

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**JANUARY 31, 2011**

**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, Don Hill and Leigh Callaway

Also present: Scott Gambino and Bill Huntoon.

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public meeting scheduled for this evening regarding road name change of Hazzard Road North and South. Due to safety issues a decision has been reached that one end of the road should be renamed.

Pete Abair, Road Agent present: Discussion regarding needed vehicle repairs. .

The biggest issue is with the loader. The machine is worn and rusted at the pivot. Discussion regarding options for repair. Pete had Southworth Milton look at it. Waiting for cost information. Discussion regarding feasibility of fixing the loader versus replacement. Buying something used in a year or two was discussed.

Wages: Review of spreadsheet prepared by Leigh regarding proposed wage increases. Impact to budget approximately \$5300. Discussion: Selectmen agree proposals for wage increases are valid and they want to be able to reward employees but believe tax payers cannot afford these increases until the local economy improves. Decision made not to include raises in this year's budget. Leigh Callaway, for the record, noted that after doing the research and looking at what other small towns pay their police departments, he feels strongly that Springfield is falling behind.

Back to discussion regarding highway department. Selectmen discussed looking at prices for loader repair. Will it be cost effective to repair it and keep it running for now? Board reviewed with Pete the possibility that there may need to be some reallocation to appropriations within the highway budget, as long as the bottom line does not change. Shim/seal & blacktop, and reclamation discussed. Vehicle repair and maintenance may need adjustment. John will get together with Pete to see if there are any changes to make before the budget committee hearing on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Roberts,  
Administrative Assistant