

## Selectmen's Meeting

Tuesday, January 22, 2008

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

**Also present: Fire Chief Jeff Burr and Police Chief, Code Enforcement/Compliance Officer Bob Fiske.**

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

- I. Selectman Ives moved to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, January 15, 2008 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Motion carried.
  
- II. The Board met with Police Chief, Code Enforcement/Compliance Officer Bob Fiske.
  - a. Mr. Fiske advised the Board that the Selectmen would be required to accept the new FEMA Flood Maps in 2009. Discussion ensued regarding the new legislation, which will require landowners provide scientific evidence that their properties are not in the flood zone if the available flood maps show that the property is with in the flood zone delineation.
  - b. The Board asked about the status of building permits. Mr. Fiske stated that there are eight people on the waiting list that have chosen not to move up to this year.
  
- III. The Board met with Fire Chief Jeff Burr.
  - a. Selectman Ives stated that he had investigated the cistern issue for the Volunteers of America Senior Housing Project. He said appears that HUD provided VOA the grant for the project, and because the cistern was not listed on the grant application, HUD did not approve the additional funding for the cistern. Selectman Ives went on to say, it would be very difficult for VOA to get any additional funding from HUD. He said that VOA does not appear to have any of their own money invested in the project at this point and there is a chance that there may be additional funding sources available to them. Selectman Ives said that if the Town decides to hold up the Certificate of Occupancy because of the cistern issue, HUD would not get involved. Discussion ensued regarding the cistern being required and the e-mail correspondence that was sent to the wrong e-mail address and was never received by the Town. Chief Burr stated that VOA's request to tap into the fresh water was reviewed by himself and the State and it was agreed that this was not an acceptable solution. The Board will address this issue at the next Board of Permit. Discussion ensued regarding the cistern being discussed and required for the project as well as what was included in the minutes.
  
- IV. The Board began their review of weekly correspondence.

- a. The Board received a memo from Office Manager Jean Lee advising the Board that the date of the Merrimack Valley School District Budget Hearing is Wednesday, February 6, 2008, 7:00 PM at the High School, which is the same night that the Board had originally picked for the final Budget Hearing. The Selectmen agreed that the final Budget Hearing for FY 2008 – 2009 would be scheduled for Thursday, February 7, 2008, at 7:00 PM. The memo also went on to discuss the conversation Mrs. Lee had with DRA Auditor Jamie Dow regarding Capital Reserve Funds and Expendable Trusts. The Board discussed the possible Warrant Article to amend certain Capital Reserve Funds to allow the Selectmen as agents to expend the funds. The Board discussed the CRF's that are relative to equipment purchases and by amending the CRF to allow the Selectmen as agents to expend, it will allow the equipment purchase in a timely manner.
  - b. The Board was notified that Mrs. Lee received a phone call from Mr. Rememar regarding underground cable service for Greenview Drive. Mr. Rememar has requested that the Board investigate any options available for cable service on Greenview Drive. Discussion ensued regarding number of homes in this area. Chairman Maxfield will follow-up with this issue.
  - c. The Board received copies of an e-mail from Engineer Tony Puntin regarding possible changes to NH Motor Speedway.
  - d. The Board received copies of an expenditure report from the Maxfield Public Library.
  - e. The Board received copies of the November and December Library Trustees Meeting Minutes for review.
- V. Chairman Maxfield opened the Public Hearing to accept State Bridge Aid monies for repairs to Cross Brook Road and Chichester Road Bridges.
- a. Chairman Maxfield stated the total project cost for the Chichester Road Bridge project was \$308,446.46 with the State Bridge Aid portion of \$65,862.11 and the Town received 75% of the State portion, which was \$52,869.69. Chairman Maxfield stated the total project cost for the Cross Brook Road Bridge project was \$539,050.52 with the State Bridge Aid portion of \$121,513.72 and the Town received 75% of the State portion, which was \$97,210.98. He said the funds would be returned to the General Fund and would become part of the Unreserved Fund Balance at the end of the Fiscal Year. Chairman Maxfield stated the Town has also received \$3,338.52 in State matching funds for the FEMA Declaration of the April 2007 Flooding which was also returned to the General Fund to offset the expenditures incurred during the flooding. He stated that the Town is required to retain a certain amount of money in the Unreserved Fund Balance for situations like this as the Town paid the expenditures out of this fund and are being reimbursed for the expenditures. Selectman Bowles stated that the Cross Brook Road Bridge was not originally recognized as a State recognized bridge; however, the Engineers at The Louis Berger Group submitted the paperwork once the project was completed and the Town was granted the State Bridge Aid for that project. He said that the Town was very fortunate

that the State was willing to reimburse the Town for the Cross Brook Road Bridge. Deb Kardaseski asked for the net cost to the Town for the two bridge projects. Selectman Ives stated that Chichester Road Bridge was \$13,172.42 and Cross Brook Road Bridge was \$24,302.74. He went on to say that the total project was almost \$1,000,000.00. Selectman Bowles moved to accept the funds from the State portion of the Chichester Road Bridge project in the amount of \$52,869.69 and the Cross Brook Road Bridge project funds in the amount of \$97,210.98. Selectman Ives stated that The Louis Berger Group Engineers worked hard on this project and he felt that they have saved the Town a lot of money. He went on to thank Road Agent David Rice and Office Manager Jean Lee for their efforts in the process as well. Selectman Ives moved to amend the motion to include the acceptance of the \$3,338.52 in State matching funds for the FEMA Declaration of the April 2007 Flooding with all funds to be returned to the General Fund. Seconded by Selectman Ives. All in favor. Motion carried.

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

- VI. The Board continued their review of weekly correspondence.
- a. The Board received correspondence from Local Government Center regarding potential mandate litigation relative to the NH Retirement System legislation.
  - b. The Board received information from the Highway Safety Agency on Financial Assistance for Cities and Towns.
  - c. The Board received copies of Legislative Bulletin #5.
  - d. The Board received copies of the news release from Councilor Shea for review.
- VII. Chairman Maxfield opened the Public Hearing for the 2008 – 2009 Budget Hearing. Chairman Maxfield stated that the Selectmen have determined the COLA for Town employees will be 2% with a few merit increases for some employees. He went on to say, the Board has also agreed to keep the Health/Dental Insurance Cap at \$9,000.00 plus 90% of the remaining amount as they did last year. Chairman Maxfield stated that the line items that have changes would be reviewed:
- Selectmen's Budget: Selectmen's Office Wage line is up due to a merit increase for Office Assistant Bonnie Theriault who has been with the Town for more than ten years. Selectmen Data Processing line is up \$4,800.00 due to contracts and the increase for continual updating of the computer system. Selectmen Dues/Seminars line is up \$100.00. Selectmen Postage line is up \$275.00 due to the increase in costs of mailing. Selectmen Advertising line is up \$300.00 due to increase in advertising costs. Bob Fiske asked what the Office Manager's COLA was going to be. Chairman Maxfield stated 2%.
- Loudon Historical Society: This line is up \$1,500.00 due to the new members of the Historical Society moving forward with purchasing a new computer, and additional items for the Society. Ron Lane, President of the Historical Society asked the Board about the reduction in what they had submitted in their budget. He stated that the Historical Society had requested \$3,000.00 for

their budget. The Board stated that they felt the jump from \$500.00 to \$3,000.00 was a very large jump and they agreed to the \$2,000.00 for this year and see how things go, and they would consider an additional increase next year. Ron Lane, President of the Historical Society explained that the members had gotten together tonight to review the budget they submitted to see if there were items that they could forego, and the Committee members agreed if they had to they could eliminate the \$500.00 they had set aside for speakers and the purchase of additional artifacts at this time, but the remainder of the items they have in their budget are necessary. Mr. Lane addressed the printer/scanner that they are looking to purchase has the capability of copying slides. He said there are many people who are willing to let the Historical Society borrow their slides as long as they will get them back. Mr. Lane went on to say, part of the budget includes the internet and telephone lines. Selectman Bowles stated that the Board felt that the internet and phone line budget could be adjusted as they felt the Town could get a better price than what was budgeted. Mr. Lane stated the Committee members agreed that they could make do with \$2,500.00 if the Board would consider it. Discussion ensued regarding the internet service and the desire of the Committee members to be able to work at the Historical Society versus working at the Library or other Town Building with internet service. Michelle York explained that Loudon does not have any programs for historical purpose at this time and the new Historical Society members are trying to put things in place to be able to move forward. Alicia Grimaldi discussed the possibility of having the Recreation Committee budget pay for some of the guest speakers for the Historical Society. She stated there has been discussion regarding having historical speakers come to speak at one of the Recreation Committee Family Fun Nights and she would be willing to work with the Historical Society for this purpose. Selectman Ives stated that while he is trying to be conservative with the budget, the Board is willing to go with \$2,500.00 for the Historical Society budget line.

Town Clerk: Deputy Town Clerk Wage line is up 2% due to the COLA increase. Town Clerk Fees is up \$3,000.00 due to the projected increase with being online with the State of NH and the fact that the Town Clerk will now be issuing initial plates and boat registrations. Discussion ensued regarding the fees being anticipated based on revenues generated with registrations and licensing. Town Clerk File clerk line is up \$110.00. Town Clerk Postage line is up \$25.00.

Elections: Election Official Salary line is up \$1,300.00 due to an increase in amount of pay that the election workers receive. Selectman Bowles stated that currently the election workers receive \$50.00 per day to sit at the polls and this increase would bring them to \$75.00 per day, per election. In addition, the Supervisors of the Checklist currently receive \$9.00 per hour for their data entry time and the increase will put them at \$10.00 per hour. Election Printing line is up \$2,250.00 due to increase in printing ballots, voter checklists, etc. Election Expenses line is up \$1,850.00 due to the ballot tabulating machine expenses, meals for election workers, and miscellaneous

office supplies, and coding. Election Advertising line is up \$100.00 due to increase in number of elections and increase in advertising costs.

Town Audit: Town Auditor line is up \$1,000.00 due to increase in the auditors fees.

Tax Collector: Tax Collector Salary line is up 2% due to the COLA. Deputy Tax Collector Wage line is up 2% due to the COLA. Tax Collector Dues line is up \$20.00 due to increase in membership fees. Tax Collector Postage line is up \$1,000.00 due to increase in postage costs. Tax Collector Registry of Deeds line is up \$2,000.00 due to projected costs and issues within the economy, which may create more foreclosures.

Treasurer: Treasurer's Salary line is up 2% due to the COLA. Treasurer Bank Charge for Deposit Slips is up \$100.00 due to increase charged by the bank.

Legal Services: Selectmen Legal Service line is up \$8,000.00 due to additional legal issues that have come up over the past year.

Employee Benefits: FICA – Town Share line is up \$2,650.00. Medicare – Town Share line is up \$500.00. NH Retirement System – Town Share is up \$5,650.00.

Planning Board: Planning Board Secretary Wage line is up 3.07%. Planning Board Salaries line is up \$800.00 due to the Chairman of the Planning Board getting an \$800.00 increase. Planning Board CNHRPC line is up \$50.00 due to an increase in membership fees, which is based on population. Planning Board Postage line is up \$75.00 due to an increase in postage costs. Planning Board Advertising line is up \$200.00 due to the increased costs with advertising.

Zoning Board: ZBA Secretary Wage line is up 3.07%. Janice Morin asked why the 3.07 % for Planning Board and ZBA Secretary position and not the 2% COLA that is set for other employees. Chairman Maxfield stated it was because that is what the Planning Board and ZBA Chairmen submitted. Ms. Morin said she heard the Board say they were giving a merit raise for a 10-year employee, but questioned why a 2-year employee was getting more than the 2%. Chairman Maxfield stated that when the Planning/Zoning Secretary was hired she was hired at a lower pay rate and this increase would be approximately \$832.00 per year. Bob Fiske stated that when he met with the Selectmen to discuss budgets the Board was very specific that the raises were going to be consistent throughout the budget. He said that this is the first time he was made aware of what the COLA was going to be. Mr. Fiske said that he had put additional money in his budget for his employees, but the Selectmen appear to have calculated his budget at the 2% COLA. Chairman Maxfield stated that the Board has agreed to take the recommendations of the Planning and Zoning Chairmen. Mr. Fiske said that he felt all the Department Heads had worked hard on their budgets and included their recommendations for raises. Deb Kardaseski said she agreed with Mr. Fiske that other Department Heads had probably put in more than 2% for their employees and asked why the Planning and Zoning Chairmen's recommendation carry more weight than the other Department Heads. Selectman Ives said that the

Planning/Zoning Secretary was hired at a lower hourly rate than was anticipated and has been doing a great job. Chairman Maxfield stated he felt the Board agreed on the budgeted amount and that they were not prepared to change the figures. ZBA Salary line is up \$200.00 due to the ZBA Chairman getting a \$200.00 increase. ZBA Legal Consultants line is up \$1,500.00 due to increases in legal cases and consultations. ZBA Postage line is up \$75.00 due to increases in postage fees. ZBA Advertising line is up \$200.00 due to the increases in advertising costs.

Government Building: Town Office Electricity line is up \$100.00 due to the increase in electric costs. Town Street Lighting is up \$200.00. Safety Building – Station 2 Heat is up \$500.00. Town Hall Electricity line is up \$50.00. Town Hall Repair line is up \$3,000.00 due to the need to fix the foundation and the re-clapboarding of part of the building.

Town Cemeteries: Town Cemetery line is up \$10,000.00 due to the need to replace the fence and fix the granite posts at the Town Cemetery. Chairman Maxfield stated the Selectmen went out to bid on this project and the lowest bid was for this amount.

Employee Benefits: Health & Dental Insurance line is up \$3,020.00. Insurance line is up \$1,000.00.

Police Department: Police Regular Salary line is at 2% COLA for Police Department employees. Mr. Fiske inquired about his contract with regard to 2.5% increase with the renewal of his contract last December. Chairman Maxfield said that the Board would probably have to increase for this issue. Mr. Fiske discussed the 43 hour/28 day work cycle issue. The Board stated they would double check the figures. Mr. Fiske said that the officers are not paid overtime until they have worked 43 hours, but that his department is not on the 28-day cycle. He went on to say that he is not opposed to the Planning/Zoning Secretary getting the 3.07% increase; however, he feels there is no equality, that not everyone is being treated the same. Mr. Fiske said that last year Brenda Pearl was denied \$0.09, and if one person is getting 3.07% than everyone should get the 3%. He said if an employee is not doing their job, then the Town might as well get rid of the employee if they are not doing their job. Police Overtime line is up 2%. Police Part-time Secretary Wage line is up 2.01%. Police Part-time Wage line is up 2%. Police Department County Dispatch line is up \$2,353.00. Police Department Computer Support/Maintenance line is up \$892.00. Police Department Medical Line is up \$1,400.00. Police Department Prosecution line is up \$1,406.00. Chairman Maxfield stated that all of Loudon's court cases are held at Concord District Court and the Prosecution fees are for this service. Mr. Fiske stated that the Town has five lawyers that do the prosecuting and he feels they do an excellent job. Police Department Electricity/Lights line is up \$900.00. Police Department Office Supply line is up \$500.00. Police Department Postage line is up \$75.00. Police Department Radio Repair line is up \$2,000.00. Police Department Gasoline is up \$4,000.00. Police Department Ammunition line is up \$1,000.00. Police Department Outside Services line is up \$500.00. It was stated that Outside Services were Comcast, Radar Equipment being certified,

water delivery, etc. Deb Kardaseski asked about the Radio Repair line relative to repairs or replacement. Mr. Fiske stated that the repeater that was placed at the old Ridge Fire Station had been taken down when the new Station 2 was built. He said that the money in this line is to repair the repeater and it will hopefully be placed back at the Steel's property on the Ridge, as this is the ideal spot for the repeater to be placed.

Special Events: Chairman Maxfield stated that the Special Events lines are in the budget; however, the racetrack pays back the monies paid out so it is an "in and out" account.

Health Department: Health Department Wage Line is up 2.01%. Mr. Fiske stated he wanted to be sure that the Board recognized his Health Wage at 2.5%. Selectman Bowles asked if that is what Mr. Fiske was requesting to be done, that there is no negotiation to this issue, that he was adamant. Mr. Fiske stated he was requesting what was included in the budget sheets that he had originally submitted to the Selectmen. Selectman Bowles asked if Mr. Fiske were willing to work on this issue. Mr. Fiske said he would be willing to work, as he has told the Board repeatedly, if nobody got a raise, he would not balk at it at all. He went on to say if everybody got 2%, he would have no problem with it. Mr. Fiske stated he did not have a problem with the raise for Bonnie Theriault or for the Planning/Zoning Secretary, but if everyone was on the same line of 2%, he would have no problem with it. Selectman Bowles said he wanted to make it clear, the merit raises that are given out are looked at carefully. He said the Planning/Zoning Secretary is doing a good job and he also knows that the Board needed to thank Brenda Pearl for organizing the office when she was in that position, but the Board agreed on the increase because Ms. White is doing a good job and taking care of things immediately. Mr. Fiske stated he was not denying any of what Selectman Bowles said. Selectman Bowles said he is only speaking on his behalf, not the Board. Deb Kardaseski said she feels the Town needs to take a look at the wages of the Town employees. She discussed the issue of "training" officers and fire personnel so they can go to another town and make a decent wage. Ms. Kardaseski said she felt there was a problem with the fact that a Fire Fighter Level I could go to another department and make more money than Loudon's Fire Chief. Chairman Maxfield discussed the wage and salary benefit information for town employees. He stated that the big cities can pay more to recruit and keep the officers and fire fighters. Selectman Ives said that the Board agreed last year to give the Police Department \$2.00 per hour raises across the board for the officers. He said that was to try and keep the officers from leaving. Selectman Ives said this year with the economy issues, the Board decided on 2%. He said that in the private sector when someone does well and works hard, you reward them. Selectman Ives said he has never been in favor of COLA raises and the Selectmen have given quite a lot of thought to the raises that are in the budget. He went on to say that he knew that this decision would ruffle a few feathers and he apologizes for that. Selectman Ives said that he feels strongly rewarding people who do a good job and in the private sector people can be fired on the spot and in the public sector it is not

as easy and he sometimes wishes that it was. He said if he can save the town a little bit of money by holding back some raises, he would. Phil Nadeau asked if there was a written formula for merit raises and asked if it was applied across the board. The Board said no, there was no written formula. Mr. Nadeau suggested that the Board look into putting something in place. Selectman Ives stated that every town employee is eligible for a merit raise. Chairman Maxfield discussed the step and grade scale that had been utilized during the time of the Police Department Union. He said that the salary lines would more than likely be discussed at Town Meeting.

Ambulance: Ambulance Wage line is up 2.01%. Ambulance Part-time Wage line is up 2%. Ambulance Wage Standby line is up 2%. Ambulance Billing Fee line is up \$1,050.00 due to an increase in the agreement with the billing service. Ambulance Overtime Wage line is up 1.99%.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Salary line is up 2%. Fire Department Compensation line is up \$3,500.00. Fire Department Dispatch line is up \$3,722.00. Fire Department Telephone line is up \$80.00. Fire Department Electricity line is up \$1,000.00. Fire Department Office Supply line is up \$200.00. Fire Department Gas/Oil line is up \$400.00. Fire Department Truck Maintenance line is up \$1,000.00. Fire Department Radios and Pagers line is up \$150.00. Fire Department Protective Clothing line is up \$500.00. Fire Department Training line is up \$1,700.00. Fire Department Equipment Testing line is up \$800.00. Marge Schoonmaker asked what the Fire Chief's Expenses line was for. Chief Burr stated this line is for items not covered under any other line. He said it is like a miscellaneous account.

Compliance: Compliance Office/Code Enforcement Wage line is at 2%. Mr. Fiske reminded the Board that this line should be at 2.5%. Compliance /Code Assistant Wages line is up 2%. Mr. Fiske advised the Board that he had requested an additional 8 hours per week for the Compliance/Code Assistant Wage line for the Part-time Secretary in the Building Department for additional filing as there has been controversy about the number of hours that he has been spending in the Building/Code Department. Mr. Fiske said he felt that the additional 8 hours is what is needed in that department to be able to keep on top of building permit list. He said currently there is 8 hours per week for this position and he is asking for it to become 16 hours per week. Selectman Bowles stated he felt that the Board did not realize that Mr. Fiske was asking for an additional 8 hours for this position and that it was not an intentional oversight. He said the Board will make note of that change.

Compliance Subscription line is up \$50.00.

Emergency Management: Emergency Management line is up \$300.00. Mr. Fiske asked what the increase was for. Selectman Bowles stated the increase was for many items, such as hours that the Emergency Management Director would be in contact with key officials before, during, and after an incident and possibly mileage. The Board will review this request further and will have the answer at the next Budget Hearing.

Highway Department: Highway Department Wage line is up 1.99%.

Highway Department Overtime Wage line is up 6.66% due to the increase in

storms. Highway Department Part-time Wage line is up 2%. Highway Department Parts Loader line is up \$1,500.00. Highway Department Gas & Oil line is up \$2,000.00. Highway Department Road Maintenance & Repairs line is up \$5,000.00. Highway Department Uniforms line is up \$1,200.00. Highway Department Advertising line is up \$100.00.

Block Grant: Highway Department Block Grant Salt line is up \$5,503.00. Solid Waste/Landfill: Solid Waste & Recycling Wage line is up 1.99%. Landfill Diesel/Propane Fuel line is up \$200.00. Electronics & Lightbulb Disposal line is up \$4,500.00 due to the regulations regarding disposal of TV's, computer monitors, etc.

Community Action Program: Community Action Program line is up \$258.00.

Welfare: Welfare Part-time Wage line is up 2.04%. Mr. Fiske stated for consistency he felt it should be a 2% increase.

Recreation: Recreation Lifeguard Wage line is up 4.44%. Recreation Porta-John Rental line is up \$500.00. Recreation Loudon Young at Heart line is up \$500.00.

Library: Library Director Wage line is up 2%. Library Children's Librarian Wage line is up 2%. Library Part-time Wage line is up 1.99%. Library Equipment /Repair line is up \$1,000.00. Library Elevator Maintenance line is up \$400.00. Library Non-print Material line is up \$500.00. Library Passes line is up \$100.00. Library Supply line is up \$1,300.00. Library Technology line is up \$500.00.

Payments to Capital Reserve: CRF Bridge line is up \$5,000.00. CRF Library Collection Maintenance line is down \$2,000.00. CRF J. O. Cate Memorial Van line is down \$2,500.00 CRF Roadway Improvements line is up \$15,000.00.

Chairman Maxfield stated that the whole overall budget is down 4.03% at this time. He stated that if all of the proposed Warrant Articles passed at Town Meeting the budget would be up 1%.

Chairman Maxfield began review of the Estimated Revenues for FY 2008 – 2009.

Chairman Maxfield stated the Motor Vehicle Permit line is up \$5,000.00. He said the Motor Vehicle Permits revenue is nearly 40% of the revenue received by the Town. Chairman Maxfield stated the Board uses a historical factor in estimating the revenues. Selectman Bowles stated that the Block Grant Revenues are provided to the Town from the State. Chairman Maxfield stated the total Estimated Revenues for FY 2008 – 2009 is \$2,889,537.00, which is down 0.72%.

Chairman Maxfield began review of the Proposed Warrant Articles for 2008 Town Meeting. He stated Article #1 will be to vote for the candidates and Article #2 will be to vote for all of the Zoning Amendments.

Selectman Ives read Article #3 as follows: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$72,000.00 for the purpose of repaving Cooper Street from Route 129 to Safety Complex, repave all areas around

Safety Complex, and Recreational Drive. This article would affect the tax rate by 13 cents per \$1,000 value. The Selectmen recommend this article.

Selectman Ives stated there is currently only a basecoat on the two parking lots and they are beginning to break-up. He said that due to a separate Warrant Article proposed for a drainage issue in the general area, the Board felt it made sense to pave these areas at the same time as they would be paving the drainage area at the Library. Chairman Maxfield stated the basecoat of paving at the Safety Complex was placed sometime in the early 1990's.

Selectman Bowles read Article #4 as follows: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to reconstruct drainage at the lower level of the Maxfield Public Library, construct new manhole at east side of South Village Road, and connect piping to existing manhole across from Library. This article would affect the tax rate by 4 cents per \$1,000 value. The Selectmen recommend this article. Selectman Bowles stated that there have been drainage issues at the upper parking lot at the Library and flooding problems in the lower level of the Library. He went on to say that the current drainage is not adequate to handle the increased water flow over the past few years with the flooding. Discussion ensued regarding the size of the current drainage pipe as well as the changes to the upper parking lot which now creates flooding in the Children's portion of the Library.

Selectman Ives read Article #5 as follows: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$268,980.00 for the purpose of reclaiming and paving Upper City Road, Hollow Route Road, and Storrs Drive, and to repave Goshen Drive and Sheep Rock Roads. This article would affect the tax rate by 50 cents per \$1,000 value. The Selectmen recommend this article.

Selectman Ives stated there was a Growth Management Ordinance Study performed and one of the recommendations of the consultant was that the Town needed to keep updating and maintaining the roads. He said that these roads are beginning to break-up and the intent is to repair the roads before they get so bad they have to be rebuilt. Selectman Ives said there are a lot of roads that need repair, and the Board agreed that these roads need it the most. He went on to say that Sheeprack Road and Goshen Drive developments were built in 1984. Selectman Ives said he felt if there was a need for more money in Article #5, they could shift money from Article #3 to Article #5 as long as the funds were used for paving. He said there is a possibility that there might not be enough money for the Storrs Drive portion of the project and Cooper Street is not in as bad of shape as Storrs Drive. Selectman Ives said that is something that the Board will look at as the projects move forward. Mr. Fiske stated he did not want to be redundant relative to the pay raises, but he felt that the employee raises should be addressed and brought up to where they would be consistent. He said he understands the need to pave Upper City Road, Sheeprack Road, and Goshen Drive, but Storrs Drive was never a Town Road until the Town agreed to plow the area for Arnold Storrs on a friendly basis years ago. Mr. Fiske said in his opinion, to be spending money frivolously, in lieu of raises where they belong for a job well done is not right. Patrick Kiley asked if there was a Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.

Chairman Maxfield stated there is money in the Highway Department budget for repairing roads. Mr. Kiley said he would like to know if there was a Capital Reserve Fund. Chairman Maxfield said there was. He went on to say that the Highway infrastructure has been put off for many years and that the Town really needed to get back on track. Selectman Bowles said that the Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose was utilized last year for the increased costs in the Clough Pond Road project due to holding off for a year after the bridge washouts. He said Storrs Drive is a connector road, and the area by the pond is in jeopardy of being washed-out in one of the big storms if something is not done soon. Chairman Maxfield stated there is \$100,000.00 that is put in this Capital Reserve Fund. He stated the roads need to be fixed. Marge Schoonmaker asked if the drainage issue on Storrs Drive will be addressed before the paving begins. She said the road becomes barely passable when the drainage problems occur. Selectman Bowles said the Town is not planning on doing that end of Storrs Drive, that it will be the Mudgett Hill Road end of Storrs Drive. He said it is only the portion that is currently paved. Mr. Fiske stated that portion was John Storrs driveway. Chairman Maxfield stated it is a town road. Members of the audience stated it was a driveway. Selectman Bowles said it was a connector road as it connects Mudgett Hill Road to Hollow Route Road. He said the bottom of the hill is starting to erode. Selectman Bowles said this is a relatively small project to start with and if some of the small projects could be taken care of then the other ones would be addressed. Mr. Fiske asked which bottom of the hill was Selectman Bowles talking about. Selectman Bowles said Storrs Drive. Mr. Fiske asked if he was talking about it coming down Hollow Route Road. Selectman Bowles said no, coming down the other way, on Mudgett Hill Road. Selectman Ives stated that Road Agent David Rice obtained contract prices for each one of the road projects and the Selectmen can have the cost road by road for the Town if they choose to remove Storrs Drive. Chairman Maxfield stated the Town has paved School Street, Clough Pond Road, and a portion of Old Shaker Road and are now trying to work on some smaller projects. The Board stated that the Capital Reserve Fund has been pretty much depleted. Selectman Bowles read Article #6 as follows: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to participate in a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day in the Fall of 2008. This article would affect the tax rate by 1 cent per \$1,000 value. The Selectmen recommend this article. Selectman Bowles stated this Warrant Article was recommended by Transfer Station Manager Steve Bennett and there have been inquiries from residents for this type of event. He stated due to the increase in costs and location issues, the Town has decided not to partner up with any other town at this point. Selectman Bowles went on to say that it would be a one-time event some time in the Fall. The Board stated that information relative to acceptable items and disposal instructions would be available for residents. Selectman Ives stated that the list of items not accepted at the incinerator in Penacook is getting longer and now the town can be refused entrance at the Penacook facility if any of the banned items are found in the trash load. Ms. Kardaseski

asked if there would be any limit as to the amount that any resident can bring. The Board said that this is for Household Hazardous Waste only, and that more information would be available for the specifics on what is acceptable and if there are any limits. Mr. Fiske asked about joining with Canterbury as had been the plan a few years ago. The Board stated that Mr. Bennett had looked into joining with another town and the costs associated were much higher than if Loudon were to hold its own event. Alicia Grimaldi stated that she has attended Concord and Nashua's Household Hazardous Waste Collection events and they allow individuals from other towns to participate. She asked if Loudon was going to allow this if the article passes. The Board will check into this and be sure that the information is available for Town Meeting.

Chairman Maxfield closed the Budget Hearing and reconvened the Selectmen's Meeting.

- VIII. The Board recognized John Plummer from the audience.
- a. Mr. Plummer asked about the porta-john rentals for the Recreation budget and asked why the cost was so high. The Board advised Mr. Plummer that the units are placed at the Recreation Field, Staniel's Road Ball Field, and Clough Pond Beach. It was discussed that the units are used during the year at different locations and the Town is also required to have handicap accessible units. The Board advised Mr. Plummer that they receive bids for the porta-john rentals.
- IX. Selectman Bowles discussed the security deposit requirement for the rental of Town Buildings. He stated that he had asked Office Assistant Bonnie Theriault to put together a spreadsheet showing the names and dates of individuals or groups that have rented the Community Building for review. Selectman Ives said he felt that if an individual or group has successfully rented the building, without incident, five or more times than the Board should consider waiving the requirement of the \$150.00 security deposit. The Selectmen reviewed the spreadsheet and acknowledged that Kathy Fisher, Lisa Hondzinski, and Freedom Hill Cooperative are the only ones who have rented the building 5 or more times. Discussion ensued regarding the need to re-write the Facilities Agreement Form to address the security deposit changes. The Board agreed that at this time Kathy Fisher, Lisa Hondzinski, and Freedom Hill Cooperative will not be required to submit a security deposit based on the number of times they have successfully rented the Community Building. The Board also agreed that for any other person/or group renting the building 5 times successfully, without incident, will not be required to submit a security deposit. The Board can decide at any point to require any individual/or group to submit a security deposit if there are any problems with the condition of the building. The Board stated that they have the right to waive the security deposit on a case-by-case basis.

Selectman Bowles moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 PM. Seconded by Selectman Ives. All in favor. Motion carried.

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