

APPROVED

**Board of Selectmen
3 January 2011
Minutes**

6:05 pm - Chairman Betty Ann Abbott read “This meeting of the Selectmen of the Town of Gilmanton is now open, and the matters presented and discussed here shall be for the purpose of managing the prudential affairs of the town and to perform the duties by law prescribed.”

Present were Chairman Abbott, Selectmen Don Guarino and Rachel Hatch, Town Administrator Tim Warren and Clerk Lois Dionne. Also in attendance was Ron O’Keefe of the Local Government Center.

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

Fire Department Review Update – Ron O’Keefe of the Local Government Center was present to update the Selectmen on the status of the review he is doing on the fire department. Mr. O’Keefe has been interviewing the fire department staff, and hopes to complete the remainder of the staff interviews tonight after he leaves the Selectmen’s meeting. He plans to draft his report on Friday, and will give it to his manager for review, after which a copy will be sent to the Selectmen. While Mr. O’Keefe would not give any details of what is in the report, he said it would include points of deficiency in the department with suggestions to improve these deficiencies as well as things that are going well in the department.

Mr. O’Keefe said he is still evaluating whether we should have a full-time or a part-time fire chief. He expressed satisfaction in his interviews with staff; they have been very open and have given good input.

FYIs & Other Business

Town Counsel - We received a letter from Mitchell Municipal Group informing us of a \$10 per hour increase in their rates effective January 1, 2011.

Red Cross – We received a letter from the American Red Cross thanking us for our appropriation in 2010.

MetroCast Cable – We received a letter from MetroCast Cable informing us that although our agreement with them expires December 31, 2013, Section 626 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, establishes an orderly process for the renewal of cable television franchises. The Town has to initiate a proceeding to identify the future needs and interests of the community as they relate to cable television services and to review Metro Cast’s performance under its existing cable television franchise with the Town. A meeting will be set up with MetroCast to discuss the franchise.

Updated Road List – Tim distributed copies of an updated road list to be added to the Town Ordinance Book. He informed the Board that Lois and Cindy had reviewed all the roads in Town by checking them against the 911 list and the maps from Cartographics. There are corrections to road names, new road names have been added to the list and road classifications have been updated. A copy of the list is being given to all members of the Zoning Board, the Historic District Commission and the Planning Board.

Recycling Income – The income from the recycling center for December was just under \$1,100; year-to-date income is \$26,580. Although income was slightly down from last year due to the decrease in the price paid for recyclables, we did recycle more tonnage.

Fire Dept

Warrant Article – SCBA – Tim informed the Selectmen that we were going request that a non-capital reserve account be set up for self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), but Acting Chief Hempel has requested instead to set up a capital reserve account so that they could change all the tanks at one time. This request will be presented to the budget committee. Tim was asked to find out what year Acting Chief Hempel wants them replaced, how many there would be, and the cost.

Warrant Article – Tim reported that Acting Chief Hempel had requested a new non-capital reserve account be set up for tires for fire vehicles.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that the tires should be included in the non-capital reserve account that already exists for fire vehicle maintenance, so they will not request a new account be set up.

Highway Betterment Grant – Tim said there would be a slight change in the Highway Department Budget because the State has increased the amount of the Road Betterment Grant by \$17,000.

Lease – Old Town Hall – Selectman Abbott had a draft of a lease between the Town and the Historical Society for the space they are to occupy in the Old Town Hall. A couple of questions arose that have to be answered before the lease can be finalized. It is hoped the answers can be gotten for next week’s meeting.

7:00 pm – Public Input – There was no one present for public input.

Camp Bell – Selectman Guarino spoke with Desiree Tumas, planning clerk, and Dave Russell about the request by Representative Russell to grant permission to the Boy Scouts to erect a pavilion on a Fish & Game easement on the mountain where the children could meet in the event of an emergency. Representative Russell will also speak with Desiree.

Approval of Minutes – The Selectmen reviewed the minutes of the December 20th meeting.

MOTION – Selectman Hatch moved to accept the minutes of December 20, 2010 as amended. Selectman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Buildings Repairs – The repair of the rail by the vault at the Academy Building and the door at the salt & sand shed on Allens Mill Road have been addressed and will taken care of.

Old Town Hall – There was a brief discussion of how maintenance of the Old Town Hall would be affected if the building were accepted on the State Historic Register. It was felt that routine maintenance would be all that is required.

Petition Article – Year-Round Library – Previously all petition warrant articles had to be at the end of all the other warrant articles at town meeting. After consultation with Department of Revenue Administration, the Selectmen were informed that they have the option of where they want the articles placed. The Selectmen decided to move the article for the Year-Round-Library up to after the Non-Capital Reserve Articles, so it can be addressed earlier in the day.

Furnace – There were problems with a zone valve on the furnace being stuck open. Our oil provider checked it, but because it is a commercial grade furnace, suggested that we get someone who deals with commercial furnaces to look at it, and that we keep the furnace contract separate from the oil contract. Tim will make some calls.

7:30 pm – MOTION – Selectman Guarino moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Hatch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne
Recording Clerk

