

APPROVED

**Board of Selectmen
13 February 2012
Minutes**

6:05 pm – Chairman Don Guarino called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Guarino, Selectmen Rachel Hatch and Ralph Lavin, Town Administrator Tim Warren and Clerk Lois Dionne. Also present were Frank Weeks, Roger Ball, Fire Chief Hempel, Police Chief O'Brien and Brett Currier.

After attendance, everyone stood for the "Pledge of Allegiance".

Although he was not on the agenda, Mr. Weeks asked, and was granted, permission to make a quick presentation to the Board. Mr. Weeks said he had been at a "99" Restaurant in Albany, NY recently with a friend, who, when sitting there, asked if he lived in Gilmanton Iron Works. He said he did, and his friend told him to look behind him. When he turned around, he saw a picture of a building with a sign that said "Gilmanton Iron". His friend took a picture of the picture. Mr. Weeks had the picture framed and presented it to the Selectmen.

6:09 pm – Public Hearing

Chairman Guarino opened the public hearing to discuss the warrant article to be presented by the fire department at town meeting that would authorize the Selectmen to enter into a five-year lease/purchase agreement for a new ambulance with a total cost of \$197,045.65.

Fire Chief Hempel said they are going to move forward with the arrangement, which was supported by both the Budget Committee and the Selectmen. They are going to pursue a lease/purchase agreement for the funding of the ambulance with a five-year plan, with a payment of approximately \$39,000 per year. The first payment will be made on the delivery of the vehicle, which is anticipated to be in October.

Tim Warren explained that a hearing was required because the lease of the ambulance has a buy out of \$1, so is considered a long-term debt.

Chairman Guarino stated that there is enough money in the capital reserve for the first payment.

Chief Hempel said the intent is to not place money in the capital reserve for a new ambulance for the next five years, but to use the money for the payments on this new ambulance. The interest rate he was quoted is 3.257% for a five-year note.

Chairman Guarino asked if the ambulance would have a life expectancy after the end of the lease payments. Chief Hempel said he figured there would be a minimum of five years service after the lease.

Roger Ball asked if there was a mileage constraint on the ambulance. There is none because we will buy it out for \$1 at the end of the lease.

6:15 – There being no further questions, Chairman Guarino closed the public hearing.

FYIs

Planning Board Member Dave Russell submitted a letter informing the board that he does not wish, nor will he accept reappointment to the planning board. Selectman Hatch stated that Dan Hudson has said he will also not be seeking reappointment.

There was a brief discussion about the need to find members for the planning board and the zoning board. The planning board needs two regular members and an alternate. The planning board and zoning board chairs will be asked to draft a letter for the Selectmen to put in the paper explaining what is required of members and the importance of the boards, and asking for volunteers to serve on the boards. Training is offered to all board members. Selectman Hatch will contact the board chairs.

GAT for January was 94.25 tons, up from 81.02 tons in January 2011.

Model Facility? – Tim informed the board that Recycling Manager Justin Leavitt had informed him that he had a group of visitors from Connecticut tour the facility. He said they had heard so many good things about the facility that they wanted to model the one they will be building after it.

Metrocast Contract – The Selectmen were asked to review the proposed contract with Metrocast for 2013. Tim has a meeting with the consortium on February 23rd, and would like input from the Selectmen. Each town in the consortium will be having input into the contract. Chairman Guarino asked if this would be the time to discuss the franchise fee. There was a brief discussion of the fee and contract.

6:33 pm – Selectman Hatch 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. Selectman Lavin seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Selectmen discussed a personnel issue.

7:00 pm – Selectman Hatch moved to come out of Non-Public Session. Selectman Lavin seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

MOTION – Selectman Hatch moved to seal the minutes of the above-non-public session. Selectman Lavin seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

7:01 pm – Recess

7:04 – Back in Session

Public Input

Metrocast Cable – Brett Currier, who had been present during the discussion of the cable contract, felt now would be the time to get competitive prices and to negotiate with Metrocast.

Chairman Guarino felt the Selectmen need time to review the drafted contract, and get back to Tim with their concerns next week before he attends the meeting. The Selectmen do not meet next Monday due to the holiday, so there was a brief discussion during which Tim was asked to pursue having service provided to all residents who wished to receive it. The Selectmen will also review the contract, and will each let Tim know if they have any other concerns.

More FYIs

Tax Breaks – Marshall Bishop would like to meet with the Selectmen to discuss the possibility of some kind of a tax break for new businesses in Town for the first few years to help them get their business established.

Selectman Hatch said the planning board has been revamping their site plans, and are working to expand the commercial-use aspect. She stated that she would like to see what the planning board is going to do before meeting with Mr. Bishop. A meeting with Mr. Bishop would not take place before early spring.

Open House – Mr. Bishop would also like to hold an open house at his winery for all town employees and the Selectmen. He had one once before, but felt more people might attend if the Selectmen would allow them have it during the last two hours of the workday.

The Selectmen felt there would be a liability to the Town if the open house were to be held during work hours.

Gas Pump – Corners – Selectman Hatch asked the status of the request by the police chief to have gas pumps installed somewhere in the Corners. Tim replied that the issue has not been discussed yet.

Fallen Trees and Branches – Selectman Hatch stated that Mr. Lemieux had asked her if he could harvest the branches and trees that had fallen on a vacant lot that abuts his property on Route 107. The Board denied permission.

Article Laconia Daily Sun (LDS) - Selectman Hatch was concerned about the article in the LDS regarding the budget committee meeting. Selectman Hatch stated that Gail Ober, of the LDS, had called her at home Friday night asking questions about the town budget. Rachel said Gail had brought up the \$45,000 warrant article for the Gilmanton Year-Round-Library (GYRL), and asked if the Selectmen were recommending it. She said she told Gail that the GYRL had come to the Board of Selectmen and asked them to put it as a warrant article. The Selectmen recommended the GYRL submit it as a petition warrant article, which they did. Rachel said she had told Gail that the Selectmen were not recommending the warrant article, but the budget committee did. The article in the paper said that both the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee supported the \$45,000 warrant article.

Selectman Hatch said Ms. Ober had said she heard that the budget committee was discussing reducing a patrol officer. Rachel said she told Ms. Ober that the budget committee could only make recommendations, but that the Board of Selectmen deal with personnel, and at this time, the Selectmen had not discussed a reduction of any personnel in the town. The article stated that the Selectmen are recommending keeping the full-time sergeant position, and reducing a patrol officer, plus a car.

Selectman Hatch said there are other discrepancies in the article regarding budgetary amounts of money.

After a brief discussion, it was felt the Selectmen should address the article by Ms. Ober. Selectman Hatch will draft a letter to the editor rebutting the article.

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

MOTION – Selectman Hatch moved to enact and adopt the language of the Computer Use and Communications Equipment Policy in the LGC Guidelines as Gilmanton’s Computer Use Policy. The policy is to become effective tonight, February 13, 2012. Selectman Lavin seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Lois was asked to update the language of the Town’s personnel policy, and get a copy to all Town employees, along with the page for them to sign acknowledging receipt of the policy, as soon as possible.

02-13-12 BOS

APPROVED

MOTION – Selectman Lavin moved to accept the minutes of February 6, 2012 as amended. Selectman Hatch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

8:35 pm – MOTION – Selectman Hatch moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Lavin seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne
Recording Clerk