

**Board of Selectmen
14 January 2008
Minutes**

6:07 p.m. – Selectman Don Guarino called the meeting to order. Present were Selectmen Don Guarino and Rachel Hatch, Town Administrator Tim Warren and Recording Clerk Lois Dionne. Chairman Brian Forst arrived at 6:25 p.m.

Taser Policy – Police Chief Phil O’Brien presented the Selectmen with a draft of a policy regarding the use of tasers. Chief O’Brien said they had reviewed copies of taser policies from Belknap County, Hill, Tilton, Loudon and Goffstown; took what they liked, and incorporated it into, what they felt would be a good policy for Gilmanton.

The Selectmen briefly reviewed the draft policy, but felt they would like to take it home so they could take the time to review it thoroughly. They will get back to Phil in a couple of weeks.

Non-Public Session Procedures – Chairman Hatch stated that Israel Willard had spoken with her on election day, and had expressed his concern that some of the Board of Selectmen’s non-public sessions were not warranted. *Mr. Willard had expressed this concern to the Selectmen at their meeting last week. He had cited a couple of instances when he felt the Board should not have entered into a non-public session. The reasons for the non-public session were explained to him.*

The Selectmen read the RSA relating to reasons for entering into non-public sessions. Reasons for non-public sessions are: dismissal, promotion or setting compensation for public employees – the consideration of hiring a public employee – matters which might adversely affect a person’s reputation – consideration of purchase or real or personal property – discussion of pending or threatened (in writing) litigation against the Town, Town Officials, Board Members or employees.

The Selectmen discussed the RSA, and why they went into non-public sessions when they did. They also discussed the examples Mr. Willard had brought up last week, and after discussing them, felt they had been right to enter into non-public session. After serious discussion and consideration, it was felt that they are using the sessions appropriately.

01-14-08 - BOS

Sealed Minutes – A couple of weeks ago the Selectmen had a request for information regarding information contained in non-public sealed minutes. The person involved okayed the release of the information. The problem was that there were other sessions in the non-public sealed minutes that referred to persons other than the individual requesting that the minutes be unsealed. It was not known if a portion of “sealed” minutes could be unsealed, or if everything had to be unsealed. Tim Warren contacted Local Government Center, and was told the portion relating to the individual could be unsealed, and the remainder of the minutes could remain sealed.

Chairman Forst briefly reviewed the minutes.

MOTION – Chairman Forst moved to unseal all of page 3 and page four through Paragraph two of the 7:06 p.m. non-public session of the January 30, 2006 minutes. The other portion of the minutes will remain sealed. Selectman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 2-0. Selectman Hatch abstained from the vote.

7:00 p.m. – Public Input – No one was present for public input.

Conservation Commission – Budget Review – Tim informed the Selectmen that, because of the weather, the Conservation Commission would not be attending the meeting tonight. He had a copy of their budget worksheet for the Selectmen to review.

The Selectmen reviewed the Conservation Commission’s budget. There is one area on which they would like some clarification; the costs associated with the Thompson Town Forest timber harvest.

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

MOTION- Selectman Hatch moved to accept the minutes of January 7, 2008 as drafted. Selectman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Selectmen’s Corner – Tim had an email from Carolyn Baldwin of her summary of the minutes to be sent to the papers for the Selectmen’s Corner. The Selectmen reviewed the draft and made a few changes. Tim will forward the changes to Carolyn.

Town Website – Tim informed the Selectmen that somebody would be in tomorrow to train the employees for the new website. The website is in place, and we should be able to input information by the end of the month.

Refurbished Fire Truck – Chairman Forst asked Chief Robbins the status of the fire truck that was sent out to be refurbished. Chief Robbins said the truck should be back by the end of the month.

7:40 p.m. – Recess

01-14-08 - BOS

7:50 p.m. – Back in Session

Fire Department Budget – Chief Robbins was in to review the final figures in his budget with the Selectmen. As in his previous meeting with the Selectmen, there was discussion of salary, call pay increases and increases in fuel and heating costs. Costs of computer upgrades and a warrant article to replace stretchers and stair chairs for the ambulances were also discussed. Chief Robbins also asked the Selectmen's support to establish a non-capital reserve for plant maintenance.

Certificate of Compliance – Daniel Webster Council – Tim presented the Selectmen with a Certificate of Compliance from the Boy Scouts for their signature stating that the Scouts are in compliance with all the violations that had been found at the Scout camp, and issues with the land-use boards, as well as the completion of the upgrading of Places Mill Road.

It was agreed that the Scouts are in compliance with the violations Bob Flanders had found at the camp, and that the Places Mill Road upgrade had been completed, but there was a question about the wording of the compliance in reference to the land-use boards. Tim will fax the information to Town Counsel for review before the Selectmen sign the certificate of compliance.

8:55 p.m. – MOTION – Selectman Hatch moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne
Recording Clerk