

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Present: Chairman Bowles, Selectman Krieger and Selectman Ives.
Also present: Road Agent Dave Rice and Police Chief Bob Fiske.

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

Selectman Krieger moved to accept the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, February 12, 2013 as written; seconded by Chairman Bowles. All were in favor. Motion carries.

Selectman Ives moved to accept the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, February 19, 2013 as written; seconded by Chairman Bowles. All were in favor. Motion carries.

- I. Chairman Bowles stated for the record that he signed four pistol permits.
- II. The Board met with Police Chief Bob Fiske.
 - a) Chairman Bowles told Chief Fiske that the Transportation Project application was submitted to Central NH Regional Planning Commission. He explained that they might be asking for information regarding traffic accidents. Chief Fiske said that information is readily available if it's needed. Chairman Bowles said along with Chief Fiske, Mr. Rice and Chief Wright also submitted letters to be included with the application.
 - b) Selectman Krieger asked when DARE Pizza night is. Chief Fiske said it is Wednesday, March 27th at the school.
 - c) Selectman Ives said that at last week's meeting someone asked if there is a way to communicate to the town, maybe on the town website, concerns if there is a lot of break-ins or something like that without compromising an investigation to squash rumors and get the facts out. Chief Fiske stated that they would have to be very careful so as to not cause panic and discontent, people tend to go overboard. Selectman Ives said that rumors get started around town and are usually worse than the truth. Selectman Ives said it doesn't have to be detailed just something like we've had a few issues, lock your doors. Chief Fiske said it gets put in the Ledger and in the Annual Report. He said this last issue was cars being left unlocked in driveways and cash being taken out of consoles. Steve Jakubowski stated that he thinks an aware population is much more vigilant and may be a better tool for the police than if they don't know anything is going on. He stated that if he drives by a neighbor's house and sees a strange vehicle in the yard and he doesn't know anything is going on he wouldn't think twice about it whereas if he knows things are going on he might call the police. Mr. Jakubowski said to print it in the annual report doesn't do any good because anyone with any intelligence would start their activity on April 1st and have eleven months without people knowing about it. He said that there are other cities and towns that post this information and make people aware of what's going on. He said he understands not compromising an active investigation but

making people more aware of locking doors and locking cars and becoming more vigilant can't hurt. Selectman Ives suggested that maybe Chief Fiske could put it in the Loudon Ledger on a regular basis. Chief Fiske said they do put it in the Ledger. He also highly suggests whether there are burglaries going on or not; anytime anyone sees a strange car in a yard they call because you never know, it might be the start of another burglary. Mr. Jakubowski said there is a big difference between putting in the Loudon Ledger "be vigilant and lock your doors" and another thing to say "here is the reason why, we're having a problem". Selectman Krieger stated that he agrees with Mr. Jakubowski to a degree and the public being informed of some things is good however with a police blotter you could have a neighbor that gets embarrassed because they got in trouble for something. Mr. Jakubowski agreed, he said that he is not talking about names, he is talking about putting something on the website or in the ledger that says something like "in the last week or month this has been happening" or "we have had this many break-ins" or whatever, not names. Selectman Krieger agreed. Selectman Ives stated that this was brought up last week so he wanted to start the conversation and see if it could be put on the website or in the Ledger. Mr. Jakubowski said this is no reflection on the Police Department, he thinks they do a good job.

- III. The Board met with Road Agent Dave Rice.
 - a) Mr. Rice said they made it through the last storm with only a couple of little breakdowns.
 - b) Selectman Ives asked how the snow load is on the highway garage. Mr. Rice said it has melted.

- IV. Selectman Krieger moved to go into a nonpublic session per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) at 6:46 p.m.; seconded by Chairman Bowles. Roll call vote: Bowles – yes; Ives – yes; Krieger – yes. All in favor. Motion carries. Selectman Ives moved to come out of executive session at 7:06 p.m.; seconded by Selectman Krieger. Roll call vote: Bowles – yes; Ives – yes; Krieger – yes. All in favor. Motion carries. Selectman Ives made a motion to seal the minutes for five years because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board. Seconded by Selectman Krieger. All in favor. Roll call vote: Bowles – yes; Ives – yes; Krieger – yes Motion carries

- V. The Board began their review of correspondence.
 - a) The Board received a letter from Town Council regarding the Green View Drive petition. Chairman Bowles explained that there is a petitioned warrant article to be voted on at town meeting to accept Green View Drive as a town road. He explained that they got a response from town council as to how to handle that.
 - b) The Board received a letter from DRA regarding the Equalization ratio for 2012.
 - c) The Board received a letter from Central NH Regional Planning Commission regarding Traffic Count Requests for 2013. The Board asked that copies go to the Planning Board, Highway, Fire, and Police Departments for their input.
 - d) The Board received the Host Community Fee check from ESMI for the 4th quarter.

- e) The Board received a check received from NH Charitable Foundation for the Veteran's War Memorial. The Board stated that they will get bids for landscape work at the Memorial this spring.
- f) The Board received a check from NH Charitable Foundation for the Francis Tewksbury Memorial Fund.
- g) The Board received a letter from the Dept of Resources and Economic Development regarding timber harvest and improvement to wildlife habitat at Hoit Road Marsh.
- h) The Board received notification from NHDOT regarding a Responder Training Course. The Board asked that copies go to the Road Agent, Fire and Police Departments.
- i) The Board received a letter from Town Council regarding Fortier litigation.
- j) The Board received a Merrimack County Public Hearing Notice regarding 2013 Budget Appropriations for Merrimack County.
- k) The Board received a copy of the tipping floor rules from Wheelabrator.
- l) The Board received a UNH – Tech Transfer Center Training Calendar for 2013.
- m) The Board received miscellaneous correspondence.

VI. The Board received the following reminders.

- a) Thursday, February 28, 2013, 7:00 pm - Zoning Board meeting.
- b) Wednesday, March 6, 2013, 4:00 pm – Meeting at LES to discuss Town Meeting arrangements and set-up.
- c) Wednesday, March 6, 2013, 7:00 pm - Candidate's night.
- d) Thursday, March 7, 2013 – MVSD Annual Meeting. Polls open at 6:00 for election of School Board members, 7:00 all other articles.

VII. Steve Jakubowski asked if the American Legion is a done deal. Chairman Bowles said it is done. Selectman Ives said at the public hearings people wanted to see the building go to bid. He explained that they are going through that process now. Chairman Bowles said that an ad was in the paper asking for bids to purchase and remove the building. He said that he has spoken to Mr. Cabot who is still very interested in the building if they don't receive any bids.

VIII. Selectman Ives said that they went through a process looking for a new Fire Chief. He explained that they had a committee, they met for months, applications and resumes were received, the committee narrowed the applications down from around twenty to seven, the asked those seven to come interview, out of the seven, four came in for interviews. Out of the four they narrowed it down to a number one and number two selection. The Selectmen met with the number one and number two and decided as a Board that we were going to hire the number 2 selection. Selectman Ives explained that the gentlemen was from Virginia, he flew up for the interview and then again to meet with the Selectmen. They offered him the job, he was all set to take it with the condition that he approves it with his family and makes arrangements to move up here. His wife came up and they decided it was not in their best interest to take the job so he declined the offer. Selectman Ives said that in meeting with the number one selection from the committee they deemed it to not be in the best interest of the town to hire him as the Chief at this time, maybe further down the road. Selectman Ives explained that this now basically puts them back to square one as far as hiring a fire chief. He

said they realize that this has taken time but they are dedicated to hiring the right person. Steve Jakubowski explained that when they put together the qualifications they had education requirements that might have discouraged/eliminated some people. He suggested that if the job is reposted they might change it to a bachelor degree *or* equivalent education and experience. Selectman Ives said he had that same idea and has discussed it with Chairman Bowles. Selectman Ives said they have the applications and thought they would take a look at the second tier guys. Chairman Bowles thanked the committee for their outstanding job and said the Board will continue the process. Chairman Bowles thanks Chief Wright for continuing on.

Selectman Krieger moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM. Seconded by Selectman Ives. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

LOUDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Dustin J. Bowles, Chairman

Robert P. Krieger, Selectman

Steven R. Ives, Selectman