

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

**Present: Selectman Maxfield, Ives, and Bowles.**

**Also present: Road Agent David Rice.**

Chairman Maxfield called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

- I. Selectman Ives moved to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, January 9, 2008 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Motion carried.
- II. The Board met with Road Agent David Rice.
  - a. Mr. Rice advised the Board that he had spoken with Mr. Day of East Ricker Road regarding his complaint about snowplowing. He said that Mr. Day understands that the plow trucks have to do their entire route before they will get back to his road for additional plowing. Mr. Rice said that Mr. Day's wife had been stuck on more than one road during the storm and was frustrated, but realizes the amount of snow we received in such a short amount of time was difficult to keep up with.
  - b. Mr. Rice advised the Board that due to the amount of storms so far this season, they are running out of screened sand and have had to purchase some from Fillmore Industries. He said that as soon as the Highway Crew has a few days to screen sand, they would try to get ahead.
  - c. Mr. Rice advised the Board that there was an electronic issue with one of the Highway Department trucks. He stated that the issue has been fixed.
  - d. Selectman Bowles discussed the overtime line in the Highway Department budget and suggested looking at having the employees take some time off, when possible, to alleviate some of the overtime hours.
- III. The Board began their review of weekly correspondence.
  - a. The Board received a memo from Office Assistant Bonnie Theriault regarding pending/follow-up issues. The Board agreed to have Mrs. Theriault forward correspondence to Attorney Peter McGrath regarding the ambulance billing settlement request for two individuals. The Board does not agree with Attorney McGrath's offer to settle for \$200.00 each, but will agree to \$300.00 each. The Board was advised of the meeting scheduled for April 9, 2008 for the training with Wendy Dumais of Capital Area Public Health Network.

- IV. The Board met with Kathy Fisher and Lisa Hondzinski regarding changes to the rental policy of the Community Building.
- a. Lisa Hondzinski stated that she had been renting the Community Building, without incident, for over a year and Kathy Fisher had been renting the building, without incident, for over three years. She said while they understand there was an issue with someone else renting the building, which caused problems, and the Board decided to make changes, they were here to discuss their option with the Board. Selectman Bowles said that making the changes to the rental policy was a tough decision for him. He said that he wanted to find a way not to penalize the individuals who rent the building on a continual basis, without incident, while putting a policy in place for new renters, in an effort to protect the Town and still be user friendly to the individuals who rent the facility on a monthly basis. The Board discussed the need to have a standard rental policy in place so that everyone would be held to the same expectations and restrictions. Discussion ensued. Mrs. Hondzinski and Mrs. Fisher discussed the increase in fees from \$35.00 to \$50.00 and stated that while they understand the increase in heating prices, the \$15.00 increase does affect their business. Mrs. Hondzinski asked the Board if there was any way to use a credit card for the security deposit fee instead of submitting a \$150.00 check each month. The Board advised Mrs. Hondzinski that the Town does not accept credit cards at this time. The Board agreed that they would address this issue and see if there was a way to come up with a solution. Discussion ensued regarding the cleaning of the Community Building. Selectman Ives said that he felt the Board would agree to keep the rental fee at the \$50.00, but they would look at the security deposit issue and get back to Mrs. Hondzinski and Mrs. Fisher with the results.
  - b. Mrs. Hondzinski asked the Board if they would consider having a microwave in the kitchen area of the Community Building if she donated it. She said that she would not restrict the use of the microwave, if approved, but she would hope that people cleaned it after they used it. The Selectmen stated they had no problem if Mrs. Hondzinski wanted to donate a microwave for use at the Community Building.
- V. The Board continued their review of weekly correspondence.
- a. The Board received copies of the Biennial Bridge Inspection Report. Chairman Maxfield stated there are no red listed bridges in Loudon on the report.
  - b. The Board received draft copies of the CIP Report from Planning/Zoning Secretary Donna White.
  - c. The Board received copies of a letter from DRA Auditor Jamie Dow for review. Selectman Ives discussed the 2008 certification.

- d. The Board received correspondence from Alfred and Rachel Page regarding cable and internet issues. The Board discussed the issue of the changes to cable that are to take place in 2009. Chairman Maxfield gave an over view of the progression of cable in Loudon. He stated 80% of Loudon has cable access. Discussion ensued regarding the terms of the contract.
- e. The Board received copies of Legislative Bulletin #4.
- f. The Board received copies of an e-mail from Planning/Zoning Secretary Donna White regarding HB 1223-FN-L regarding grandfathered excavations.
- g. Mr. Plummer inquired about the status of the J. O. Cate Van Building. Selectman Bowles said that the only thing pending is the connection of the furnace.
- h. Mr. Plummer asked about the voting counting process. The Board stated that the voting machine scans the ballots, and counts the ones that it can read; any ballot that the machine cannot read is sent into a separate compartment in the ballot box, which is then counted by hand at the end of the evening.
- i. Paul Johnson asked if the Board had the dates of the Library Trustees meetings. The Board stated that the Trustees are required to post notices of their meetings, but did not know what dates were scheduled.

Selectman Bowles moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. Seconded by Selectman Ives. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

#### THE LOUDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Roger A. Maxfield, Chairman

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Steven R. Ives, Selectman

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Dustin J. Bowles, Selectman