

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**FEBRUARY 10, 2014**

**MEMORIAL BUILDING**

**7:00 P.M.**

*The following are to be considered draft minutes only until approved by the Board at their next meeting.*

Selectmen present: Don Hill, Chairman; Leigh Callaway and George McCusker.

Others present: Bryan O'Day, Fire Chief Pete LaCaillade, Mike Lawlor, Road Agent Pete Abair, Sue Abair, Ed Abair, Kevin Roberts, John Trachy, Bill Huntoon, Justin Hastings, Police Chief Tim Julian, and Sergeant Mike Beaulieu.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.  
No public comments were made.

**Budget Review:**

Leigh reported budget committee is ok with the operating budget changes. As to the warrant articles they are ok with articles for revaluation, town hall preservation, and Old Home Day Expendable Trust. George requested a "straw poll" from budget committee members; they agree with the purchase of a truck but not rebuilding the sand shed. George reiterated his stance that the sand shed has been discussed for years and he believes will cost too much to relocate it up on the hill. Leigh noted the budget committee made no motions but recommends the land be looked at in more detail to determine best use.

Leigh noted the last position the Selectmen took on the truck were based on costs of a specific truck; the warrant article needs to recommend an appropriation and financing and not to limit a purchase with specific truck information. Without the sand shed, the fund balance could easily be used to bring the financing for the truck below 100K.

Don stated the reason for moving forward with the sand shed was to be in control as to when to do something and not leaving it for the State to mandate when it has to be done.

Leigh moved to withdraw the warrant for the sand shed. George would like to leave it and let the voters decide. His point being people agree a sand shed is needed but where to put it is the issue. He does not think waiting a year is going to make a difference because it is going to cost too much to put it on the hill. Leigh stated the discussion was to wait a year to see what can be done up on the hill. Don asked Pete Abair for his choice. Pete stated the truck is most important right now. Don noted if there can't be both a choice needs to be made; it may be premature to commit to a sand shed without the DES permit. Using money from the fund balance to make the truck purchase more palatable makes sense. Bill Huntoon stated the Budget Committee agreed that it did not make sense to put money toward the sand shed when it is not known what can be done and what the State will allow. Don moved to withdraw the proposed warrant for the sand shed this year; motion seconded by Leigh. Don and Leigh voted in favor, George opposed.

Review of drafts of warrant articles:

**TRUCK** to raise and appropriate the sum of up to One Hundred Fifty One Thousand Dollars (\$151,000) (gross budget) to purchase and equip a truck for the Highway Department; said amount to be offset by a Fifteen Thousand (\$15,000) trade-in allowance and offset by Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$37,000) from the unreserved fund balance; further to authorize the issuance of not more than Ninety-Nine Thousand (\$99,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; Furthermore, to raise and appropriate the sum of (Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Two Dollars \$14,452) for the first year's payment. **Leigh moved to recommend proposed warrant article. Motion was seconded by Don. Two voted in favor, one (George) opposed.**

**REVALUATION:** To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) for the purpose of a 2014-2015 revaluation of the town. This sum to come from the unreserved fund balance with no amount to be raised from taxation. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation and will not lapse until the revaluation is complete or by December 31, 2016, whichever is sooner.

**Leigh moved to recommend; seconded by George and unanimously approved.**

**TOWN HALL PRESERVATION:** To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of up to Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) for the purpose of exterior carpentry repair and exterior painting at the Town Hall. This sum to come from the unreserved fund balance with no amount to be raised from taxation.

**Leigh moved to recommend, seconded by George and unanimously approved.**

**OLD HOME DAY EXPENDABLE TRUST:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Four Hundred Forty Dollars (\$3440) for deposit in the Old Home Day Expendable Trust Fund in accordance with RSA 31:19-a. Said funds to come from the unreserved fund balance with no amount to be raised from taxation; (this represents proceeds collected in 2013 by the Old Home Day Committee).

**Leigh moved to recommend, seconded by George and unanimously approved.**

Estimated revenue report was reviewed. Motion by Leigh to estimate 2014 revenue based on 2013 actual.

Motion seconded by Don and unanimously approved. Leigh suggested the Board consider divesting of some of the town-owned properties as a source of revenue.

Leigh will add the sand shed to the list of unfinished business, pending DES approval and best use of the land.

Unfinished Business:

Community Alliance Program – Leigh reported he and Tim met with Aleysha from the Community Alliance Program about the Court Diversion Program. Aleysha felt there might be a request for funds for the court diversion program. Legal counsel from LGC stated funding for the diversion program was not appropriate use of welfare assistance budget, but perhaps could be

funded through the police budget, perhaps with pistol permit fees. The Board reviewed different ways to fund assistance and agreed it was a worthy cause. The Police Chief and Welfare Director will review requests for assistance. George recommended putting a line item in the police budget for this year and made a motion to appropriate \$300.00; motion seconded by Don and unanimously approved.

Leigh moved to amend the bottom line of the operating budget (\$1,212,502 before final DRA review) by \$300.00; motion seconded by George and unanimously approved.

Leigh shared an updated project list and is committed to refreshing the list monthly.

Pete LaCaillade, Fire Chief, reported the old rescue truck is ready to be put out to bid. The lettering is covered, and everything is out and the truck is available to be seen as is. Leigh moved to put the old rescue vehicle out to bid. Selectmen reserve the right to refuse any and all bids. The Board recommended advertising in the Shopper, the Intertown Record, and Valley News, on the marquee and website; suggesting bids be due no later than March 10<sup>th</sup>. Motion was seconded by Don and unanimously approved.

Pete asked about cleaning at the fire station. Members have been taking care of that currently. Selectmen reported there is no short-term solution, but they have it on the project list.

Leigh reported on a recent failure of e-mail when Fairpoint made a DSL upgrade at the office. He met with computer support at CCS about how to make e-mail and website hosting work better. With the current vendor there is no contract or point of contact. He reviewed costs for e-mail users. He will do some further investigation to see if the Town can keep the Springfield.net address. Issues with the difficulties with website failure were also reviewed. Leigh will work with CCS to come up with a solution. CCS works primarily with municipalities and understands programs the towns use. John Trachy suggested long-term the town might consider getting "out of the computer business" and encouraged getting away from having computers in house except for an internet connection; a measure that could reduce down time and associated staff costs. Leigh noted he is not comfortable with moving everything "out to the cloud" for security reasons. Leigh moved to recommend to turn over to CCS a hosted exchange for 6 e-mail users with POP 3's; motion seconded by Don and unanimously approved.

Leigh would like to suggest converting from Springfieldnh.net to Springfieldnh.org and plan carefully to have the change in place by the fall as well as possible change of website host and format. The website is not doing all it needs to do and does not do so smoothly. Virtual Town Hall was a suggested option. Don felt a realistic goal was to move toward that by the fall. Leigh will look into this further. Don would like to see the .net address maintained if at all possible. Leigh will look at this further and report back to the Board on available options.

Don reviewed the draft of his letter for Wonderwell Mountain Refuge regarding their need to appear before the Planning Board for Site Plan Review. Letter approved.

Don stated Bryan O'Day presented a check to cover sand that was delivered to his place of business. It appears the reimbursement is more than what the town pays for sand. Bryan stated the amount is what he paid for sand this past week. Leigh moved to accept the \$400.00 in payment for sand; motion seconded by Don and unanimously approved.

Minutes of January 27, 2014 were unanimously approved as written, by a motion from Leigh and second by Don.

Board and Department Updates:

George reported the ZBA spent their last meeting reviewing changes to the application for Special Exception and Rules of Procedure and Instructions to Applicant.

Leigh reported the Conservation Commission has scheduled a presentation to be held at the Town Hall in March regarding wetlands and vernal pools.

Correspondence:

Note from Kay Currier about the library back door not working. Her class is scheduled for February 22. Bill Huntoon will have it fixed before then.

Request for re-issue of abatement checks written in June 2012 the applicant received but had not cashed. The Board requested checking with the bank to find out what to do.

Notice of Mapping conference on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Letter from PSNH regarding paying 2013 taxes "under protest".

Signatures:

Approval for Mascoma Valley Sno Travelers to rent the fire station for their annual fund-raiser on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Transfer Station Annual Contract signed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by,

Janet Roberts