

**Board of Selectmen  
27 October 2008  
Minutes**

**6:00 p.m.** – Chairman Don Guarino called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Guarino, Selectmen Rachel Hatch and Betty Ann Abbott and Town Administrator Tim Warren. Recording Clerk Lois Dionne was on vacation.

After attendance everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

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

**MOTION: - Selectman Abbott moved to accept the minutes of October 20, 2008 as written. Selectman Hatch seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

**6:12 p.m. - Enter into Non-Public Session as per RSA 91-A:3, II(a)**

Selectman Hatch moved to Enter into Non-Public Session as 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 Abbott seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Selectmen discussed a personnel issue.

**6:30 p.m. – Out of Non-Public Session**

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

**Chief K.G. Lockwood – Fire Dept.** – Chief Lockwood brought a fluorescent vest to show to the Selectmen. He said Wynette DeGroot, from LGC (Local Government Center) had told him there is a law effective November 24<sup>th</sup> that everybody who works at, near, or on the roadways needs to wear one. Chief Lockwood said the price he had been given for the vests had been \$38, but he had gotten together with Alton, New Durham, Barnstead, Strafford, Wolfeboro and Farmington, and they were able to get a price of \$19 a piece, so he will be buying one for everyone (fire & police departments).

Chief Lockwood said he is working with Cindy Bedford to identify the roads in town. He said there are two Leavitt Roads in town; Leavitt Road on this side of town, and Levitt Road on the Alton side of town. KG said there are two houses on one road, and

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three on the other road that would be affected, and he and Cindy are working with 911 to change this. He said Cindy felt, because it is such a controversy when you tell people they have to change their address, that they wanted to get the Selectmen's permission to proceed with 911.

During discussion, it was agreed that it made more sense to change Leavitt Road, off of Middle Route because Levitt Road at the Alton line runs into Levitt Road in Alton.

K.G. said there is also a problem with Joe Jones Road. He said when you go to the end, there is a driveway that looks like a road, and it looks as if the road splits; the numbering leads you to believe you want to go straight, when in fact, you want to turn right to get to the Red Fox Farm and another house. He said the driveway is long enough that it should have its own name.

K.G. said they should renumber Bean Road, because the numbers are on the wrong side, and they decrease, so are backwards from all the other roads. He asked to do the normal numbering from Loon Pond Road for that end of Bean road. This would only affect three homes.

K.G. said that Page Road is numbered backwards. He felt 911 would do the renumbering when they come in to collect the data.

K.G. asked permission to speak with the people involved where name changes would be involved to get their reaction. Selectman Hatch felt that was a good idea, and then there could be an informational public hearing.

**6:55 p.m.** – The Selectmen moved the meeting upstairs for a joint meeting with the school board. This was an informational meeting by Jordan Institutes on the Feasibility Study for energy improvement in the Town and School Buildings.

**8:05 p.m.** – The Selectmen reconvened their regular meeting downstairs in the conference room.

### **8:05 p.m. – Public Input**

**Feasibility Study Committee** – Israel Willard presented the Selectmen with an outline (copy attached) for a feasibility study for the Old Town Hall with the Design Team of Scott Vlasak, Bruce Ronayne Hamilton Architects.

Architect Scott Vlasak met with Mr. Willard and Chief O'Brien on October 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss the building program and Police Department requirements. On October 30<sup>th</sup> a walkthrough is scheduled for the design team at the Old Town Hall. Bob Flanders, Building Inspector, has been asked to join the walkthrough to discuss building code issues. Chief O'Brien has been notified, and Israel Willard and other members of the

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building committee are encouraged to attend. Between October 30<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup> there will be meetings between the design team and the feasibility committee to make recommendations and identify truly feasible options the design team should focus and report on. The final report should be issued to the building committee on November 28<sup>th</sup>. The date for the presentation to the town is December 1<sup>st</sup>, but the design team has requested that the due date be extended until December 15<sup>th</sup> if possible.

Chairman Guarino asked if Israel had any idea of the cost of the study. Israel stated that \$20,000 had been appropriated for the study, and the firm had stated they could do it for that sum, but Israel didn't know if it would come to less than that amount. He felt they couldn't give an amount until after the walkthrough.

Israel said Stan Bean wanted to know the square footage of the previous design for the fire/safety building because Stan thinks the committee has to cover that. Israel said he didn't feel that was the feasibility committee's responsibility; their job is to do a feasibility study of renovating the Old Town Hall. He said Stan asked if they were going to present, to the voters at Town Meeting, what it would cost to build a building for the fire station at the square footage they were looking for. Israel didn't feel that was why the feasibility committee was there.

There was a brief discussion and it was agreed that that was not the responsibility of the feasibility committee. The purpose of the committee was to come up with a figure of what it would cost the town to renovate the Old Town Hall for use by the police department. Israel said what he wanted to present to the Selectmen for Town Meeting is what it is going to cost to get the police department (1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors) renovated.

**Signs – Iron Works Market** - Israel noted that in previous minutes, it had been stated that the “Chester Chicken” signs at the Iron Works Market were to be taken in nightly. He stated that these signs are bolted to the fence railing. Selectman Abbott said they would send Bob Flanders back out there.

**8:30 p.m.** - Chairman Don Guarino closed public input.

**Removal of Trees – Town Forest** – Marlene Osborne came before the Selectmen to ask permission to remove three pine trees and to top one maple tree in the Betty Smithers Town forest. She presented the Selectmen with a letter explaining that they are in the process of building a new house in another location on their lot on Seibel Road, which is surrounded by the Betty Smithers Town Forest. Marlene said there is a view of the Belknaps and other mountains behind their house, but there are three pine trees and one maple tree, on town forest land, that stick out way above the others that obstruct their view. Marlene presented the Selectmen with photos showing the trees they would like to take down. The Osbornes were asking permission to cut the three pines and to take a boom truck and trim the maple top only. She assured the Selectmen that they would completely clean up any wood that comes down (Mr. Osborne had been a logger, and

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Marlene's brother has a boom truck so he could take the top off the maple tree). The trees are located near the snowmobile trails, which the Osbornes keep open.

Marlene had spoken with Conservation Commission Chair Nanci Mitchell, and was told to bring her request to the Selectmen's meeting, as it is the Selectmen's decision. Tim Warren stated that he felt that when Kevin Christiansen had been on the Board of Selectmen the Board had given permission for some trees to be cut in a town forest, but he hadn't had time to research the minutes yet. Chairman Guarino asked Marlene, if her brother could take the top off the maple why he couldn't top the pine tree as well. While the Osborne's would like to remove the pines, Marlene said if topping the trees were the option, that would be fine.

After discussion, the Selectmen said they would take the situation under advisement. Israel Willard suggested that the Selectmen go take a look at the trees, and depending on the size and condition of the trees, the Osborne's might be doing the Town a favor by cutting the trees; they could sell the logs and make the Town the receiver for the trees.

The Selectmen felt they should have a site walk to view the trees, and will notify the Osbornes when they set a date.

**Elm Trees – Earth Day** – Israel Willard asked when and where the elm trees the Town received for participation in the Earth Day celebration would be planted. The Elm trees will be planted on the old Jhanle property in the Iron Works. It was decided the Selectmen should set a date to plant the trees and do the site walk the same day.

### **Site Walks**

**Tree Planting** – The Selectmen will plant the trees in the Iron Works at the Ronald & Judith MacPherson (Jhanle) Property on Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

**Site Walk – Smithers Town Forest.** – The Selectmen will conduct a site walk in the Smithers Town Forest to view the trees the Osbornes wish to cut. They will meet at the Osbornes on Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

**Tax Rate** – Tim informed the Selectmen that the tax rate would be set Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in Concord.

There was a very brief discussion on the procedure for setting the tax rate. Tim and Selectman Abbott will attend the meeting to set the rate.

**NH Municipal Conference** – Tim asked if the Selectmen wished to attend any of the sessions of the NH Municipal Conference that will be held November 12<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup>. None of the Selectmen will attend, but Tim will attend a couple of the sessions.

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**Insurance Rates** – Tim said we had gotten the official rates on health insurance for 2009. The rate for health insurance is down .08 %, and dental is up 3.7%.

**Water in Basement** - Tim said we had gotten water in the basement, and DuPont Construction had come look at it. There was only one spot that was wet, so they patched one spot in the foundation that had been missed when the drainage system was installed.

**Budget Schedule** – Selectman Abbott asked if the budget schedule and request for level funding had gone out to the department heads. Tim replied that they hadn't yet, but would go out this week. Selectmen Abbott asked for the Selectmen to receive a copy of any communication that is sent to the department heads regarding the budget. She stressed that she wants to see the schedules met this year, and for Tim to be after the department heads to get the numbers in on time, and to notify the Selectmen if he is having problems getting the numbers.

**Name Tags** – Selectman Abbott asked if the nametags for the election workers had come in. Tim replied that they had been shipped last week, so should be in any day.

**Striping – Iron Works** - Selectman Abbott asked what Chairman Guarino had found out about the striping in the Iron Works. Chairman Guarino stated that there is a minimum price to go out to do striping, and it could include a handicap spot. The cost would be \$165 to stripe in front of the store and post office. Don said the weather has to be in the 40s to be able to paint the lines. Tim said the employees at the recycling center had asked if we could get 5 mph sprayed on the pavement at the entrance and exit from the center. There was also a brief discussion about getting a line painted to distinguish Currier Hill Road from the Corners Store Parking lot. Chairman Guarino will see about getting the lines painted.

**Energy Assessment** – Selectman Abbott asked if we should go ahead with the free part of the energy assessment for our Town Buildings. The Selectmen agreed to go ahead with the free part, and then we could decide whether to go further.

**Goodwin's Recycling Schedule** – Selectman Hatch said she was concerned about Ralph Goodwin going to the Recycling Center on days when the center is closed to the public. She felt we are giving him special access, and would like to see him go to Penacook to dump his trash; recyclables in Gilmanston would be fine, but take the trash to Penacook. Rachel said she would settle for having Ralph come on Wednesday, Saturday or Sunday during dump hours.

Chairman Guarino asked if Rachel would be okay with Ralph going on Tuesdays, if members of the recycling facility were working there. She said she would as long as employees from the center were there.

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Chairman Guarino didn't feel this was special treatment because residents of the town hire Ralph to dispose of their trash, and if he didn't bring the trash to the facility for them, the residents would bring it in.

Selectman Hatch felt it is a liability to the Town when Ralph is at the facility by himself. It was agreed that Ralph should go to the facility only when employees of the recycling center are at the facility.

Tim will ask Ralph to come in to speak with the Selectmen.

**Class VI Road Committee** – Chairman Guarino felt that #7 of the Draft Class Roads Policy, which says that the Selectmen shall require that the Class VI road be improved to appropriate standards based on the proposed use and condition of the road, as well as take into consideration recommendations of the Planning Board, needed to be addressed. He said he realized that, as Committee Chair Ella Jo Reagan stated, to not make a decision on that specific specification leaves it so open that you would always have a problem as to what an “appropriate” standard would be.

Don said that at the present, to upgrade a Class VI Road to a Class V Road, it has to be a specific width, and needs to be paved.

There was a brief discussion of the draft policy and some of the wording that might cause confusion. The Selection tabled the discussion until they could take the time to review the policy and address the matter thoroughly before they get back to the Class VI Road Committee.

**9:30 p.m. – MOTION – Selectman Abbott moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Hatch seconded.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dionne  
For Tim Warren

