

**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 7, 2014**

Present: Chairman Krieger, Selectman Ives and Selectman Bowles.

Also present was Road Agent Dave Rice, Fire Chief Rick Wright and Library Trustees Molly Ashland, Ken Krzewick, and Steve Del Deo.

Chairman Krieger called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

- I. Selectman Ives moved to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, December 17, 2013 as written. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Motion carried.
  
- II. The Board met with Road Agent Dave Rice.
  - a. Mr. Rice explained that he has George Cooper with him. Mr. Cooper has applied for the vacant position with the highway department. Mr. Rice feels he will fit in with the crew. He said that he looked into his background as did Selectman Bowles and Steve Bennett. Chairman Krieger asked Mr. Cooper when he will be available to start. Mr. Cooper said tomorrow morning. Chairman Krieger asked if he can run all the equipment. Mr. Cooper said he can, he has run skidders, loaders, and he has plowed snow. Chairman Krieger asked Mr. Cooper what he wants to get from the town. Mr. Cooper explained that he didn't want to leave his previous job with a town but due to budget cuts and him being the last one hired he was the first one to go. He explained that he had been there for nine years. Mr. Cooper said that he also is a Captain in the Chichester Fire Department. Mr. Cooper said that Loudon is close to his home, he is nine years into the state retirement so in one year he will be vested in the system. Chairman Krieger asked if that means he will be leaving in a year; Mr. Cooper said no. Chairman Krieger asked if Mr. Cooper is looking anywhere else. Mr. Cooper said he looked into Bow but felt the commute and the size of the town weren't for him. Mr. Cooper said he knows Loudon roads because he has been running them in ambulances for thirteen years. Selectman Ives asked if he has a problem running a rake or a shovel. Mr. Cooper said no; he would do whatever it takes. Selectman Ives said he spoke to Fire Chief Quimby who said that Mr. Cooper does the mechanical work and some welding for the Fire Department. Mr. Cooper said he does, he also has a Class A license and a current medical card. Chairman Krieger said that they can't pay him what he was making at his previous job. Mr. Cooper said he realizes that but he was there for nine years. Selectman Bowles explained that they are reviewing the highway department wages and considering COLA's so Mr. Cooper would benefit from whatever they decide in that respect. Selectman Ives explained that as far as benefits go medical/dental insurance is available, NH Retirement, one week vacation after a year, and ten holidays. The Board agreed to hire Mr. Cooper. Chairman Krieger stated Mr. Cooper will start tomorrow morning, January 8, 2014 at 7:00 am at \$15.55 per hour with a six month probation.
  - b. Mr. Rice said they got the truck repaired and back; they discovered a few more problems so the bill will be about \$8,000.00.

- c. Selectman Ives asked if they have mixed any sand/salt. Mr. Rice said he had Fillmore haul some over because they haven't had time to do it.
- d. Mr. Rice said they serviced three trucks today.
- e. The Board thanked Mr. Rice and his crew for their hard work during the recent storms.

III. The Board met with Fire Chief Rick Wright.

- a. Chief Wright explained that he received a response from NHDOT regarding the Red Pine Scale Tree Infestation. The Division of Forests and Lands and DOT District 3 will be meeting to discuss removal of infested trees.
- b. Chief Wright said that the igniter on the furnace at Station Two was not working and was replaced. Chairman Krieger suggested that someone look into putting a light in the window so if it got below a certain temperature the light would come on.
- c. Chief Wright explained they got reimbursed from Concord for the Gator repairs.
- d. Chief Wright said they have the permit from DES for the Dry Hydrant Project at 92 Loudon Ridge Rd. Weather permitting the contractor will begin work next week.
- e. Selectman Ives asked Chief Wright if he is aware of the application for the campground in Canterbury and the Zoning Board meeting tomorrow at 7:00 pm regarding that. Selectman Ives said that there was an article in the newspaper about the last zoning board meeting and when asked about fire and police protection the comment was made that they are part of the mutual aid compact and so they are counting on Loudon and Belmont to cover for them. Selectman Ives said that is not what the mutual aid compact was designed for. Chief Wright said that he did know there was a meeting and he has a call in to the Canterbury Fire Chief to see if he should be there. Chief Wright asked if the Selectmen are planning on being there. Selectman Ives said he is going to try but he might be late. Selectman Bowles said he is going to try to attend, he feels it is important because it is going to weigh heavily on our services.
- f. Chairman Krieger thanked Chief Wright and his department for their work in this weather. Selectman Bowles thanked them for their participation in the holiday food baskets. Selectman Ives thanked the department for the employee breakfast they served and for helping the highway department with shoveling out the community building the other day.

IV. Chairman Krieger recognized the Library Trustees; Molly Ashland, Ken Krzewick and Steve Del Deo.

- a. Mr. Krzewick explained that at the last budget meeting the Board asked for an updated version of the proposed budget.
- b. Selectman Ives stated that he has given this some thought and he can't go along with a third full-time person. He doesn't believe they need a third person, he spoke to someone from a library that is twice the size of Loudon's and they just barely hired a third person. He said the library's budget doesn't reflect the increased cost to health/dental insurance.
- c. The Trustees explained that the person they want to make full-time is already working for them part-time; nearly full-time. Chairman Krieger asked if they subtracted that part-time salary and the part-time salary for the person who recently left from the part-time wage line, replacing two part-timers with one full-timer. The Trustees said they did but explained that they voted to give her a raise from \$11.95 to \$14.00.

- d. Mr. Del Deo explained that in this day and age there are a lot of electronic elements to library science. He said that they feel strongly that a full-time position would provide some incentive for a person to buy into a long term employment, give them the feeling of ownership so they are willing to take courses; that's very difficult to do with part-time help. Mr. Del Deo explained that this is very important to them; they want the blessing of the Selectmen. He said that they all don't agree on how to get there but they do need to get there. Ms. Ashland said they are all in agreement that the position is needed.
- e. Mr. Del Deo said he is willing to compromise on the wage because he understands the obligations to the town's people as far as taxes go. Selectman Bowles said that the \$1740.00 proposed increase is not the bottom line because taxes, retirement, insurance, etc. have not been figured in yet. Selectmen Bowles said he is struggling with the proposed wage. Chairman Krieger asked where they came up with \$29,120.00 to start someone in this position. Ms. Ashland said they figured full time hours times \$14.00 per hour.
- f. Selectman Ives asked what this person will actually do. Ms. Ashland said it will include what she has been doing for 3½ years part-time; working with the state library, entering everything into the computer, inter-library loan program, circulation, technology work, she's been going to classes so that when people come in with kindles, ipads, any new technology, she can help set them up, mans the front desk, helps develop programs, is responsible if Nancy or Cheryl is not available. Selectman Ives said that they have explained what this part-time person is already doing but not what a person in a full-time position would be doing. Ms. Ashland said that things she has helped with she would be doing full-time.
- g. Chairman Krieger asked if this person is working more hours than what she is being paid for now. Mr. Del Deo said no, she is paid by the hour but she is close to forty hours now.
- h. Mr. Del Deo said he feels it is important to have an adult at the library all the time.
- i. Chairman Krieger said he isn't against it but what concerns him is what Selectman Bowles said; they're probably adding \$20,000-25,000 to the budget depending on whether she needs a medical/dental plan, retirement fees and COLA's haven't been figured in.
- j. Selectman Ives mentioned that they decreased the lines for periodicals and reference materials; people at town meeting will say that's what a library is for. Mr. Del Deo said there aren't as many periodicals and reference materials are online. Ms. Ashland said that what you see now when you walk into the library is nearly every computer busy, sometimes for a few minutes, sometimes for hours, young people are doing homework, people are searching for jobs and doing resumes.
- k. Selectman Bowles said his struggle is with the salary and with this the library isn't open any more hours. He said he isn't against it but the pieces haven't come together enough to make him stand up at town meeting and defend it. He said the trustees have done a good job trying to get most of the salary out of the part-time line. Chairman Krieger asked if there is any room to cut more out of the part-time line. Ms. Ashland asked if the Selectman would support them if the position was just under full-time at the rate proposed and they pursued health insurance through other means. Chairman Krieger said that she would then be a part-time employee and it would defeat the whole purpose

of why they are here. Selectmen Bowles and Ives agreed. Selectman Bowles suggested they look at the part-time line again. He asked if the wage is fixed and promised, can it be less.

- l. Selectman Ives told the Trustees that he still doesn't agree they need a third full-time employee; he won't speak against it at town meeting but if someone asks him he will give his opinion. Mr. Del Deo asked what they can do to appease the other two Selectmen. Chairman Krieger said he is not against it except for the money part. Chairman Krieger said he doesn't see where they can get that number down, but the Trustees need to have all the numbers and be able to defend and explain it at town meeting. Selectman Bowles suggested starting the position out lower and bringing it up. Mr. Del Deo said as an individual trustee he would go along with a lower starting rate. Mr. Krzewick said they have already approved the wage increase, do they go back and say on the other end you will be getting these benefits so we need to decrease the hourly wage. Mr. Del Deo clarified that if they could do something about the wages, the Selectmen would not speak against it and to some degree support it. Chairman Krieger agreed.
- m. Selectman Bowles said that he struggles with the fact that by adding the third person they are not adding more open hours. He said the library isn't even open forty hours a week.
- n. The Trustees will take more time to look over their budget and get back to the Board. Selectman Ives asked that the Trustees not take his disagreeing with them on this as a reflection of their work as Trustees. He said he admires the work they have done. The Trustees will meet with the Selectmen again next Tuesday, January 14 at 6:30.

- V. Chairman Krieger recognized Dan Aversa and Web Stout from the audience. Mr. Aversa explained that he sent a letter to the Selectmen requesting that the Town take over Bert Lane. Mr. Aversa said that 72.2% of the lots/houses are owned by others. Chairman Krieger asked how many house are on Bert Lane. Mr. Aversa said there are 18 lots, eight houses are built. Chairman Krieger asked how many houses on Bert Lane. Mr. Aversa said on Bert Lane itself there are two. Mr. Aversa said that Bert Lane is part of a bigger subdivision that connects onto Bee Hole and Chichester Roads. Mr. Aversa said that of the 13 lots owned by others, 8 of them being homes, about \$65,000.00 is generated in taxes. Mr. Aversa explained that he had Mr. Stout do an as-built for the Board to look at before they decide. Selectman Ives said they are looking at accepting Bert Lane not Loudon Woods Estates. Mr. Aversa said if they're talking about just Bert Lane there are seven lots total. Mr. Aversa said he doesn't understand why they wouldn't be looking at it all. Chairman Krieger said because he's asking them to accept Bert Lane, the Town already maintains Chichester and Bee Hole Roads so in his opinion that takes the houses on those roads out of the equation. Selectman Bowles said in his opinion if they took this road over at this point they would be crucified, their policy is to see 50-75% build out before they accept a road. He said they have been challenged twice, it stands and at this point he won't support it with just two houses. Mr. Aversa said these people are paying \$20,000 in taxes; they are entitled to have the road plowed. Selectman Bowles said it is Mr. Aversa's responsibility as the builder. He said that there are other roads in town waiting for the same reason. Mr. Aversa said that the people are paying taxes and deserve to have the road plowed. Selectman Bowles reminded Mr. Aversa that the tax money doesn't just go to the

highway department for plowing, it also pays for schools, fire, police etc. Mr. Aversa asked what other subdivisions in town are in this position. The Board said Memory Lane, Creekwater Lane, and the subdivision off Oak Hill that was challenged in court. Mr. Aversa said the big difference is that they have turned a piece of property that was generating taxes on one little A-frame into \$65,000 worth of taxes. Selectman Ives said that six of the homes are on town roads that are already accepted. Mr. Aversa said they have done everything they were asked to do as far as the easements on Chichester and Bee Hole Roads. Mr. Stout asked the Board if they have any questions for him. He asked if the as-built plan needs to go before the Planning Board. The Board agreed that when there are two more houses built on Bert Lane, the plan should go before the Planning Board and the Town Engineer and the Board will consider accepting the road.

- VI. Selectman Ives made a motion to accept a proposal from Nobis Engineering for the Groundwater Reporting and Post-Closure Monitoring Programs 2014-2015 Loudon Sanitary Landfill and Septage Lagoons in the amount of \$4,500.00. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Motion carried.
- VII. Selectman Bowles made a motion to accept the Annual Town Report bid for layout, scans, corrections, cover design and printing prep in the amount of \$1,000 by Debbie K Graphics. Seconded by Selectman Ives. All in favor. Motion carried.
- VIII. Selectman Ives made a motion to accept the bid for printing of 1000 Annual Town Reports for the amount of \$2,099.76 from Evans Printing. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Ives said they have done the report in the past and have done a good job.
- IX. Chairman Krieger recognized Bill and Linda Cote from Bumfagon Road. Ms. Cote explained that about a year and a half ago she came in and talked about the track and concerts. She said that Mr. Fiske said they weren't having concerts; but they clearly are having concerts. Ms. Cote said that Mr. Fiske said he would think about it when he gave them the 2013 permit to operate; they still had concerts so she came back again. She said when they have campers come in on race weeks at night they are having full blown concerts, setting up equipment, inviting all the guests to come participate, they are having fanfest week that they advertise on the radio to get people to go there for their concert, they are calling it a concert. Ms. Cote said she would like Mr. Fiske to not give them a permit to have concerts. She said she was in September of 2011 and is back to bring it up again. Selectman Ives said they have had this discussion with the racetrack when they've come in to talk about upcoming year of events and told them they are they are kind of crossing the line a bit, stand alone concerts are prohibited. Mr. Cote said they advertise on the radio. Selectman Bowles said he understands that having the bands kind of works for crowd control but advertising it and drawing more people in crosses the line. Ms. Cote said she disagrees that acts as crowd control; it brings people together encouraging them to misbehave and drink in excess. She said they have had riots there, then they stopped and it got really quiet and now it's working back to that again. Selectman Ives explained that by crowd control they mean that at the end of the race they have a concert which some people would stay to watch and it would meter the people leaving. Ms. Cote said she is not

complaining about that, she agrees with it, to give them something to do and disperse slowly. She said it's when they start at 7:00 and then is full blown from 9:00 until midnight. Ms. Cote said that her house is on Bumfagon, the track is in her front yard. Mr. Cote said the music has been getting progressively louder and lasting longer. Selectman Bowles said there were a couple of times when it was loud and they were shut down. Selectmen Ives said they will have this discussion with them again and reiterate the Cote's concerns. Ms. Cote said when they hire a big name country musician to come in and perform, it's a concert whether they are selling tickets or not. Chairman Krieger said they will be meeting with the track and they will look into this.

- X. The Board began their review of weekly correspondence.
- a. The Board received copies of the current expenditure report.
  - b. The Board received a revised assessment schedule from Merrimack Valley School District. The total assessment for the 2013-2014 fiscal year went from \$7,460,793 to \$7,184,767.
  - c. The Board received letters from the Town Attorney regarding Moser & Jones v. Town of Loudon.
  - d. The Board received the following memo's regarding the following from Chief Wright:
    - 1) Red Pine Scale Tree Infestation.
    - 2) Station #2 – Furnace repair.
    - 3) Gator Vehicle Reimbursement.
    - 4) Dry Hydrant Permit Application.
    - 5) Dry Hydrant Project – 92 Loudon Ridge Rd.
  - e. The Board received the updated Town Employee Telephone Listing.
  - f. The Board received a check from the American Legion for the 2014 Community Building rent.
  - g. The Board received a check from the State of NH for Meals & Rooms 2013 in the amount of \$236,739.20.
  - h. The Board received a letter from HealthTrust regarding the return of the 2011 and 2012 surplus in the amount of \$1,186.59
  - i. The Board received a memo from Brenda regarding the Mosaic Parcel Map Sharing Pool. The Board decided to not participate at this time.
  - j. The Board received a letter from Property-Liability Trust regarding the Public Official Schedule Bond.
  - k. The Board received a letter from Property-Liability Trust regarding annual reports.
  - l. The Board received a letter from HealthTrust regarding annual reports.
  - m. The Board received a thank you letter from the Community Action Program for the third quarter 2013 appropriation.
  - n. The Board received the MVSD Superintendent Candidate Visitation Schedule.
  - o. The Board received a letter from a resident of Currier Road regarding Comcast service. A copy of the letter will go in the Comcast file to be discussed during franchise renewal talks with Comcast.
  - p. The Board received ESMI's self report for October 2013.
  - q. The Board received an abutter notice from the Town of Loudon Planning Board Office regarding Tax Map 52, Lots 5 & 5-1.

- r. The Board received an abutter notice from the Town of Warner Planning Board regarding cell tower.
- s. The Board received a letter from Southern NH Services Inc. regarding Elderly Housing in Pittsburg, NH.
- t. The Board received two bankruptcy notices.
- u. The Board received a thank you card from Jean Nelson.
- v. The Board received a notice from Comcast regarding a price change.
- w. The Board received miscellaneous correspondence.

XI. The Board received the following reminders:

- a. Wednesday, January 8 at 7:00 pm the Canterbury Zoning Board will hold a meeting regarding a proposed campground.
- b. Monday, January 13 at 7:15 pm is a MVSD School Board meeting.

Chairman Krieger thanked all of the departments that have been working out in this weather for doing a good job. Selectmen Ives and Bowles agreed.

Selectmen Bowles thanked everyone for their patience at the transfer station during the holidays.

Chairman Krieger reminded residents that they can go to the transfer station and get sand if they need it.

Selectman Bowles moved to adjourn at 7:46 P.M. Seconded by Selectman Ives. All in favor. Motion carried.

LOUDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Robert P. Krieger, *Chairman*

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Steven R. Ives, Selectman

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Dustin J. Bowles, Selectman