

MINUTES OF HAVERHILL SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING
Monday, December 15, 2014
Draft Subject to Review, Correction and Approval at Following Meeting

Board Members Present: Chairman Wayne Fortier, Tom Friel, Lynn Wheeler and Rick Ladd

Board Member Excused: Robert Roudebush

Town Manager: Glenn English

Administrative Assistant/Finance Officer: Jo Lacaillade

Selectboard Clerk: Karen Hyde

Members of the Public Present: Darwin Clogston

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Wayne Fortier called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval (additions/deletions completed by Board consent): AA Lacaillade asked that the Mildred Page Fund be added to Pending (Old) Business. Lynn Wheeler made a motion to accept the amended Agenda; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Rick Ladd made a motion to accept the consent agenda; seconded by Lynn Wheeler and carried unanimously.

Scheduled Public Appearance(s): None

Town Manager's Report: TM English stated that he had attended the Economic Summit at Riverbend on December 8. There were six towns (Orford, Piermont, Haverhill, Fairlee, Bradford, and Newbury) with representatives at the Summit. The common denominators in all of the towns were consolidation of services, in particular fire departments, and finding qualified labor for businesses. There was a very good meal prepared by the students of the Culinary Institute and a very informative meeting. Chairman Fortier asked if Bob St.Pierre, director, had any thoughts on why there were problems with qualified labor. TM English responded that Mr. St.Pierre didn't offer any reasons why, but stated that they had been working on the problem. Rick Ladd stated that this is a problem throughout New Hampshire. The state is no longer funding the CTEs at 70%; it is 70% of 70%, so it makes it closer to 55-60% in funding.

Public Hearing:

- **31:95-b Unanticipated Donations for Pool Cover:** Chairman Fortier suspended the regular meeting at 6:13. Rick Ladd made the motion to go into Public Hearing; seconded by Lynn Wheeler. AA Lacaillade stated that the Recreation Department was honored this year to receive 2 anonymous donations and 1 donation from the Lions Club, which totaled \$8,315.91 to purchase a commercial-grade pool cover for the A.P. Hill Pool. The reason for the Public Hearing was to accept the \$8,315.91 into the budget. There were no comments from the Public. Tom Friel made the motion to come out of the Public Hearing at 6:17 and back into regular session; seconded by Lynn Wheeler and carried unanimously. Tom Friel made the motion to accept the unanticipated donations totaling \$8,315.91 into the budget; seconded by Rick Ladd and carried unanimously.

Pending (Old) Business:

- **Firearms Policy:** TM English handed out a shortened draft of the Firearms Policy. The Town's insurance company was not thrilled with the shortened version as they felt more control needed to be built into it. Tom Friel stated that he thought that the wording should be stronger and "out-and-out spelled out". Rick Ladd stated that he was okay with it the way it was. Lynn Wheeler was torn whether this new policy does anything versus what they were trying to do before. Chairman Fortier stated that it was the consensus of the Board to think about this new policy and revisit.
- **Budget 2015:** Chairman Fortier stated that the Board had received a packet last meeting from TM English regarding the budget. The first Budget Advisory Committee meeting would be on December 30, 2014 at 7:00 PM at the JRM Building. He encouraged other Board members to attend the meetings. TM English stated that he had completed a 10-year Capital budget, but the spreadsheet was very lengthy. He was working on a way to reduce it so that the Board could see the whole 10 years. He would have it ready by the next meeting on December 29, 2014. Rick Ladd asked if TM English had received the budgets from the Fire Departments and TM English stated that he had not. Mr. Clogston asked about the Culvert line in the Highway budget. The department request was for \$49,000 and TM English had reduced it to \$4,000. TM English stated that he had moved it from the operating budget to a separate Warrant Article for the Stonecrest culvert repair. Mr. Clogston also had questions on the \$95,000 Highway vehicle line. TM English stated that \$60,000 would come out of Capital Reserves and the net cost would be \$35,000. Mr. Clogston asked what kind of truck they were looking at. TM English stated that it was a replacement for the one-ton truck, which has been having a lot of problems with injectors. Rick Ladd asked TM English if he would be giving the Board a breakdown on the different culvert repair options. TM English responded that the sleeve is \$1,000/ft. and the culvert is a 90-foot culvert, which can be cut down somewhat. A sleeve is the cost of the pipe and then grouting has to be pumped in, which makes the cost almost twice what it would be to replace the culvert.
- **Mildred Page Fund:** AA Lacaillade stated that in February, the Board had received a request from the Haverhill Historical Society for \$5,000 from the Mildred Page Fund for the cost of hiring Stewart Structural Engineering of Barnet, VT to do an engineering study of Pearson Hall. It was tabled at that time to see what other requests might be pending for the year. There is currently \$8,825.92 in the Fund. Chairman Fortier stated that he would have to abstain from any vote as he was Chairman of the Haverhill Historical Society and commented that a lot of work had been done this summer to Pearson Hall. Tom Friel made the motion to use \$5,000 from the Mildred Page Fund to hire Stewart Structural Engineering of Barnet, VT to do an engineering study of Pearson Hall; seconded by Lynn Wheeler. Rick asked if Chairman Fortier had had any discussions with Peter Ely about the stairwells in the front of the building that go to the second level. Chairman Fortier stated that he had not had any discussions about the stairwells with Peter. The Historical Society needed to have a complete assessment of the second level. Lynn commented that previously there was a small staircase – was this the one they were talking about? Chairman Fortier commented that there may have been a wider staircase to the right, but not both to the right and the left. Chairman Fortier stated that the outside of Pearson Hall was in fairly good shape and the foundation was in good shape. He thought the inside had potential. Tom Friel commented that that was the reason for the engineering study. Chairman Fortier abstained from the vote. The motion then passed.

New Business:

- **M&N Assessing Contract:** TM English stated that M&N Assessing is our assessing agency. They currently have two contracts with the Town, one is for the revaluation, which is a 5-year contract and the other is an assessing contract, which was for 3 years. Rather than rebid, M&N proposed a two-year contract extension to match the two contracts up. TM English stated that in two years, the contracts would go out to bid. Lynn Wheeler made the motion to sign a two-year assessing contract with M&N Assessing; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously.

Commission/Committee Reports: Chairman Fortier stated that the Heritage Commission needs members. There are currently only two members.

Correspondence: Chairman Fortier reported that the Board had received the decision from the Court regarding Dennis Connole. The Town won. There was also a flyer regarding an open gym.

Comments of the Public: None

Comments of the Town Manager/Administrative Assistant-Finance Officer: TM English and AA Lacaillade commented that Archie Steenburgh really liked the Robert E. Clifford Memorial Building for his auctions. He had scheduled two auctions in January. AA Lacaillade stated that at the last Recreation Commission meeting, it was noted that two long-time basketball coaches, Jim Kinder and Lorie-Ann Noyes, have stopped coaching this year. It was asked at that meeting if the Selectboard could do a Certificate of Appreciation, which she had with her. There was another Certificate for Brad Kennedy to be presented at the Twin State regular meeting on December 17, 2014.

Comments of Selectboard Members: Chairman Fortier reminded the Board about the Woodsville Precinct meeting December 16, 2014 at 6:30 pm. Rick Ladd stated that he had run across a letter from the Precinct Commissioners in regard to the Life Safety/Fire Inspector.

Adjourn Meeting: Tom Friel made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Lynn Wheeler and all approved. Chairman Fortier adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Minutes transcribed by Karen Hyde