax assessments for these structures.

The Board decided to appropriate funds for the statistical update using the unreserved fund balance.

Town Warrant: Zoning Amendment Articles: The Board discussed the articles for proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance. Article 3 deals with lighting requirements, and there was some discussion regarding measurement for non-compliance. Article 4 adds specifications for noise limits to the zoning ordinance. John addressed concerns regarding compliance and enforcement. The Selectmen's concern is these increased regulations will require increased resources for monitoring and compliance. The Selectmen discussed possibly increasing appropriations for legal and engineering fees, and an appropriation for a planning and zoning administrator to assist with issues that may arise. Articles 5 through 9 primarily deal with clarifications to existing zoning amendments. The Selectmen will discuss their concerns with the budget committee tomorrow night.

Department Updates:

Dave discussed his concern regarding town police running radar on I-89. The Police Department will be asked to attend the next Selectmen's meeting.

The Selectmen reviewed Police Department Special Duty Wages. Due to increased requirements by the State of NH Retirement System, the amount withheld for the revolving fund needs to be reviewed, and possibly an article for an adjustment made for withholding.

Correspondence: The Board reviewed information regarding WCNH fiber optic planning, and a report from Fast Roads Digital Transportation Network.

Signature:

Intent to Cut Timer forms (2) Hill and Patten.

Miscellaneous Business:

Dave asked for an update regarding lettering and striping the cruiser. John reported Tim has an appointment for sometime the end of February.

With no further business, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Roberts,  
Administrative Assistant