

**Board of Selectmen
January 28, 2015**

Present: Kenneth S. Paul, Chairperson; Richard C. Edwards; Connie M. Twombly; Teresa A. Williams, Town Administrator; and Toni Bodah, Secretary.

Mr. Paul called the posted meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. **Mr. Edwards moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) & (i). Ms. Twombly seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Ms. Twombly – ‘aye’; Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’; Mr. Paul – ‘aye’. The motion passed unanimously, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.**

The Board returned to public session at 7 p.m., at which time Mr. Paul led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present included, Chief Ken Fifield and Donna Martin (videotaping).

1. Appointments – None scheduled.

2. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #1

--Chief Fifield reviewed some of the statistics included with his Annual Town Report. 2014 showed a 10% increase in Calls for Service, a 20% reduction in the number of burglaries, but an increase in the number of thefts. The number of motor vehicle accidents has been decreasing over the past several years, which Chief Fifield believes relates to the use of speed grants. Overall the Chief has seen favorable progress, and the crime trend is going in the right direction. The Chief plans to focus on burglaries and stops for suspicious activity. He also plans to work to reduce domestic violence and address the influx of heroin into our community.

3. Unfinished Business

a) Proposed Purchase of Skid Steer Loader – Warren Winn is also looking at used equipment and is working to obtain a better breakdown of the figures provided by Bobcat.

b) Map 180, Lot 72 – In November the Board voted not to accept a tax deed for this property as the property owner had been making regular payments to the Tax Collector. However, payments stopped almost immediately thereafter. Although by law the property cannot be deeded at this time, the Board agreed to send the property owner a letter strongly encouraging the recommencement of payments.

4. New Business

a) Tax Acquired Property Eligible for Disposition – Ms. Williams advised that the 3-year window for redemption for 4 properties has elapsed. The Board may wish to hold the properties until such time as an auction is warranted, or sealed bids could be requested. The Board viewed the property information linked to the Town’s website. It was determined that a draft bid packet would be prepared for the Board’s review, to include calculations for outstanding taxes.

b) 2014² Sewer Warrant – Mr. Paul moved to approve the 2014² Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$16,059.21, as presented. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

5. Proposed CRF Expenditures

a) Landfill CRF \$4900 – This represents the cost of required bi-annual post-closure reporting. **Mr. Paul moved to approve the \$4900 expenditure as presented. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

6. Correspondence

a) NH DES re: Wastewater Treatment Facility – Testing has indicated high nitrogen levels; DES has made recommendations to address this issue.

b) HealthTrust Session on Healthcare Reform – Ms. Williams has attended one of these sessions previously, which she found very informative. The Board members may be interested in attending a session. Ms. Williams will provide the Board members with timesheets that will be used in accordance with the Affordable Care Act.

7. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #2 – None forthcoming.

8. Administrative Matters

a) Liaison Reports – **Ms. Twombly:** The Heritage Commission has heard that because the canal has been accepted to the National Register of Historic Places that the Board has now put that project aside. The Commission stressed that the bridge still requires work.

Mr. Paul noted that the budget season is wrapping up, and the Town budget process went smoothly.

b) Selectmen's Letter of Appreciation – The Board agreed that this month's letter would go to Fred Clough,

c) Town Administrator's Update

--The annual cost for landfill monitoring is now less than \$5000, and, therefore, is no longer required to go out to bid. The Board agreed by consensus to continue service with CE² until new permitting is required in 2018.

--On Tuesday, February 3, at 10 a.m. Ms. Williams will meet with representatives from NH DOT Bureau of Bridges, CLH, and Fred Clough at Town Hall to discuss the Maple Street Bridge. Board members are welcome to attend.

--Representatives from NRRRA will be at Town Hall on Thursday, February 12 at 10 a.m. to discuss use of PGA. We will be joined by the New London road agent and 2 staff members, as well as representatives from the towns that deliver glass to our location. If we were to decide to no longer be an official collection site, then we would have to haul our glass to New London. [Note: This meeting has been moved to February 19.]

--In February 2014, the water usage at the Annex jumped from 4900 to 55,000 gallons. This bill was eventually paid, even though we believed the reading to be in error. In September 2014, the usage was again 55,000 gallons, and the bill included penalties and interest. No leak can be found. Toilet parts were replaced to avoid "running." Wayne Robinson met with 2 Water Commissioners, who agreed to waive \$286.98 and to assess a flat fee of \$100. The next bill received in January 2015 included the previous balance, plus penalties. The Water Precinct indicates that the meter is accurate, and the facility used 44,000 gallons in less than 6 months.

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The meter has now been replaced, and we are hopeful that the next reading will be accurate. Ms. Williams recommended paying the current charges and standing firm on the previous amount being waived. Ms. Twombly suggested putting this in writing to the Water Precinct.

--Many towns sent letters to the Carroll County Commissioners regarding timely submission of documentation for tax rate setting.

--Deliberative Session is this Saturday, January 31, at 1 p.m. in the Town Hall opera house. The Board will meet at 12:30 to review the warrant articles with Town Counsel and the Moderator.

--The Board distributed speaking assignments for the warrant articles.

d) Building Permit Releases – None forthcoming.

e) Payment Manifests – Mr. Edwards moved to approve AP #3 in the amount of \$76,181.07, as presented. Ms. Twombly seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

f) Minutes – Mr. Edwards moved to approve the minutes of January 14, 2015, as presented. Ms. Twombly seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni Bodah, Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

Kenneth S. Paul, Chairperson

Richard C. Edwards

Connie Twombly