

**Board of Selectmen
22 January 2007
Minutes**

6:04 p.m. - Chairman Ella Jo Regan called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Regan, Selectman Brian Forst, Administrative Assistant Tim Warren and Clerk Lois Dionne. Selectman Guarino arrived at 6:15.

Paul Perkins – Truck for Highway Department – At the last Selectmen’s meeting Tim Warren had stated that at a budget meeting a couple of weeks ago Paul Perkins had asked for a ¾ ton truck with a duramax diesel engine and a plow. The Selectmen discussed the issue, but had questions they felt Paul needed to answer regarding the possible purchase of such a vehicle.

Paul brought in three quotes for the truck he would like to get. There was discussion about the trucks the highway department has now, the forestry truck that was given to the highway department to replace an old Ford truck, and the need to get another truck at this time. Paul said the forestry truck has issues with the wiring. He said you get someplace and it won’t start. Paul said he has been using his own truck and hasn’t charged for mileage, but if he has to continue using it, he will put in for mileage. There was a lengthy discussion about whether Paul would need a diesel engine, or if a gas engine would be sufficient, whether he could get a good used truck rather than a new one, and the amount of mileage that would be put on the truck in a year’s time. Paul said he had looked at some trucks at the White Farm, but none of them were worth buying. They discussed warranties, and whether or not you could get an extended warranty on a Municipal truck. It was figured that the truck would probably get between 6,000 and 10,000 miles put on it yearly. Paul said the truck would not have a plow route, but if he saw something that needed plowing while he is driving around, he would plow it. Paul said there are times when both the other trucks are out, and he is left without one, and that is when he has to use his own truck. Chairman Regan didn’t feel Paul should have to use his truck, and it is a good idea for him to be able to drive around Town checking the roads, and being able to do small repairs, but didn’t know if he needs a brand new 4-wheel drive truck.

Paul was asked to get more information, and to do a cost comparison for a truck without a diesel motor, and compare mileage and fuel costs.

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Stan Bean – Recycling Committee Update – Stan Bean and Carolyn Baldwin were in to update the Selectmen on the Recycling Committee that has recently been reformed to look into a pay-as-you-throw program at the recycling center.

Stan presented the Selectmen with a Recycling Committee Report. Included in the report was a report showing income received at the recycling center, money expended, net valuation, the cost per thousand on the tax rate, and the GAT (Guaranteed Annual Tonnage) to Penacook for 2005, 2006 and Estimated amounts for 2007, the Gilmanton Recycling Committee report for the fiscal year 2006 that will go in the Town Report and statistics on Raymond's tax rate impact for the first two years after they adopted the program. The 1st year there was a .94-cent reduction in the tax rate and the 2nd year showed a .54-cent reduction in the tax rate. Also included in the report was a newspaper article on Canterbury's program that was started three months ago. There was a draft of an article "Do You Recycle?" that Stan would like to have as a handout. He felt they could be handed out at the recycling facility and the Academy Building. He said they would also use it for their proposed information night. Stan also included a list of sizes and costs of bags other towns are using. These are towns that have drop off at recycling centers such as Gilmanton.

Stan said he had presented the report to some senior citizens at the senior's lunch today. He said he had given them a synopsis of where we stand, and had explained there are three things that can be done regarding recycling. 1. You can do nothing – taxes will go up. 2. Mandatory Recycling – you need someone to police the facility to ensure that people are recycling. 3. Pay-as-you-throw - vote on at Town Meeting.

Stan explained that the committee is proposing to complete the draft of the handout, run the EPA video, that he had showed the Selectmen, on the community access channel, continue a series of articles in newspapers, hold at least one informational session near the end of February, and draft a Warrant Article for inclusion in the Town Warrants for Town Meeting. He said they would draft an article for the pay-as-you-throw program, and another one for a new trash compactor that will be needed if we don't adopt the pay-as-you-throw program. It was felt that the cost of a new compactor and the containers that would be needed, a pad for the compactor and electricity to run the compactor would increase the tax impact while the pay-as-you-throw program would save money.

There was a brief discussion of the program, and whether initiating it would cause trash to be left at the sides of the roads. It wasn't felt that would happen because it would be too easy to go through the trash to identify the person who had left it. Bill Foster said he lives on a side road, and he didn't feel there had been an increase in mattress etc. left on the roadside when we started charging for disposing of them. There was also a question of the people who might not be able to afford the bags, and it was stated that if they were in that position, they would probably be getting assistance anyway. Stan said each of the committee members has an assigned group to talk with.

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Selectman Forst asked if Mr. Bean had figured how this program would offset the budget. Stan replied that money would still have to be appropriated for the budget, but he felt that the increase that would be seen from recycling and the cost of the bags would take care of the operation of the dump, including personnel, thereby reducing the tax impact.

7:00 p.m. – Public Input

Bill Foster brought a request from the year-round library to waive the rental fee to use the Academy building for a blues concert on March 31st. The request for the waiver was granted.

Approval of Minutes – The Selectmen reviewed the minutes of the last meeting.

MOTION - Brian Forst moved to accept the minutes of January 8, 2007 as written. Don Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

FYI'S & Other Business

Bonds for Roads – At a previous meeting the Selectmen were concerned about possible road damage from logging trucks because roads hadn't frozen due to unseasonably warm weather. They had discussed having loggers post road bonds or posting the roads.

Tonight Tim brought in a copy of an RSA that covered road bonds. The RSA was discussed, and there was considerable discussion of damage that loggers have done to the roads in the past, how to determine how to set an amount, what a reasonable and fair bond amount would be, and the means of enforcement. It was felt all logging operations should be required to post a road bond.

MOTION – Brian Forst moved to set a road bond for logging operations with a base amount of \$25,000 and an additional \$500 per acre for anything over fifty acres. Don Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Tim Warren will consult legal counsel regarding the motion and enforcement of such a bond.

LGC (Local Government Center) Handbook – Tim had a handbook from the Local Government Center on Town and School Meetings. After a brief look at the book, it was decided that the book should be passed on to Town Moderator Mark Sisti.

Legal Cases – A review of legal expenses showed that we were considerably over the 2006-budgeted amount for legal fees.

HDC Correspondence – Tim gave the Selectmen copies of correspondence between the HDC and Ms. Lake regarding her sump pump pumping water onto Cat Alley and causing ice to build up. Tim said Code Enforcement Officer Bob Flanders and the HDC

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had spoken with Ms. Lake couple of times. He said that Bob had issued a notice of violation that includes a fine for each day until the problem is corrected. Tim said Ms. Lake had the problem corrected, but then moved the pipe. He added that Ms. Lake corrected the problem again after Bob had spoken with her, but there was a sag in the pipe, so it froze; then she changed it again and left it so the pipe doesn't come out far enough to reach the drain. Tim said neighbors have complained about the condition, and other residents have complained because they use Cat Alley rather than coming out Currier Hill Road because of the congestion at the store. Tim said Paul Perkins has spoken with Ms. Lake, and that Chief O'Brien has been asked to speak with her, but he has not been able to get her at home.

There was a brief discussion about people having to know the rules when they move into the historic district, and there should be a way to get information to people when they move into the district. They felt this might cut down on the number of people making changes to their property without getting permission from the HDC. It was also stated that all HDC correspondence should go through the HDC Clerk Wendy Keane so there will be a record on file and to avoid confusion when one member of the HDC gets information, but the rest of the Board might not get the information.

Budget Review

Tim presented the Selectmen with copies of the proposed budget for 2007. There was a brief review of the following Non-Capital Reserve Accounts: Office Equipment, Survey Fees, Legal Fees, Tools/Equipment for the fire dept, and welfare. Capital Outlay Accounts that were discussed were the purchase of a police cruiser, three police grants and new rifles. There was also considerable discussion regarding the purchase of another truck for the highway department.

Bids to Repair Academy Entry Way and Floor – Tim presented the Board with three bids to repair the steps and entryway to the Academy Building. The bids were as follows:

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|-------------------------|----------|
| Joe Hempel Construction | \$2,968. |
| J.R. Stockwell | 1,960. |
| Dave Dorsey | 1,950. |

Tim said the bids are to remove the fir. He said because the fir goes under the mopboards, some of the mopboards would have to be replaced. The bid also included replacing the threshold under the front door, because the fir goes underneath those, as well as the side door to the exit. Tim said that Joe Hempel and J.R. Stockwell would both prime the wood before it is put down, and paint it again in the spring. He said that Dave Dorsey would also prime the wood but doesn't have a place to do it, and would like to do it downstairs in the Academy building.

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There was a brief discussion, and the Selectmen felt they couldn't provide a place for Mr. Dorsey to prime the wood.

MOTION – Selectman Forst moved to accept the bid by J.R. Stockwell to repair the front steps and entryway to the Academy Building. Don Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Painting of Town Buildings – Tim informed the Selectmen that the man who had painted one side of the academy building each of the last two years would like to do both of the remaining sides this year. He would also like to do the same at the old town hall in the Iron Works.

There was a brief discussion, and Tim said he would put the request in the budget.

Payment to Forester – Tim had a request that Conservation Commission Chair Nanci Mitchell had received from Forester Brenda Brown to be paid for work she has done getting ready for the cut of Thompson Town Forest. (There was no invoice itemizing the charges.) Ms. Brown was to have been paid from the proceeds after the cut had been done. Because the cut was not done this fall as anticipated, Ms. Brown asked to be paid \$2,880 for work she has done thus far.

There was considerable discussion about the fact that nothing had been budgeted for payment to the forester, as payment was to be made from the proceeds of the cut. In review of the Conservation Commission budget, it was determined that there was a line item of \$1,400 that the Commission could use, if they wish, to pay Ms. Brown after she submits an invoice. The Selectmen felt that was the best they could do at this time.

Memoriam – Jackie Bosiak – The Selectmen authorized a donation to the Food Pantry in Belmont in memory of Jackie Bosiak for her commitment to the Town. Jackie's service to the Town included having served on various boards, was a supervisor of the checklist, and her involvement with the Old Home Day.

Global Warming Warrant – Nanci Mitchell had requested the Selectmen to support a warrant article for a resolution on global warming. After a brief discussion, the Selectmen felt the Conservation Commission should present the warrant as a petition warrant article.

Personnel Policy – Computer Use – The Selectmen are in the process of updating the portion of the personnel policy pertaining to use of computers. Chairman Regan had a draft of the change, which was discussed and amended. A new draft will be presented at a future meeting.

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9:50 p.m. – MOTION - Brian Forst moved to adjourn the meeting. Don Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lois Dionne
Recording Clerk