

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Present: Selectman Bowles and Selectman Krieger. Chairman Ives arrived later in the meeting.
Also present: Office Manager Brenda Pearl, Fire Chief Rick Wright, and Deputy Chief Bill Lake.

- I. Selectman Krieger moved to go into a nonpublic session with Office Manager Brenda Pearl per RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) at 5:55 p.m.; seconded by Selectman Bowles. Roll call vote: Krieger – yes; Bowles – yes. Majority vote in favor. Motion carries. Selectman Krieger moved to come out of non-public session at 6:10 p.m.; seconded by Selectman Bowles. Roll call vote: Krieger – yes; Bowles – yes. Majority vote in favor. Motion carries. Selectman Bowles 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: Krieger – yes; Bowles – yes. Majority vote in favor. Motion carries.

Selectman Bowles called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

- II. Selectman Krieger moved to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, October 28, 2014 as written. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. Majority vote in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Krieger moved to approve the Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, November 4, 2014. Seconded by Selectman Bowles. Majority vote in favor. Motion carried.
- III. The Board met with Fire Chief Rick Wright and Deputy Chief Bill Lake.
 - a. Chief Wright advised the Board that the live burn fire training was held on Saturday, November 8, 2014 on Pleasant Street and was a very successful training. He stated that a number of people have thanked him for the training and stated that it was better than any training they received at the Fire Academy. Chief Wright stated that he would be forwarding thank you letters to the businesses that offered reduced food and supplies or donated services to this training event. The Board will forward thank you letters as well.
 - b. Chief Wright stated the building fire that occurred on Friday, November 7, on NH Route 106 was a great stop by the Loudon Fire Department; early detection of the homeowner and with the assistance of Concord's Aerial Ladder Truck, this fire was stopped before it became a large fire.
 - c. Chief Wright stated that there was a chimney fire at a home on NH Route 129 on Thursday, November 6, that took approximately 2 hours to get under control. He said there were limited personnel at this call and not having a ladder truck to utilize with its accompanying tools, it was difficult to navigate the slippery wet metal roof. Chief Wright went on to say that, Belmont Fire Department/Ambulance had to respond to a medical call in Loudon, as ambulance personnel were tied up at the chimney fire that was going on at the same time as the medical call.
 - d. Chief Wright stated that Tom Henley has submitted his resignation . Chief Wright thanked Mr. Henley for his service and wished him the best in his future endeavors. Chief Wright said that he would be posting the opening at the station as he would like to hire from within the department if possible. Chief Wright will forward the job posting to the Selectmen's Office.
 - e. Chief Wright advised the Board that the water heater at Station 1 was replaced Friday, November 7, by Jeff Leonard.

- f. Chief Wright advised the Board that Harry O Electrical has been hired to do the work at the Police and Fire Station as well as the War Memorial at the Library, and work will commence once special ordered items are received. He said that landscaper Scott Flewelling, has offered to pay the cost to fix or replace the light at the War Memorial that one of his employees caught with a lawnmower earlier this summer. The Board agreed that it was nice of Mr. Flewelling to step forward.
- g. Chief Wright stated the new ambulance is due to arrive December 22, 2014.
- h. Chief Wright advised the Board that he had applied and was approved for a matching grant through NH Division of Forest and Lands in the amount of \$2,000.00 to replace the Forestry Pump. He said the cost to replace the 1950 pump is \$4,000 – 5,000.00. The remaining funds to come from the Fire Department operating budget.
- i. Chief Wright stated that he has spoken with Road Agent Dave Rice regarding adding two concrete blocks and additional fill against the wall at the damn on South Village Road. He stated additional ground cover is needed at the well to keep the hydrant from freezing during the extreme cold.
- j. Chief Wright advised the Board that they had checked into the code regarding exhaust emissions in buildings with sleeping quarters. He said the maximum amount of grant money would be 20% of the total cost. Chief Wright suggested purchasing 3 CO detectors and placing two in the fire station, one in the sleeping quarters, and the other in the office, as well as one in the police station office. The Board agreed with the purchase.
- k. Chief Wright advised the Board that he received pricing for the rotting plywood at Station #2. He went on to say that there are three quotes for the work with varying cost and amounts of work to be completed.

Selectman Bowles stated that Chairman Ives has arrived.

Selectman Krieger moved to accept Ashley Constructions (Robert Mallat of Bumfagon Road) bid to fix the 6 eyebrow roof panels at Station #2 on Clough Hill Road in the amount of \$1,200.00. Seconded by Chairman Ives. Selectman Bowles stated that this bid appeared to be a little more involved to try and keep the wood from rotting. The Board thanked the other two companies for submitting their bids. All in favor. Motion carried.

- l. Chief Wright discussed the old Highway Department 1-Ton Truck and the desire to use this truck to plow out hydrants when the Highway Crew is busy with big storms. The Board agreed this was a good idea but the people plowing needed to have training. Discussion began regarding the repairs and truck body issues.
- m. Selectman Bowles commented that he was glad that the fire on NH Route 106 was not worse as he drove past the scene and commended the fire department for doing a great job to get it under control quickly.

- IV. The Board recognized Boy Scouts Cole Sheppard, Hayden Gardner from the audience. The boys explained that they are working on their Citizenship Merit Badges and wanted to ask the Selectmen some questions.
 - a. Cole asked the Board how many meetings it takes to get a decision on the fire department's request to have a snowplow for their use. Selectman Krieger explained that the Highway Department had an old truck they were no longer going to use and decided that instead of selling the truck they would first offer it to the fire department for their use. He said the Fire Chief checked out the old truck and decided they would like to get a service station to check it out and find out how much it may cost to fix it for their needs. Selectman Bowles said that by spending a little money now to fix this truck could save the town money as they would not have

to go out and purchase a new truck for the fire department. Selectman Krieger stated the truck the fire department currently uses is almost 30 years old and does not have a plow on it. He said that currently the fire department personnel wait until the highway department has time to clean up the hydrants and a firefighter goes around with a shovel and cleans up the snow that the plow does not get. He went on to say that there is a chance one of the firefighters could end up getting hurt while shoveling all the heavy snow. Selectman Bowles explained that the highway crew has 70 miles of roads to plow (two ways), plus all the town buildings and it takes a lot of time to finish.

- b. The next question was what was wrong with Loudon's ladder truck. The Board explained that the ladder truck was so old that the town could no longer get parts for it, so the truck was sold. The Board stated that they were looking to purchase a used truck and were getting cost estimates.
 - c. The next question was how kids could help with the town. Selectmen suggested keeping an eye out at the gazebo or any other town property and letting an adult or town official know if they see anything.
 - d. The next question was, what was a Selectman. Chairman Ives explained that the Selectmen run the town and deal with hiring and firing, the business aspects like payroll. He advised that it is a 3-year term with one person being elected each year and Loudon has 3 Selectmen where other towns have 5.
- V. Selectman Bowles read the following into the record: *We, the Selectmen and Assessors of the Town of Loudon NH, do solemnly swear that in making the inventory for the purpose of assessing the foregoing taxes we appraised all taxable property at its full value, and as we would appraise the same in payment of a just debt due for a solvent debtor. So help us God.*

Selectman Bowles read the Tax Collector's Warrant into the record: *TO: Helen L. McNeil, Collector of Taxes for Loudon, New Hampshire in said county. In the name of the State you are hereby directed to collect the property taxes in the list herewith committed to you, amounting to the sum of Five Million Five Hundred Sixty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$5,568,512.00) and with interest at twelve (12%) percent per annum from December 15, 2014 thereafter, on all sums not paid on or before that day. And we further order you to remit all monies collected to the Town Treasurer, or to the Town Treasurer's designee as provided by RSA 41:29, VI, at least on a weekly basis, or daily whenever tax receipts total One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) or more. Given under our hands at Loudon, New Hampshire, this Twelfth day of November in 2014. Board of Selectmen, Loudon, New Hampshire.*

Selectman Bowles stated the Town rate is \$3.79 per \$1,000, the Local School Rate is \$11.96 per \$1,000, the School State Rate is \$2.37 per \$1,000, and the Merrimack County Rate is \$2.69 per \$1,000 for a total of \$20.81.

- VI. The Board began their review of weekly correspondence.
- a. The Board received the Merrimack Valley School District November 15, 2014 invoice for \$727,388.64 for review.
 - b. The Board received a copy of Highway Block Grant Funds received in the amount of \$44,691.42.
 - c. The Board received two pieces of correspondence from Attorney Kate Miller regarding Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement for review and comment. The Board will take this information under advisement.
 - d. The Board received the Xfinity installation rate changes.

- e. The Board received a copy of the resignation letter from Tom Henley.
- f. The Board received confidential information from Chief Wright for review.
- g. The Board received the HealthTrust Guaranteed Maximum Rates for July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 for review.
- h. The Board received HealthTrust information regarding the return of surplus funds in the amount of \$2,330.21 in August of 2015.
- i. The Board received information from HealthTrust for elected and appointed officials regarding health insurance coverage.
- j. The Board received a letter from Primex discussing a credit balance of \$14,900.34.
- k. The Board received confidential Primex Worker’s Compensation correspondence for review.
- l. The Board received four past due ambulance bills for review. Selectman Krieger moved to forward past due ambulance account #5939 in the amount of \$593.60, account #2026 in the amount of \$438.75, account #3432 in the amount of \$436.61, and account #0529 in the amount of \$597.20 to collections. Seconded by Chairman Ives. All in favor. Motion carried.
- m. The Board received the 2015/2016 Capital Improvements Program information
- n. The Board received a letter from NH Liquor Commission regarding Z-1 Express for review.
- o. The Board received the ESMI September Compliance Report for review.
- p. The Board received an Abutter notice for Tax Map 11, Lot 12 owned by Inisfree Investments, LLC for review.
- q. The Board received the J. O. Cate Memorial Van Association Meeting Minutes of September 25, 2014.
- r. The Board received the following reminders: Tuesday, November 18th bids due for the 1987 GMC & Thursday, November 20th Planning Board Meeting.

Selectman Krieger moved to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Seconded by Chairman Ives. All in favor. Selectman Bowles stated the Board was meeting on Wednesday this week as Tuesday was Veteran’s Day and he wished to thank all those who have served. Selectman Krieger agreed and also thanked all those that came out to vote on Tuesday, November 4. Motion carried.

LOUDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Steven R. Ives, Chairman

Dustin J. Bowles, Selectman

Robert P. Krieger, Selectman