

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

DECEMBER 1, 2010

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: Selectmen John Chiarella, Leigh Callaway, and Don Hill.

Also present: Cynthia Anderson, Tax Collector, Bryan O'Day, Bill Huntoon, Todd Sanville, Roland Follansbee and Anne Quirion.

Selectmen reviewed the list of parcels available for deeding with Cynthia Anderson, Tax Collector. Cynthia has sent impending deed notices to all owners for taxes, interest and penalties owed for tax year 2007. Most of the properties listed include unpaid amounts due for years prior to 2007. The amount owed prior to and including 2007 would need to be paid in order to redeem property from the tax deeding process. The Selectmen agreed they cannot continue to let these unpaid taxes accumulate. Cost vs. benefit analysis will be reviewed before final action is taken. The Selectmen will review environmental hazards, as per RSA 80:19A. Selectmen unanimously agreed to send another warning letter, via certified return receipt mail, regarding the total dollar amount owed. Payment in full of the owed amount or discussion with the Selectmen must be arranged by January 20, 2011. The Selectmen will make decisions based on the individual properties at their meeting on January 24, 2011.

At 7:30 p.m. the Selectmen voted to enter into non-public session per RSA 91:A regarding delinquent taxes.

At 8:05 p.m. the Selectmen voted to seal the non-public minutes and entered back into public session.

The Selectmen voted unanimously to direct the tax collector to proceed with the process for tax deeding the Waite mobile home in the Jack O'Lantern Park. The owners of the mobile home have been appropriately warned.

Miscellaneous Business:

Library – Steve Klein, Librarian has spoken to Leigh Callaway regarding locking the door between the library and the hallway to the kindergarten during kindergarten hours. The Board discussed the existing lock versus a dead bolt. The Selectmen would like Dallas Patten, Fire Chief to review the situation. Don moved to authorized Leigh to work out the best solution for this, seconded by John and unanimously approved.

Recreation Department: Request for the purchase of a sandwich-board type bulletin board to post notices for movie night and other recreation events. The Selectmen reviewed the recreation budget. There are no funds remaining in the recreation budget for this purpose. The Selectmen denied the purchase. The Selectmen suggested the use of the town bulletin board until money is available in the budget.

Highway garage door: John reported one of the belts and spring on an overhead garage door broke and caused the door to fall. Parts have been ordered and the door is in the process of being repaired.

Ambulance: John reported on the ambulance meeting he attended in New London on November 29th. New London Hospital reviewed the operating loss for running the ambulance service. Personnel costs were reviewed. There are two ambulances fully-staffed at EMT level or above during the daytime and one on weekends. Ambulance staff is also used throughout the hospital when not covering runs. Calls, reimbursement, and non-covered calls were reviewed. Concerns have been raised regarding increased costs to maintain the current ambulance service and the increasing costs to the towns. The decision reached at the meeting was to form a study committee to review the best options for providing ambulance service to the area. The committee will study the benefit of staying with the current system, creating a regionalized system with the hospital and the towns involved, creating a regionalized system with no ties to the hospital, or privatization. New London Hospital will contribute \$10,000 toward the cost of the study. Springfield's portion will be \$600.00. New London Hospital has made a commitment to maintain the existing ambulance service for at least one more year while the study is being carried out. John noted the towns will appoint a representative to serve on the study committee.

Correspondence: The selectmen reviewed a letter received from the Town of Newport stating that as of January 1, 2011 the Town of Newport Ambulance Service will no longer be providing back-up ambulance support to the towns that do not have existing service agreements with the Town of Newport. Sunapee and Newbury are the only towns with service agreements. John noted back-up coverage with Newport was discussed at the ambulance meeting but there was no indication that termination of the backup arrangement was imminent. The Selectmen will review this further with emergency personnel and the Town of Newport.

The Selectmen tentatively chose January 31, 2011 as the date for a public hearing regarding the renaming of Hazzard Road. The date will be finalized once the dates for budget meetings have been finalized.

Leigh reviewed a request to put approved minutes from the Municipal Budget Committee and Kearsarge School Board on the website. The Selectmen unanimously agreed. Leigh gave a brief review of the previous meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Roberts,
Administrative Assistant

