

**Board of Selectmen  
11 February 2008  
Minutes**

**6:15 p.m.** – Selectman Don Guarino opened the meeting. Present were Selectmen Guarino and Rachel Hatch, Town Administrator Tim Warren and Clerk Lois Dionne. Chairman Forst arrived at 6:30 p.m.

**Annual Landfill Monitoring Update** – Terry Lorber of Provan and Lorber presented the Selectmen with the annual report for the monitoring of the groundwater at the landfill. The wells are tested twice a year, in April and November. The findings are sent in a report to the State and the Town receives a copy. State regulations are that the wells have to be monitored for thirty years.

Mr. Lorber stated that Provan and Lorber have been monitoring the wells for the past four or five years, and that they monitor the groundwater and they monitor for methane gas. He reported that there is some methane being generated, and there is some iron and manganese, which are normal elements, and one of the wells is showing arsenic. He said that well is driven in bedrock, and arsenic is a natural element in bedrock, but the water quality isn't getting worse. Mr. Lorber said that four or five years ago they had looked at the arsenic in the water, and it was .04 and is now .02, so things seem to be quieting down. Mr. Lorber said we are operating under a groundwater permit from 2005 that is good until 2010.

Mr. Lorber had a contract to continue monitoring the wells in 2008. Tim Warren signed the contract.

**6:40 p.m. - Enter into Non-Public Session as per RSA 91-A:3, II(b)**

Selectman Hatch moved to Enter into Non-Public Session as per RSA 91-A:3, II(b) – Consideration of the hiring of a public employee. Selectman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Police Chief Phil O'Brien discussed a candidate he would like to hire as a part-time police officer.

**6:51 p.m. – Out of Non-Public Session**

Selectman Hatch moved to come Out of Non-Public Session. Selectman Guarino seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

## **02-11-08 BOS**

**False Alarm Policy** – At a previous meeting, Chief O’Brien had discussed the police department’s policy for responding to false alarms for home alarm systems in Town. He felt he would like to update the policy, and was also concerned about the fee that was stated in the policy for responding after the third false alarm; he felt the fee was high. Phil had said he would like to find out what area towns have for a policy in responding to false alarms.

Tonight Phil had copies of policies from other Towns in New Hampshire. The policies were briefly reviewed. Some towns require a permit for home alarm systems. Fees are charged for false alarms, some after one false alarm, and others have graduating fees depending on the number of false alarms. Chief O’Brien said he had spoken with the court, and if an individual doesn’t pay, we would have to take them to small claims court.

**7:00 p.m. – Public Input** – There was no one present for public input.

**False Alarm Policy Cont’d.** – Discussion continued on the false alarm policy. The Selectmen didn’t feel that the fee in Gilmanton’s policy was excessive compared to that of other towns. The fee in the current policy is \$150 after the third false alarm. Requiring a permit was also discussed. It was felt that by requiring a permit for the installation of any new alarm systems would provide the police department with contact information in the case of a false alarm, and the homeowner doesn’t live in the area. Alarm systems installed prior to the implementation of such a requirement would be grandfathered, and would not need a permit.

During the course of the discussion, it was brought up that some people feel the Town should bill individuals for false alarms for the fire department, and for when the fire department has to respond to brush fires that are out of control. Chief O’Brien noted that Newbury has a policy that includes both the fire and police department in one policy. Selectman Hatch wondered if both the fire and police departments could be incorporated into one policy, and she asked if it would be possible to meet with Chief O’Brien and Chief Robbins in a couple of weeks to discuss a policy. Phil will try to get more information on the Newbury policy, and will speak with Chief Robbins.

**School Safety Plan** – Chief O’Brien asked if the Selectmen work with the school on the safety plan, in case there is an incident, and if they were aware of any extra radios anywhere. He said there had been a bunch, but the former chief had handed them out. Phil felt the former selectmen and the highway crew had gotten radios. Tim Warren said the highway department had gotten some radios. Selectman Hatch said the question had arisen at the safety meeting, as to who purchases the radios, the school district or the town. Chief O’Brien said they (the school) want the radios at the school, so he felt they should be the ones to purchase them. Selectman Hatch felt that Tim should start attending the safety meetings at the school because it involves the Town, and is a joint effort.

**02-11-08 BOS**

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

**MOTION – Selectman Guarino moved to accept the minutes of February 4, 2008 as written. Selectman Hatch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

**Discussion of Warrant Articles & Town Report** – Tim had some old pictures taken in town which the Selectmen reviewed, and selected one for the cover of the Town Report.

Tim said he had gotten the okay from DRA and Town Counsel for everything on the warrant.

The Selectmen reviewed the warrant articles to determine which ones they felt would need addressing at town meeting, and which of the Selectmen felt they would be willing to address which article.

Tim questioned the Selectmen about an article on the warrant that asked to appropriate money for renovations to the Old Town Hall so the police department would be able to utilize the first floor for office space. There was discussion of the article, and it was felt because the budget committee didn’t recommend the article, and that they have an article on the warrant for a feasibility study on renovating the Old Town Hall into office space for the Police Department, they should not present the article for renovations this year. Tim Warren stated that there is still time to strike the article from the warrant, and the Selectman unanimously agreed to strike the article from this year’s warrant.

**8:55 p.m. – Recess**

**9:05 p.m. – Back in Session**

The Selectmen continued to review the warrant articles and signed a warrant with the article for appropriations for renovation of the old town hall removed.

**9:40 p.m. – MOTION – Selectman Guarino moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Hatch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne  
Recording Clerk