

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 16, 2007

Present: Selectman Bowles, Maxfield, and Ives.

Also present: Road Agent David Rice.

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

- I. Selectman Maxfield moved to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, January 9, 2007 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Ives. All in favor. Motion carried.
- II. The Board met with Road Agent David Rice.
 - a. Mr. Rice advised the Board they have to replace the chain in the sander on the 1-Ton truck. Mr. Rice stated he had received a phone call from Sanborn Road regarding sanding and they responded as quickly as possible.
 - b. Discussion ensued regarding signage. Chairman Bowles advised Mr. Rice that the signs on Bee Hole could be taken down relative to gates and bars. Selectman Ives asked about the bridge on Cross Brook Road relative to icing issues. Chairman Bowles said that he has spoken with Engineer Jason Gallant relative to this issue. Mr. Rice talked about the paving issue on Cross Brook Road.
- III. The Board began their review of weekly correspondence.
 - a. The Board received legal correspondence from Lauren Irwin of Upton and Hatfield. The Board will meet with Ms. Irwin on Wednesday at 3:45 PM.
 - b. The Board received correspondence from Town Counsel regarding the Superior Court decision to the Bailargeon litigation.
 - c. The Board received updated tipping floor rules from Wheelabrator. Discussion ensued regarding placing an additional container at the Transfer Station.
 - d. The Board received draft minutes from the January 11, 2007 CIP meeting.
 - e. The Board received a copy of an e-mail from Terri Barton on EMT classes. The Board will have Chief Burr address this e-mail.
 - f. The Board received a copy of an e-mail sent to Bob Fiske from Bruce Dyke of Chichester.
 - g. The Board received copies of the NHMA Legislative Bulletin #3.
 - h. The Board received a regional impact notice from Epsom.
 - i. The Board received copies of the DRA Newsletter from Barbara Robinson.

- IV. Chairman Bowles opened the Public Hearing to review the proposed 2007 – 2008 Town Budget.
- a. Chairman Bowles stated the Board met with Department Heads to review their budget submissions and after multiple sessions, have come up with the proposed figures in Budget Revision #2.
 - b. Chairman Bowles said that the proposed salary increase for Town employees is 3.25% across the board with the exception of one.
 - c. Chairman Bowles began going through the proposed budget by category:
 1. The assessment and map line is down because the sales update was in the 2006 – 2007 budget.
 2. The increase in the Tax Collector's line for file clerk is due to training and increase in hours for that position.
 3. The increase in Treasurer's Budget is for office supplies and bank deposit tickets.
 4. There is an increase in the Employee Benefits line due to projected increases.
 5. The Zoning Board has an increase in legal fees and in postage.
 6. The Cemeteries line has been increased due to maintenance costs as well as the need to replace a fence.
 7. A new line has been added to the Police Department for data processing to purchase new software for the cruisers in an effort to increase the safety of Police Officers. This software interfaces with the County and State.
 8. The Fire Department building maintenance is up due to the needed repairs at the Safety Complex.
 9. Chairman Bowles discussed the Emergency Management lines that have been included for the first time in the budget. He said that with FEMA and Homeland Security there are requirements the Town must meet and these lines are being put in place to be prepared for future requirements.
 10. Chairman Bowles said that due to the need to move forward, the Highway Department has increases but they have held the increases to those that are needed.
 11. Chairman Bowles said the Highway Block Grant figures are down a bit.
 12. Chairman Bowles discussed the Electronics and Tire Disposal line under the Solid Waste/Landfill section of the budget. He stated the increase is due to the costs associated with getting rid of electronic equipment.
 13. The increase in the J. O. Cate Van line is due to the expected costs associated with electricity for the new building.

14. Chairman Bowles stated the Economic Development lines show a decrease, as there is currently no activity within these lines; however, the Selectmen agreed to keep the lines in the budget in case there is a renewed interest in this area.
- d. John Plummer asked about the Emergency Management line in the budget relative to federal funds. Chairman Bowles stated that there are grants available for specific projects under Emergency Management, but not necessarily for general operations. He discussed the Emergency Operations Plan that was prepared under a grant. Selectman Maxfield discussed the Emergency Operations Plan and stated that the Town was required to update that plan in order to be eligible for Federal money.
- e. Selectman Maxfield discussed the Estimated Revenues for 2007 – 2008. He stated the Police and Fire Special Events lines are revenues from NHIS race events. Selectman Maxfield stated that the Board is required to review the Revenue Estimates. He said the Board gives a lot of thought to coming up with the revenue figures.
- f. Selectman Maxfield stated that currently there are two proposed Warrant Articles for the 2007 Annual Town Meeting. He read the first one as follows: **ARTICLE #??:** “ To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000.00 for the purpose of reclaiming, repairing, and paving Clough Pond Road from Route 106 to Berry Road, and resurfacing Clough Pond Road from Berry Road to the Town line. And to reclaim, repair, and repave Old Shaker Road from Clough Pond Road to Shaker Road with funds to be withdrawn from the Roadway Capital Improvements Capital Reserve Funds and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to carry said purpose into effect. This article will not affect the tax rate. The Selectmen recommend this article”. Selectman Maxfield explained that at last Town Meeting, voters approved the Warrant Article to do this work; however, due to the two bridge projects and on the recommendations of DRA, the Selectmen decided to hold off on any large projects in case there were delays in getting FEMA/State Bridge Aid as the Town could only use funds that were raised and appropriated. The Town was approved for FEMA money and State Bridge Aid, which means the money appropriated at the 2006 Town Meeting is still available for the paving of Clough Pond Road; however, the cost of paving has gone up approximately \$45,000.00 or \$11.00 per ton in place.
- g. Selectman Ives read the second proposed Warrant Article as follows: **ARTICLE #??:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$125,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a truck with sander, plow, and wing \$52,000.00 to be withdrawn from the Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund and the balance to be raised from taxes. This article will affect the tax rate by 12 cents per \$1,000.00 value. The Selectmen recommend this article”. Selectman Ives stated this purchase would be to replace a truck that is sixteen

years old. He said that the truck is at a point where it needs replacement. David Rice clarified that it is to purchase the truck with a sander, body, plow, and wing, not sander body. He said they are looking at two separate items.

- h. John Plummer asked about the proposed warrant article for paving. Discussion ensued regarding there being farmers mix and sealer on the Shaker Road portion. Chairman Bowles said they are trying to fix the area going over the bridge so the water will not accumulate. Selectman Maxfield said that portion of the Warrant Article was also included in last years Warrant Article.

Chairman Bowles closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the Selectmen's Meeting.

- V. The Board met with Bill Forst.
 - a. Chairman Bowles advised Mr. Forst that the Selectmen have a letter being forwarded to him. Chairman Bowles said that Mr. Fiske had contacted the County Prosecutor and was informed that the Selectmen should not intervene as there was a direction given by the Court and the issue is between Code Enforcement and Mr. Forst. Mr. Forst said the decision from the Court is not very clear. He asked if he could discuss this issue with Code Enforcement. Chairman Bowles said that yes, Mr. Forst should be dealing with Mr. Fiske. It is not up to the Selectmen to interfere with a Court decision. Mr. Forst said he would try again to get in touch with Mr. Fiske.

Selectman Ives moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

THE LOUDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Dustin J. Bowles, Chairman

Roger A. Maxfield, Selectman

Steven R. Ives, Selectman