

APPROVED

**Board of Selectmen
30 January 2012
Minutes**

6:00 pm - Chairman Don Guarino called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Guarino, Selectman Ralph Lavin and Clerk Lois Dionne. Selectman Rachel Hatch and Town Administrator Tim Warren were not in attendance. Also in attendance was Brett Currier.

After attendance everyone stood for the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

Lighting – Village District – It was recently brought to the Town’s attention that some lights that the Town had NH Electric Co-op turn on in the Iron Works were being billed to the Village District. Steve Latici wanted to confirm that this has been taken care of. He was told that Tim researched this, and it was found they were being billed incorrectly; Tim has taken care of the matter, and the lights will be billed to the Town hereon in.

Mr. Latici said the Village District would like the Town to take over the expense of the lights in the Village District. He felt the lights are a public safety issue. Mr. Latici said the Co-op wants to get away from incandescent lights, and had indicated that they are currently under billing for the lights. The rates are going to be raised, but they wouldn’t tell him what the increase would be. The district has \$3,000 in a capital reserve fund for the purpose of installing LED bulbs. The district has the option of using their fixtures, and buy the bulbs. The Co-op wouldn’t give them a rate, but the Co-op will only install LED bulbs purchased by the Town if the Co-op installs a “smart meter” on each fixture for a charge of \$5 a month for each meter in addition to the monthly charge for the lights. The Cost for installing the meters is \$12,750, which would have to be paid up front. It would cost approximately \$6,144 to run the lights with the district’s LED bulbs.

The alternative is to have the Co-op replace all the fixtures with their own LED fixtures with a “smart meter” built into it. It would cost \$9,360 if they have all the fixtures replaced. The payback on the investment of the meters would be four years.

Mr. Latici said he had drafted two petition warrant articles; one is for \$9,500 to have the Co-op replace the lights. The second article is for \$12,750 for the smart meters and \$6,250 for the operating costs. He said it comes down to whether or not the Town wants lights.

There was discussion of the number of lights in the district, if they are all necessary, and that some of the people in the district are opposed to some of the lights. No one knew why, or when,

some of the lights had been installed. It was suggested that the village district have a meeting, and determine which of the lights were necessities, and have the others removed. The Selectmen said they had tried really hard to keep the budget down this year, so could not support the articles for that amount of money.

Sand – Food Pantry Parking Lot – Last week Selectman Lavin had relayed a request to the board asking if the highway department could sand the driveway at the food pantry. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the person who plows the driveway should also sand it. If the Town got involved, it would present a liability to the Town.

Selectman Lavin relayed that message to the food pantry, and said he was told that having the town refer residents to the food pantry starts the liability chain, so it was again being requested to have the Town sand the driveway.

There was a brief discussion, but because Selectman Lavin and Chairman Guarino had differing opinions, Chairman Guarino said he wanted to find out from legal counsel if sending residents to the food pantry made the town liable.

Budget Committee Meeting Report – Selectman Lavin reported that the school department had said the reason for the sharp increase in their budget request was due to special education expenses. Selectman Lavin said there had also been concern because the school superintendent had given the budget presentation rather than the school board.

Public Hearings – The Board set dates for two required public hearings. There will be a public hearing at 6:00 pm on Monday, February 13th to discuss the warrant article for the lease/purchase of an ambulance for the fire department. The second public hearing will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2012 to discuss the adoption of SB-2 for the Town.

Bids – Trusses – Recycling Center – Two bids were received to repair the trusses in the barn at the recycling center. Bids were as follows:

Bill Booth Construction	\$346.57
JR Stockwell	490.00

The Selectmen reviewed the bids.

MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to accept the bid from Bill Booth Construction for a sum of \$346.57 to repair the trusses at the recycling center. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

LCHIP Grant – The Town was approved for an LCHIP Grant to restore the windows at the Academy Building. Tonight Chairman Guarino signed the agreement to receive the grant. We received a check today from LCHIP for the first payment, which is half of the total grant.

7:00 pm - Public Input

Employee-Use Vehicle – Brett Currier asked if we had received the old police cruiser for employee use yet. Chairman Guarino said we hadn't; there is a problem with the vehicle, but the Selectmen haven't had a chance to discuss it yet.

Building Inspector Hours – Brett asked how many days/hours per week the building inspector works. He works two and one half days; Monday, Wednesday and half a day on Friday.

Personnel Policy – The Selectmen continued review and update of the personnel policy.

Police Department Update – Chief O'Brien informed the Selectmen that the end-of-the-year documentation for the department had been submitted to Police Standards and Training. A new radar unit is being mounted into Officer Krochmal's cruiser and a department meeting is scheduled for February 8th. Chief O'Brien has signed up for Level One Administrators, Managers and Supervisor's Classes at LGC. There are six classes, which start the beginning of 2013 and run throughout the year; he signed up too late to get into this year's classes. Chief O'Brien is meeting with the grant writer on February 7th, and he has met with Carol Locke and Emily Reese about being in the school more.

Selectman Lavin said some members of the budget committee hadn't understood why a police officer was needed at school dances.

There was a brief discussion during which it was stated that it is a great connection for the police department, the school pays for the officer, and it is a school decision whether or not an officer is present.

7:35 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to enter into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II(a) - Dismissal, promotion or setting compensation for public employees or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected has a right to a meeting or requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

The Selectmen discussed a personnel issue.

8:40 pm – Selectman Lavin moved to come out of Non-Public Session. Chairman Guarino seconded.

MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to seal the minutes of the above non-public session. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Sanding Driveway – Food Pantry – Town Counsel was present, so Chairman Guarino expressed his concern that having the Town sand the driveway at the food pantry presented a liability to the Town, and asked if just referring residents to the food pantry would present a

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liability for the Town. Attorney Mitchell felt referring residents to the food pantry would not create a liability, but felt it would be best to stay with the decision not to have the Town sand the driveway.

Approval of Minutes – Selectman Lavin moved to accept the minutes of January 23, 2012 as amended. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

8:50 pm – MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne
Recording Clerk