

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 18, 2014

Present: Chairman Krieger, Selectman Ives and Selectman Bowles.

Also present was Road Agent Dave Rice, Fire Chief Rick Wright, Deputy Fire Chief Bill Lake, State Senator John Reagan, and Police Chief Bob Fiske.

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

- I. Selectman Bowles moved to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Monday, March 10, 2014 as written. Seconded by Selectman Ives. All in favor. Motion carried.
- II. The Board met with Road Agent Dave Rice.
 - a. Mr. Rice said they are working on culverts, trying to keep them from freezing.
 - b. Mr. Rice said he would like to post the roads tomorrow. The Board agreed that Mr. Rice can post the roads starting tomorrow at 3:30 pm until further notice.
 - c. Mr. Rice said he would like to start getting quotes for the new truck that was approved at Town Meeting. The Board agreed that he can start looking however the money won't be available until July 1.
 - d. Selectman Ives asked Mr. Rice to continue filling potholes.
- III. The Board met with Fire Chief Rick Wright.
 - a. Chief Wright said the ambulance that was approved at Town meeting has been ordered, the current delivery schedule is seven months.
- IV. The Board met with Police Chief Bob Fiske.
 - a. Chief Fiske said beginning late afternoon tomorrow he wants to run School Street one way because there will be parking on School Street for DARE pizza night and they anticipate a big crowd. The Board agreed to the one way.
- V. Selectman Bowles thanked the department heads for their attendance and support at Town Meeting on Saturday. Selectman Ives agreed saying that a good budget was put together; the town recognized that and approved it.
- VI. The Board began their review of weekly correspondence.
 - a. The Board received the ESMI Self-Report for January 2014.
 - b. The Board received a check from the Loudon Freewill Baptist Church for 2013 Town Hall expenses.
 - c. The Board received a letter from NH Division of Fire Safety regarding fireworks. The letter will be forwarded to Chief Wright and Chief Fiske.
 - d. The Board received a Merrimack County Public Hearing notice to consider the 2014 Budget Appropriations for Merrimack County. The meeting is Monday, March 24th at 6:00 pm.
 - e. The Board received miscellaneous correspondence.

- IV. The Board received the following reminders:
- a. Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at 9:00 am – Economics Chapter Committee of Master Plan will meet.
 - b. Thursday, March 20, 2014 at 7:00 pm – Planning Board Meeting.
- V. Chairman Krieger opened the Public Hearing with NHDOT Regarding safety and traffic signals at the Route 106/Staniels Rd/Josiah Bartlett Rd Intersection and recognized: Keith Cota, Chief Project Manager, Trent Zane, Highway Design Supervisor, Christine Perron, Bureau of Environment, and Susan Soucie, Assistant District 3 Engineer. Mr. Cota explained that they would like to give an overview of the project at Route 106, Staniels Road and Josiah Bartlett Road intersection. He said there is a safety issue at this intersection with a history of accidents. Mr. Cota said that between 2002 – 2011 there were 19 accidents at that intersection, two that resulted in fatalities and seven with serious injuries. Mr. Cota said that in 1994 they developed a Master plan for 106 from Concord to Belmont. He said since then they have done several small projects. Mr. Cota said in 2012 they took a look at the corridor and traffic patterns to determine if they still need that larger project that was identified in 1994. It was determined that the section of road from 129 to 393 needs to be at least 3 lanes wide; one lane in each direction with a center turn lane. He explained there are some intersections where a traffic signal should be considered with five lanes. Mr. Cota said there are funds available through the Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program and after evaluating this intersection it was determined that it qualifies for the program, because of that the project can be moved forward sooner. Mr. Zane said they studied the crash history to determine how signals would be a benefit. He said all the work will be done within the existing right of ways and shouldn't affect utilities. Christine Perron from Department of Environment explained that they are responsible for investigating possible impacts to natural, cultural and social environments. Ms. Parren asked that if anyone knows of any impact this project would have historically that they contact her. Mr. Cota said that this project will take the three lanes that they have, widen it to five lanes and add traffic signals. He said that if they get support for the project they will move forward with getting bids in mid-October, award the contract in November which will give the contractor time to get the signals, which have a four month lead time, and start construction in the spring. They are hoping the intersection will be completed by July 1, 2015. Mr. Cota said the cost of this project will be about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million dollars. Chief Fiske said he is 110% behind the signals, he asked about the speed limit. Mr. Cota said that it is 55 now typically they would look at 40-45 mph at traffic signals; it hasn't been determined yet by the engineers. Chief Fiske requested that a camera be put in at that intersection; they have them at 393, Old Shaker and 129 currently. Larry Hemphill from Staniels Road expressed his concern about accidents and is definitely in favor of the lights. Karen Bast from Loudon said she definitely is in favor of the lights. She asked if there is any way to lower the speed limit before the lights are installed. Ms. Bast said she is also concerned about the Chichester Road intersection; it's dangerous as well as the Dunkin Donuts entrance/exit during commuting hours. She suggested that lowering the speed limit all the way from Route 129 lights through the Staniels Road intersection to 45 would be appropriate. She also would love to see lights at Chichester Road. Mr. Cota said there is set criteria as to how they set speed limits; he said he will bring it to the attention of the traffic engineer. Fire Chief Rick Wright said that as mentioned in his letter to Commissioner

Clement in September the Fire Department is requesting that the traffic lights include an Opticom Infrared System for emergency vehicle use. Selectman Ives asked if this traffic signal would break traffic up enough to eliminate some of the congestion at Chichester Road. Mr. Cota said there might be very minimal benefit because of the distance between the two intersections. Selectman Bowles expressed his concern about the speed and would like to see it lowered. He suggested it be lowered and strictly enforced prior to this construction. Mr. Cota said he will bring that message to the traffic engineer and also ask him to meet with the Selectman regarding that. Mr. Cota said that from what he has heard there is unanimous support to move this project forward so that is the position they will be taking.

- VI. Chairman Krieger clarified a quote that was in the Concord Monitor after town meeting he said he never gave out an amount of \$5.18 as the amount we would be going up on. He said he contacted the Monitor and they've agreed to disagree on that. Chairman Krieger said he never gave an amount.
- VII. Selectman Bowles made a motion to appoint Selectman Ives as the Board of Selectmen Chairman for the ensuing year. Seconded by Chairman Krieger. Selectman Ives accepted the nomination. All in favor. Motion carried.
- VIII. Chairman Ives thanked everyone that came out to Town Meeting, a lot was accomplished in a short amount of time. Selectman Bowles thanked the voters for coming out and having the confidence in the budget to vote it through. Selectman Krieger thanked the Boy and Girl Scouts for being there.

Chairman Ives moved to adjourn at 7:26 P.M. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. All in favor. Motion carried.

LOUDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Steven R. Ives, Chairman

Dustin J. Bowles, Selectman

Robert P. Krieger, Selectman