

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**JANUARY 2, 2007**

**MEMORIAL BUILDING**

**7:00 P.M.**

*The following are to be considered draft minutes only until approved by the Board at their next meeting.*

**Present:** Neal Huntoon, Bob Anderson and George McCusker.  
Tim Julian and Brad Butcher were also present.

This was a special meeting scheduled to meet with department heads and continued review of the proposed 2007 budget.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

**Highway:** Brad presented the Board with a schedule of proposed road improvements for shim, seal and blacktop. Brad discussed the list from the state regarding needed bridge repairs. The State has marked the bridges/culverts over Gove Brook, Bog Brook, and Star Lake Bridges for necessary repairs in the next 5-6 years. Hogg Hill Road is scheduled for overlay for the next half for 2007. Brad would like to do more shim projects in 2007 and provided the Board with a list of proposed roads. He discussed with the Board moving \$10,000 from reclamation into shim, seal and blacktop. Bob moved to move \$10,000 from reclamation making the 2007 proposal \$5,000 and increasing shim, seal and blacktop proposal from \$48,000 to \$58,000.

Brad discussed the bridge projects. Star Lake Bridge requires a 4" concrete slab. The State recommends not graveling over the surface of the cement but to seal the cement yearly.

Gove Brook Bridge has some holes in the culvert which will need to be addressed soon.

Bog Brook shows some signs of wear but there are no holes at this time.

The State will reimburse 80% of the cost to the Town. Concord recommends that money be set aside each year for these projects. If these repairs are not done in a certain time frame the State won't give the money.

Brad's plans for reclamation of Stoney Brook Road are to grind a portion of the road 6" and replace with 6" of gravel.

Bob discussed putting special road projects in as a warrant article option for the voters to decide and questioned if Brad had a project he would like to begin. Brad discussed reclamation of Stoney Brook Road, grinding a portion of the road and replacing with 6": of gravel from Coniston Road to Hogg Hill Road. The Board discussed with Brad whether to grind and gravel and let the road sit a year before paving.

Bob discussed other possible warrant articles for a cruiser lease and completion of phase one of the recreation field.

**Police Department:** The Board reviewed 2007 budget proposals with Tim. Neal questioned whether the proposed 2007 fuel budget is inclusive of another officer with additional patrol hours. Tim explained that he and Mike have been watching fuel consumption closely. He is asking for \$1,000 more than was spent in 2006. He also eliminated the line item for mileage reimbursement if another cruiser is purchased. A new cruiser won't be ready until May or June. He is proposing the purchase of a Crown Victoria for a second vehicle. He plans on keeping the Explorer. Tim stated his goal in leasing a vehicle is to have a yearly line item in his budget for lease payments. This would enable the department to develop a planned vehicle rotation as there is always the need to maintain and update vehicles.

Tim explained his proposal for equipment. Equipment includes a new patrol rifle and replacement of the existing patrol rifle barrel and the purchase of two suppressors for both rifles.

The Board reviewed the costs for adding a full-time employee which increases coverage by the department to 20 more hours per week than what is currently provided. George questioned whether the position should be salaried versus hourly. It was agreed that this would be an hourly position.

Board members reviewed the police call statistics which are approximately 3 times higher than in 2003. Tim reviewed with the Board Officer Beaulieu's interest in the full-time position. The Town would have the advantage of an officer having a trained officer with training, experience and familiarity of the Town that Officer Beaulieu has as a patrolman having worked for three years with the department.

The Board is in unanimous agreement to support the request for an additional officer. The Board discussed possible course of action if this does not get supported by the Budget Committee. George stated that the Town needs to prepare themselves to keep up with the pace of the growth. Bob agreed with George.

Tim indicated that if a cruiser is not approved this year and a full-time officer is approved, this will put additional wear and tear on the current vehicle and there would be difficulties if this cruiser needed to be tied up for repairs. The Town will also get to a point where it will have to have two new cruisers for two officers.

Tim discussed his estimate for Newport Dispatch. He has no plans for changing dispatching at this time. Sunapee has just left Newport Dispatch to join New London.

**Fire Department:** Dallas met with the Board. He has received an estimate from another electrician for \$1525.00 for labor and materials. Work should be able to begin by the end

of the week. Fred Brown wants to put the plywood down upstairs before he finishes the sheetrock. The plywood can be installed once the electrician has roughed in the wiring. The Board agreed to approve the above bid.

Dallas questioned what large expenses the Highway or Police Department might be looking at for next year. He is looking at the possibility for a new truck in 2008r to replace the 1981 vehicle. Dallas estimates a new vehicle cost of approximately \$150,000 to \$170,000.

**Budget Review:** The Board reviewed and approved appropriations for Personnel Administration.

Bob moved to increase the Fire Chief's wages to \$3,000.

The Board reviewed the notice of intent to sell property giving the Town first right of refusal. The Board agreed that they do not wish to pursue this at this time. The owner will be notified.

Bob reviewed with the Board that it looks like he will be out of town for business during Town Meeting.

**Personnel:** Neal recused himself. Bob and George reviewed applications for the bookkeeping position. They will meet with candidates next Tuesday evening starting at 6:45 p.m.

The Board voted to adjourn at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Roberts,  
Administrative Assistant