

MINUTES OF HAVERHILL SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 8, 2016
Draft Subject to Review, Correction and Approval at Following Meeting

Board Members Present: Wayne Fortier, Tom Friel, Rick Ladd and Robert Maccini

Town Manager: Glenn English

Administrative Assistant/Finance Officer: Jo Lacaillade

Selectboard Clerk: Karen Hyde

Members of the Public Present: Darwin Clogston, Dennis Cunningham, Kim Conrad, Scott Nichols, Nikita Duling, Joseph Mitchell, Paul Hatje and Mike Bonanno

Call Meeting to Order:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval (additions/deletions completed by Board consent): Chairman Fortier asked to have the Appointment of an Interim Town Manager added to New Business. Rick Ladd made a motion to accept the amended agenda; seconded by Robert Maccini and carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Tom Friel made a motion to accept the consent agenda; seconded by Robert Maccini and carried unanimously.

Scheduled Public Appearance(s):

- **FBLA Proclamation Presentation:** Scott Nichols introduced some of the members of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) of Woodsville High School. Mr. Nichols commented that the President, Dennis Ruprecht, was at a School Board meeting trying to get recycling brought back into the school system. The members with Mr. Nichols included Vice President Joseph Mitchell and Director Nikita Duling. Joseph did a short presentation of what the FBLA was and did. He commented that every State officer has a State Officer project throughout New Hampshire. There were five (5) State Officers and each chapter participates in State Officer projects, such as making schools greener, blood drives and helping Make A Wish. Mr. Nichols noted that Joseph was also a State Officer. Chairman Fortier stated that he had on his calendar for February 11, a get-together at Woodsville High School FBLA and asked what it was for. Mr. Nicholas explained that FBLA tries to integrate itself with the community to make sure that people get a chance to see them more. Chairman Fortier asked if the entire Selectboard was invited and Mr. Nichols said that was correct. Rick Ladd commented that he had been contacted at the Legislature by Dennis Ruprecht to set up a date for them to come down and see how the Committees function and Rick said that he had talked about February 11. Unfortunately, the Wednesday, which is a Session Day, was going to carry over on Thursday through 1:00 and that parallels what they had just mentioned as a time. Thereafter, then there are hearings and executive sessions going right to 4:00 or 4:30. If there was another date that they were looking at, this would be the week that they would want to do it on. Rick then said they were welcome to come to the Education Committee and to just give him some notice and they would be set up. Chairman Fortier then presented and read the proclamation from the Selectboard to the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) of Woodsville High School. The week of February 7-13, 2016 was proclaimed as FBLA-PBL Week in the Town of Haverhill, NH. Chairman Fortier thanked them for all of the work that they do.

Public Hearing: None

Chairman Fortier asked if anyone from the public wished to speak. Paul Hatje, a resident of Blackmount Acres, stated that he had lived there for 15 years and they had just purchased the land from Mr. Cook. The cost of each unit was \$252.50 a month, which comes to about \$1 million over 15 years at 7%. They have raised the rent to \$265 and now it is \$275 and they want to raise it again. These are the directors that are involved in this. He can't get hold of Mr. David Pair, who is the Treasury Secretary and he is being bombarded by his neighbor, who was last to audit the books. The neighbor has some sort of device that he can turn up and down and Mr. Hatje can't sleep. He has called the police and they were less than sympathetic. They came a number of times with body cameras. The two top men, Chief Charles and the sergeant (he couldn't remember his name), told him that "I think you think you're hearing something", which Mr. Hatje takes as them not believing him. He just came from there and it is unbearable. He takes sleeping pills to try and sleep because it goes on all of the time. This started before Christmas and has been going on ever since. He went to his neighbor, Mr. Morris, and asked if he could talk with him and the neighbor said something bad and slammed the door in Mr. Hatje's face. The last time he went back and Mr. Morris's son answered the door and slammed it in his face and in the process, the sergeant told Mr. Hatje that if he went over there again, he would be arrested for trespassing. He doesn't know what to do. Mr. Hatje said that he was 82 years old and he needed to sleep. He can't be driven crazy. He has put his place up for sale because he thought that might help. As much as he would like to be someone to help all of the people in the park, he doesn't know that many people. It is more than he can do, but he is still going to try to notify the Attorney General to find someone to help him. Chairman Fortier asked Mr. Hatje if his complaint was noise. Mr. Hatje said that it was and it gets so loud, the floor vibrates. Chairman Fortier asked if the noise was coming from the same structure that he lived in or was it adjacent to him. Mr. Hatje believed that Mr. Morris has some sort of device that he can do this because he walked across one time and could feel the ground vibrate. Chairman Fortier asked if the noise was coming from a separate structure and it was Mr. Hatje's neighbor and Mr. Hatje said yes, that was what he believed. Mr. Hatje said that the police can't do anything because it's not a crime. Chairman Fortier asked TM English if this was the first time they were hearing about this. TM English said that it was. There could be a citation for disturbing the peace. He hasn't talked with the police. Mr. Hatje commented that he didn't have any trouble until he asked who audited the books. Chairman Fortier commented that auditing the books has no connection with noise complaint. TM English said that it could be causal. Mr. Hatje again talked about the increase in rent and felt that he had a right to know where the money was going because they are going to raise it again. Rick Ladd asked if there were any other abutters complaining about the noise. Mr. Hatje said there wasn't; it was just him. Mr. Hatje asked if the Board knew of any good lawyers and Chairman Fortier stated that the Board couldn't advise him on that. Chairman Fortier also suggested to Mr. Hatje that he document his complaint by writing a letter to the Chief of Police and saying that he has a noise complaint and can anything be done. Mr. Hatje then stated that he has had several officers come to his house for a few minutes and then tell him that he doesn't hear anything. Bob Maccini asked TM English to check on this. TM English asked Mr. Hatje if he called the police when he heard the noise and Mr. Hatje said that he did and when the police got there, they couldn't hear anything. Mr. Hatje stated that as soon as he puts his lights on in the morning, the noise comes on. TM English stated that he would check with the Chief and find out. Mr. Hatje was sorry if he wasted anybody's time and thanked the Board for listening.

Kim Conrad, Pike Library, stated that they had a meeting on February 1. It was just a regular meeting and then they were doing a book club because they are trying to generate interest from the community. Someone at the meeting brought up the 501(c)(3), which she had fought tooth-and-nail to get for the library back in 1997. They have had a 501(c)(3) and that had been fine. Apparently, she had stepped away from the library for a time and the paperwork had not been filed for three (3) years. So when it isn't filed for three years, the 501(c)(3) status is lost, which she did not know. Someone asked at the meeting if they had 501(c)(3) and she said sure they do. She went and pulled down the box and found the letter that the Treasurer had received in 2011 saying that they had lost their 501(c)(3) status. The woman who was filling in as Treasurer at the time had filed to get that reinstated. Kim went through four (4) years of trying to get that set up because it was a nightmare and it was a crowning moment when she got that in place. Again, they are dealing with people who have full-time jobs and no one really can be blamed. The woman who was the interim Treasurer at the time did file an appeal, but then she ended up having to move and they begged, borrowed and stole to get someone to take the spot not knowing that they had lost the status. They realized the other night that they have not had their 501(c)(3) since 2011 unless it was reinstated, which no one has stepped up to call because everyone is afraid of the IRS and doesn't

want to get that involved in it. One of their Board members is also a Board member for Haverhill and she said that they had gone through a similar situation where they had transient Treasurers for a while. The one that stepped in saw that the paperwork had gone by the wayside and reapplied. There were fines and many questions were asked of the person that called. Kim had a couple of sleepless nights because there was no mal-intent by any of it. Kim said they were at a crossroad where if no one is willing to step up and reapply for that status, the writing is on the wall. They have tried to limp along and keep the library open. She has been part of the library for 32 years. They don't have new people; they have people who come every week, but not enough people who are committed enough. They have people who want to volunteer, but not get into the nitty-gritty of it. She doesn't have the energy any more. They have a building that the Pike Library Association owns; they have the deed to it. The writing is on the wall for them to dissolve the Association, but she didn't know what they were going to do with the building. They would like to give it to the Town because whatever they do with the building, they have no money to keep it open. All they have is what the Town gives them and that is what they have always relied on. Since she has been with the library, they have put in a bathroom and a new well because it used to be under Pike Water Works. It has a septic. Chairman Fortier asked if they had their own water and Kim told him that they had a well drilled and it was all self-contained. He also asked about the septic and Kim told him that it was probably put in 20 or 25 years ago. She went on to say that they had people who wanted to keep the library open nostalgically, but no one to really take the reins. Chairman Fortier asked Kim what the Pike Library Association wanted to do. Kim said they want to give the building to an organization, the Town or someone that can use the profits to go to a nonprofit organization. There are three (3) members who are kind of in it, but she just did not know what they were going to do with the building. Chairman Fortier asked if there were some sort of violation with them not being a 501(c)(3) and Kim said that she didn't believe so. Kim thought the Town was thinking about consolidating the libraries and in her mind, she thought that there was some sort of back-up plan on how they would do that. Rick stated that Haverhill Corner was having a tough time right now also. The Precinct does provide them some funding and Kim said that Pike had no Precinct funding. Chairman Fortier asked Kim if she was there speaking on behalf of the Pike Library Association. Kim said that she was, but had no idea what she was doing. She just knew what they were facing and they have a building. Tom Friel commented that he had some concerns about the septic, not only when it was put in but if someone took over the building, they would have to upgrade the septic system to meet current standards. He took a look at how close they were to the brook and he didn't know how much land there was. Kim said that it would be on the deed, but the septic wasn't that old. Tom commented that the Wellness Center across the road from the library is part of the Pike School complex and he saw a load of vehicles parked in front of that place and he wondered if they wouldn't want to take over the building for additional parking. Kim commented that it was a self-contained building and it should be worth something to somebody. Her hope was that they don't have the means to sell it because they have no money but it would be nice if that building that the Town has supported as a library could be sold and the money divvied up to the other libraries. Tom said that they wouldn't need any money to sell it if it's listed with one of the real estate broker agencies in the area. They would be paid based on a commission. Bob Maccini said that it doesn't cost anything to list it and asked if the Pike School was interested. Kim said that they hadn't gone that route yet. Chairman Fortier asked if the Town was the first entity they had gone to since they had this discussion. Kim said they were because the Town has supported them and she would like to see the proceeds go to the other libraries. Chairman Fortier asked if there was a desire by her Board of Trustees to continue operating Pike Library or is it because they are lacking volunteers who have time. Kim said they are lacking volunteers and if she steps aside, no one else will step forward. AA Lacaillade commented that the septic approval showed no bedrooms; it was an approved system for zero bedrooms with 350 gallons per day (GPD). Chairman Fortier asked if the Pike Library system wanted to continue operating the Library and Kim said that, at this point, it wouldn't be feasible. She would like to finish out the year and could certainly bring the Board to the Selectboard meeting. Chairman Fortier asked her that since she wasn't on the Board of Trustees if she had had this discussion with them. She said that they have had this discussion several times. They really are doing what they need to do; the library is functioning as it has for the last few years with less patronage because of the size of the Town. She would certainly take all of this discussion to the Board of Trustees. Chairman Fortier stated that the Pike Library had put in a request for level funding for this current year plus funds to do the corner. TM English stated that last week the Budget Committee had met with the libraries and Pike had asked for additional money from \$7,000 to \$8,800 to make repairs to the roof based on an estimate. The Budget Committee endorsed and approved it. The librarian came and there was no discussion

about any of these issues. Kim said that there wouldn't have been any discussion about any of this. TM English commented that he endorsed the funding for the one-time repair of the roof. The budget had the \$8,800 in it for the Pike Library. Kim said that they would still need that if they were going to continue to operate. They can't give up their funding; they have no money. If things happened that they did stop operating, they would need expenses until they stopped and whatever was left, they would give back to the Town. TM English also wanted to correct that the Town was not in the library business; there is no plan to consolidate the libraries. Kim said that she has heard that for years and TM English said there was no plan. The Board's position is that the libraries are independent agencies because they are public libraries and serve the residents of the Town. The Town gives them money but other than that, there is no link between the Town and the libraries. He went on to say that none of the libraries want to consolidate. Bob said that as far as the Town taking the property and trying to sell it, the septic permit is for no bedrooms and 350 GPD, which is a basic residence. But again, it is approved for water coming from offsite and he wasn't sure if the well poses a problem. He thought that if they wanted to unload the library, they should talk with Becket school. He didn't see the Town taking it and trying to sell it. TM English said that her Association could dispose of the profits for sale or anything else to the other libraries; they didn't need the Town to do that. If they had some other monies, they could distribute as they saw fit. Kim said, with that being said, she would like to keep the funding as is until they can decide how all of this will play out and if there are any funds left, they would disburse it back to the Town. Bob asked Kim if the library can be kept open enough to be of any value to the public. Kim said that wasn't the issue; as long as they have the funding, they will keep the library open as it is. Chairman Fortier thanked Kim.

Town Manager's Report: TM English commented that he only had one thing. He believed that he had forwarded to the Selectboard an issue having to do with the American Legion wanting to put a sign advertising their facility at the intersection of Central Street Route 302 and Route 135 South Court Street. They made that request to the State because it is a State right-of-way and got a response back through various individuals and eventually from William Rose, who runs the Byway program for the State. Because all of those roads, Route 302 and Route 135 are Scenic Byways and there are rules governing what can and cannot be done on a Scenic Byway, and this off-premise sign in the State right-of-way is not allowed by those rules. He did check the controlling statutes and that seems to be the case. What the State has done is put the American Legion back on the Town and they are claiming that if the Town Selectmen decide to de-designate the Byway, that the sign may be approved subject to other DOT standards, so it isn't a guarantee. He personally can't believe that that is the only alternative. Senator Forrester is involved in this and he sent an e-mail back to her and said that putting this on the Town is a little unfair. He is hopeful that there is some other way around this other than de-designating a Byway, which has all kinds of implications. Bob asked why they couldn't move the sign back off the road right-of-way onto the Town's railroad right-of-way. TM English responded that it would have to be an on-premise sign, not an off-premise sign and even that requires DOT approval because it can be seen from the road. TM English stated that several years ago, the Covered Bridge Committee wanted to put up a sign and that sign is at the crest of the hill on Town property and that was the same issue. Although being a historic sign, they had a real problem with that. What he is saying to them was that he didn't think they should de-designate a Byway and he thought there were alternatives. Bob said that that was what he was suggesting is they get off the Byway and get on the Town property, which they would still have to be approved. Rick asked what kind of signs they were able to put up on a Scenic Byway. TM English stated that the statute sets that out and this was clearly an advertisement for the American Legion to advise people where they are. The statute talks about a sign that would attract the eye of a motorist for information. Rick asked if the junction of the crossing and Route 10 were Scenic Byway and TM English told him that it was. AA Lacaillade stated that it was the brown sign straight ahead of coming off the Newbury Crossing Road. TM English commented that identifies part of the Scenic Byway and was approved by the State. Rick asked if the Legion was a 501(c)(3); he believed that they were. TM English had no idea. Rick thought the State was picking and choosing what types of signs go up. TM English agreed and there isn't a problem as far as the Town is concerned if they did this; it is the DOT. This request went all the way to Bill Cass, who is an Assistant Commissioner, and then down to Rose, who is the Director of the Byway program. Jeanie Forrester is involved because the American Legion involved her. He suggested to Rick to talk with Jeanie. He went on to say that there had to be other alternatives other than de-designating a Byway. It seemed quite drastic to do that. Chairman Fortier asked if they knew the nomenclature of the sign itself. TM English stated that they had not received anything directly from the Legion on what the sign looks like. Rick

asked if the Commissioners had gotten involved in this and TM English said that the Commissioners wouldn't be involved at all in this; it was a Town issue. He just wanted to advise the Board on this; it has been put back on the Town at least temporarily. Rick asked if TM English could get something from the American Legion on what the sign looks like. TM English said that he would do that.

Pending (Old) Business:

- **Airport Road Property:** Tom Friel stated that this had been brought up umpteen times and as recently as the last Selectboard meeting about putting a Warrant Article on to sell the section of property which is next to Doug Henson's property that is owned by the Town. It is better known in some circles as the "old dump". There were problems getting it surveyed; Harry Burgess said he couldn't survey it. Old mill markers are gone and couldn't be located and he came up with the best estimate of a guess of where the line should be and would require an agreement between Mr. Henson and the Town as to the adjustment. He went on to say that the Town wasn't in the real estate business and were trying to not be in the real estate business and they purchased this property for \$1. Since they have purchased it for \$1, they have to go to the Town and get permission to sell it. The idea is to put it up for bid and they need permission from the Town to do that. Tom went on to say that it had been surveyed, but it couldn't be recorded. TM English asked if the only question was the boundary between the two lots and Tom said that it was. TM English said that the other boundaries weren't in dispute. Tom said they were defined. Tom said that Mr. Henson has an interest in purchasing that property. TM English asked if the Town could sell a piece of property that had a disputed boundary on it. Tom said that would have to be disclosed at the sale. TM English commented that the problem with that is if it's put out to bid, that would tend to chill other bids other than Mr. Henson's. Tom said that was okay, too. Dennis Cunningham asked what the acreage was on it and Tom said it was approximately 3.70 acres. Bob asked who was disputing it and Tom said Doug was because the deed can't be recorded. TM English stated that the point he was making was if it was going out to be put out to bid, they needed to look at a fair and competitive process to get the highest bid. Nobody else was likely to bid on it if there is a dispute about the line. Bob didn't see anybody else likely to bid on it and TM English said that that could also be true. Tom Friel made a motion to place this issue on the Warrant; seconded by Robert Maccini and carried unanimously.

New Business:

- **2016 Budget:** Chairman Fortier stated that they all had a new information sheet dated 02/05/2016. TM English stated that this document shows his budget and the last column is the recommendations of the Budget Committee. It is largely in agreement with his budget. There are a couple of exceptions. The first change is on Information Technology under Software Support. There was a deletion and the agency request was what the IT Director was asking for (\$22,403) and that was reduced by TM English to \$17,728 with the deletion of some software support that he didn't feel the Town needed. In discussions with the Budget Committee, it was mutually agreed between the IT Director, the Budget Committee and TM English that there was an additional cut that could be made with the price of another piece of software. The number that they all eventually agreed to was \$16,058 in the Budget Committee column. The total for the entire section of Information Technology is recommended to be \$52,924, which is a 3% increase over last year. There was agreement all around on that number. Tom commented that that coincided with his notes from that night. TM English stated that the next area of change was the Fire Departments. He went on to say that if the Board was interested, there are detailed meeting minutes of all of those meetings. He said that the issue with the Fire Departments was that when he did his budget request, the request of North Haverhill Fire Department came in and he was able to put that in. He had not received the requests from the Woodsville or Haverhill Corner Fire Departments so he had put in last year's numbers. At the discussion with the Budget Committee, they did have detail from all three Fire Departments on their budget requests. They had a very, extended discussion of those budget requests and what the Budget Committee ended up recommending is again in the last column. Haverhill Corner had a budget last year of \$76,515; the number right now is \$81,568. The other number they came out of the meeting with was North Haverhill wasn't even disputed so they accepted that number. The Woodsville Fire Department had asked for an increase from \$142,940. There were some changes

made to their original request and they ended up with a compromise of \$148,440. The other thing that was discussed was the Inspector position; the Committee really wanted to reduce some costs in that family of budget to offset the increases of Woodsville and Haverhill Corner. They had a long discussion about fire inspections and the Town has only spent \$2,113 in 2015 to reimburse inspections. TM English pointedly asked Steve Robbins why they had not received any further inspection reports from Woodsville and were they doing any. The answer is documented that “well, any that I had done, I didn’t bill for”. Another background item is Don Hammond, the former chief of North Haverhill, who is now Captain, has agreed to do fire inspections per the Town policy for North Haverhill and Haverhill Corner. The Budget Committee felt that the \$16,600 was probably more than enough for 2016 and they wanted to reduce it to \$10,000. Tom commented that Woodsville Fire Department came in late with their stuff and they weren’t prepared and that was a concern to the Budget Committee. The other thing that was discussed was the fire truck and the Town’s contribution to the Haverhill Corner new vehicle. He made an error in that number; the number he put in was \$120,000. That is an error because he had the balance of the reserve wrong; there is actually \$120,000 in the reserve and they are adding another \$60,000 this year so that number should have been \$180,000. The Town’s contribution towards the purchase of that vehicle is \$180,000, the Haverhill Corner reserve is \$60,000 and the balance will be borrowed and paid off over 10 years. The increase has nothing to do with taxes. It is acknowledging what there already is in reserve and what they said they were going to appropriate \$60,000. He went on to say that everybody has debt limits. Rick said that the way it was seen was that Haverhill Corner had gone over their debt limit by incurring the debt of this fire truck on top of what they already had as a Precinct. That may cause problems in the future and both TM English and AA Lacaillade stated that it had been resolved because water systems are exempt in another statute. TM English stated that the fire trucks are owned by the village districts and not the Town. The Town is just contributing from the reserve that is raised each year for the purchase. The other good news is that at the end of the year if the money the Town gives them is not all spent, it stays with the Precinct. North Haverhill, as a policy, was to use any surplus in any given year to reduce the debt on any fire truck that happened to be financed. Woodsville has also endorsed that policy and he thought that Haverhill Corner has also. This will be a good use in the future for surplus funds for the Fire Departments to offset the cost of trucks. Right now, Haverhill Corner doesn’t have any debt on any other truck. Woodsville and North Haverhill do have debt. The Haverhill Corner Commissioners wanted to resubmit the Fire Department request for \$73,718 and that is the number that was worked out after the Budget Committee meeting. This is in lieu of the \$81,568. This is almost \$3,000 less than the budget for 2015. In the grand scheme of things, the Fire Department budgets were pretty flat. The only other changes were in the Warrant Articles. There is one error under Burch House. Their number was \$2,840, his number was \$2,840. The sheet showed \$2,830 and it should be \$2,840; it was a typo. He went on to say that the Board had set a policy last year that anybody who had not received money from the Town before and was a non-profit agency would have to get a petition with the proper number of signatures from registered voters and submit that with the request and that would leave first-time requests up to the decision of the voters. If they had a properly petitioned article, it would go on the Warrant, not necessarily with any comment from himself or the Board and the voters would decide. There were 2 requests of that nature. One was from Tri-County CAP Homeless Outreach, which would go on the Warrant. The Budget Committee did endorse this. The other was Headrest, which was also a Petitioned Warrant Article. It was not endorsed by either the Town Manager or the Budget Committee. The War Memorial Park was added in the Budget Committee process and the Budget Committee also endorsed this. TM English commented that there was good news and bad news. The budget was up 13%, but taxes are down because most of the increase is either money that they have taken in as grants or reserve accounts being appropriated. Revenue offsets most of that increase. On the first page of the revenue sheet, the revenue raised by taxes to support this budget is down \$23,000 and that is a 7 to 8 cent drop in the tax rate for the Town. Rick asked how that was going to impact in future years. TM English stated that most of these were one-time projects that are in the capital plan for 10 years. The only one that is an ongoing expense is the \$150,000 that is raised for the Capital Roads program. He thinks it is a great budget. Tom stated that he was very pleased with the job that the Budget Committee did and going through line by line and hashed through everything and didn’t just rubber stamp everything. TM English said that they were pretty positive and thorough. Chairman Fortier

commented that the Budget Committee was going to put some sort of report in the Town Report. TM English stated that they made some suggestions, not necessarily on money. They are going to make some suggestions for the Board to follow up on. They are money-related items, not necessarily budget-related items and there were about 4-6 suggestions that they wanted to make to the Board and the voters. Chairman Fortier reminded everyone that the Budget Hearing was on Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Robert Maccini made the motion to approve the budget as printed and as presented by the Town Manager; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously. TM English noted that the Board was going to take this budget to the Budget Hearing and they can, based on public input, change the budget if they see fit to go to Town Meeting.

- **Appointment of Interim Town Manager:** Chairman Fortier commented that he had received an e-mail dated January 27, 2016 from a Mr. Hunter Rieseberg, who used to be a Town Manager in Vermont. TM English stated that Hunter used to be the Hartland, VT Town Manager and Hartland is a lot like Haverhill. It is a pretty good size town and Hunter was there for 10 years. TM English knows one of the Selectmen there and they loved him. He was a quality Town Manager and dealt with some serious stuff. Chairman Fortier stated that Hunter saw in the paper that there might be a vacancy for a Town Manager and he has offered to serve as an Interim Town Manager. He has 35 years' experience in both NH and VT. He currently resides in Hanover, NH and is currently taking a short hiatus from serving the Town of Hartford for 20 years. Mr. Rieseberg wrote that if the Town was interested in talking about an Interim Town Manager arrangement for the next year or so, he would welcome the opportunity to meet with Chairman Fortier or the Board at their convenience. Chairman Fortier responded to Mr. Rieseberg that he would forward this onto his fellow colleagues for their input and he appreciated his offer and would get back to him in the near future. Rick Ladd made a motion to hire Jo Lacaillade as the Interim Town Manager until such time that the Town Manager process concludes with the hire of a permanent Town Manager; seconded by Robert Maccini. Robert asked if Mr. Rieseberg was only interested in an Interim position and Chairman Fortier said that was true. Rick wanted to speak to his motion. The Board is entering into a transitional period and he thinks that it is important that they go into that with a sense of confidence and feeling that the Town will move forward in the manner they would like to see as a Selectboard. They also have the opportunity to work with Primex and Rick Alpers to establish a process which is fair and open to all. He would like to provide the opportunity during that process to invite those who would like to seek this position to inquire. Just to keep things smooth and running correctly and someone here who knows the process, he feels that Jo Lacaillade is best prepared to do this at this time. If there is an individual on staff that can take them through that, working with third parties like Primex, the outcome will be a better outcome. At the last meeting, Bob asked Chairman Fortier to have a conversation with Jo and he had that discussion the following morning. She is interested in serving as an Interim Town Manager; she expects to be compensated for the additional work that will be placed on her shoulders. She was very receptive of filling that position. Robert asked if Chairman Fortier would get together with Jo and negotiate the Interim compensation. Chairman Fortier heard suggestions at the last meeting and asked if the Board had any ideas on what that compensation might be. TM English stated that he would suggest that any negotiation of compensation be made in non-public session. Once it is negotiated, it will need to be revealed. Chairman Fortier would get a number and get back to the Board. Rick commented that when TM English is gone, the office is whittled down to two (2) people and so he doesn't want to wipe out an Interim Manager and there may be a need for temps or support of some kind and they need to discuss how they are going to do this. The vote was taken and all approved. TM English stated that they hadn't set a date for the hiring of an Interim Town Manager and Bob said that they had left it open-ended. TM English said that he was willing to be contacted by Jo if she needed any help. He was not going to push himself into this process unless he is asked and that includes the Board if they have any questions. They will start transitioning next week when the Town Report is in and Jo's schedule permits. They will sit down and start transitioning. He is available if need be after February 29th. Chairman Fortier wanted to remind the Board that the date that was available for their work session with Primex was February 19, 2016 at 10:00 am with Rick Alpers. He was going to help them start in their Town Manager search. Robert wouldn't be at the work session. They could also talk about their vision of what the office would need in the future for personnel.

Commission/Committee Reports: TM English stated that Dennis Cunningham asked him if he should attend the Selectboard meeting. TM English told him that since there is not a Selectboard rep on the Airport Commission right now and Dennis is the new Airport Manager, he thought it would be a good idea. He was there to observe and if the Board had any questions for Dennis. Chairman Fortier welcomed Dennis aboard. Chairman Fortier commented that he has been hustling to get reports done for the Town Report, one of which was the Heritage Commission. There have only been two members since June and statute requires three. They have met but those can't be considered official meetings. He wrote on his page for the Town Report that they needed members for the Heritage Commission.

Correspondence: Chairman Fortier noted that they had received a letter from Glenn talking about the Safety Committee Meeting coming up. They had the latest edition of Legislative Bulletin.

Comments of the Public: None

Comments of the Town Manager/Administrative Assistant-Finance Officer: None

Comments of Selectboard Members: Tom commented that it was a very productive meeting and they got a lot covered. Rick asked if TM English was preparing a list of properties that the Town owns within the community that they can know so that they can get them on the tax rolls. TM English stated that they have in the records those properties, but there is no list and he could effort a list.

Adjourn Meeting: Robert Maccini made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Tom Friel and all approved. Chairman Fortier adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Minutes transcribed by Karen Hyde