

FINAL



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
February 6, 2017**

PRESENT: KEITH R. LACASSE, CHAIRMAN; TOM CLOW, VICE CHAIRMAN; JENNIFER BOHL, SELECTMAN; FREDERICK W. HIPPLER, SELECTMAN JOHN (JACK) MEANEY, SELECTMAN

RECORDING SECRETARY: Kathleen Humphreys

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Naomi Bolton

GUESTS: Lori Davis, Jan Snyder, Frank Campana, Richard Butt, John Vanloendersloot, Tina Connor, Steve Roberts, Police Chief Sean Kelly and Fire Chief Vezina and Finance Director Beth Rouse.

7:00 p.m. Chairman Lacasse called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Frank Campana requested the town report include the Police Department's earning history.

Resident Tina Conner voiced disappointment in way Article 4 was handled by the Chairman at the Deliberative Session on Feb. 4, 2017. She said it was a dis-service to the proposed budget. She also would have liked to have seen a PowerPoint presentation.

Chairman Lacasse acknowledged that is a valid criticism and he should have excused himself before making the motion since he proposed it as a private citizen.

Resident Lori Davis is concerned there could be legal ramifications stemming from the Deliberative Session.

Resident Jan Snyder said she felt blindsided. She believes the Selectmen need to work as a team at the Deliberative Session.

Vice Chairman Clow said he has never seen this type of action before and felt betrayed.

DPW Director Benjamin Knapp said he was disappointed with the Deliberative Session. He noted that people were confused at the Deliberative Session and knows of six people who voted the wrong way by accident.

DEPARTMENT HEADS/COMMITTEE ITEMS

Discuss Police Locker Room Renovation Project

Police Chief Sean Kelly and Fire Chief Bob Vezina were present.

Floor plans and photographs of the Safety Complex were presented and reviewed by the Board. The police department is proposing a locker room because they need gender specific locker room space. They are

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considering converting the joint workout room space. The Fire Chief reported the fire department members use the workout room as it is intended and is not in favor of this. Utilizing the basement of the Town Office to store police records was discussed. It was decided the Selectmen tour the Safety Complex on their own and the basement of the Town Office before the next meeting.

The Fire Chief, Police Chief and DPW Director would like to know the direction they should go with the \$108,000 proposed budget cut. They feel the cuts will result in a reduction in services. The question was since there is a default budget lower than the proposed budget they will need to work off the lower budget.

Chief Kelly discussed RSA 106B that authorize the State Police assistance to be limited to communities with less than 3,000 residents and the impact on 24-hour police coverage for the town of Weare.

Finalize wording on Town Mailer

The Board reviewed the wording of the Town Mailer and made changes to some of the articles while the remainder will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Fire Ward Steve Roberts said he has the same feelings as Chief Kelly that there will be a reduction in services to the town with the proposed budget and has concerns the town is in a crisis. He said they can only spend what is proposed. His opinion is "safety first". He made the point that if a person is not breathing they only have 4 minutes and he sees the gravity of that and added, "I have seen the tide turned many time. With the medication, training, increased skills and intubation there are people alive in this town who are functioning normally today because of that. There are models for response time and we try to do that as best we can. What we asked for is not frivolous. That is the reality of it."

The Board discussed the Deliberative Session. Chairman Lacasse felt he was an advocate for the voters to have a choice. Selectman Hippler feels the results will impact services and is concerned with the outlook of 2017. Vice Chairman Clow felt it undermined the work of all the departments.

Chairman Lacasse made a motion the Board recommends Article 4 as it now stands, with the cuts, and if this Board votes no that means this Board does not recommend it and that means this language that Vice Chair Clow read can go.

Steve Roberts and Lori Davis felt that Chairman Lacasse should not vote on this because it is not proper since he made the amendment motion as a private citizen. Some members of the Board felt he should have reclused himself.

The motion was not seconded therefore it does not go forward.

Vice Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Hippler seconded that the Selectman does not recommend the proposed budget. Passed 5-0-0.

Jack Meaney felt that Chairman Lacasse's action at the Deliberative Session was unethical and wrong and his role in it was disturbing. Putting the amendment before there was a discussion of the budget was a dis-service to the voters.

The proposed budget wording was amended to include, "Does not adequately provide for safety services."

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MEETING MINUTES

Jan. 16, 2016 minutes were tabled.

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to approve the Jan. 30, 2017 minutes as written. Passed 5-0-0.

MANIFESTS

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Bohl seconded to sign accounts payable and payroll checks dated February 9, 2017 as included in the following manifests:

Payroll Manifest	\$ 47,958.87 (Weekly and Library payroll)
Accounts Payable Manifest	\$ 157,067.42
Weare School District Manifest	\$ 450,000.00 (02/03/17 Appropriation)
TOTAL	\$ 655,026.29
Passed 5-0-0	

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

-Town Administrator Bolton reported the weight limit has been removed on the River Road Bridge, so now the No Thru Trucking can be put back on Peaslee Hill Road.

Selectman Hippler moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to put re-post Peaslee Hill Road back to No Thru Trucking. Motion passed 5-0-0.

-Candidates Night will be at Old Town Hall on March 8, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Butt said he never expected the situation that happened at last Saturday's Deliberative Session and as a former Selectman said that when the Board voted they all stood behind that vote and any amendment would have been made after a discussion. He felt it was the right amendment to make but from the wrong person.

Mr. Butt asked about the \$46,000 for additional fire coverage that is not in the default budget and questioned if services would be jeopardized if voters approved for the proposed budget because the additional services are a warrant article.

Resident John Vanloendersloot said it was not clear that Chairman Lacasse was speaking as a private citizen when he proposed the amendment at the Deliberative Session and asked that Chairman Lacasse apologize to the Board and people who worked on the budget.

Resident Lori Davis suggested residents look at the tax bill and the school portion and suggest the school be asked for a transparent line. She has concerns about the benefit packages

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Vice Chairman Clow mentioned the State also affects the school budget and the real educational cost is \$11,000-13,000 per public school student not \$3,600. Retirement costs have changed as well.

Steve Roberts mentioned SB 2 and would like to see a return to the traditional Town Meeting format. He has concerns that some voters are uninformed.

Richard Butt had concerns that things got personal tonight and said it is sad. He noted the resident being discussed has done a lot for this town for free.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Town Administrator Bolton showed a sample ballot to the Board.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Hippler seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 9:23 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3II (c). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Bohl – yes; Selectman Hippler – yes; Chairman Lacasse – yes; Selectman Meaney – yes; Vice Chairman Clow - yes. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Bohl seconded to come out of nonpublic session @ 9:33 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Bohl – yes; Selectman Hippler – yes; Chairman Lacasse – yes; Selectman Meaney – yes; Vice Chairman Clow - yes. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Hippler seconded to seal and restrict these minutes of this nonpublic session. Passed 5-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Kathleen Humphreys, Recording Secretary