

FINAL



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
February 4, 2013**

PRESENT: TOM CLOW, CHAIRMAN; RICHARD W. BUTT, VICE CHAIRMAN; JOHN LAWTON, SELECTMAN; JAMES LEARY, SELECTMAN; KEITH R. LACASSE, SELECTMAN

RECORDING SECRETARY: Cherry Palmisano

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Naomi Bolton

GUESTS: Frank Campana, Tim Redmond, Senator Bob Odell

7:00 p.m. Chairman Clow called the meeting to order.

Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Lacasse seconded to enter into non-public session @ 6:00 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3II (a&b). A roll call vote was taken, Vice Chairman Butt – yes; Selectman Lawton – yes; Selectman Leary – yes; Selectman Lacasse – yes; Chairman Clow – yes. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Leary seconded to come out of non-public session @ 7:07 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Vice Chairman Butt – yes; Selectman Lawton – yes; Selectman Leary – yes; Selectman Lacasse – yes; Chairman Clow – yes. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Clow moved to seal and restrict the minutes of the non-public session pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3 III; Selectman Lacasse seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

7:00 p.m. Chairman Clow called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Senator Bob Odell represents the Town of Weare, which is the largest community in the district. He told the Board that he will visit once a quarter. He is the Chair of the Ways and Means Committee. Senator Odell said that the state budget will be done by the end of June and next Thursday the Governor will give her budget address. Senator Odell is the Vice Chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. He explained that there was an accounting error by the Department of Education regarding the allocation of the education grant. The Town of Weare was affected by \$26,000. The Legislature acted quickly to correct the error. Senator Odell is the longest serving member of the party majority and writes a weekly newspaper column.

Chairman Clow commented on the cigarette tax and said that the Legislature was foolish to drop the tax because it was a sensible way to earn income for the state. Senator Odell said that there is a trigger and the tobacco tax will go up by \$.10. Cigarette usage has declined. When they do budget recommendations the tobacco tax will be calculated at 97% of what it produced the year before.

Chairman Clow said that he has always been opposed to expanded gambling. Senator Odell said that he is opposed in part and the state is not prepared from a regulatory manner.

Selectman Lawton mentioned the Public Utility Commission, which Senator Odell is a member, and asked about the increase from PSNH. He mentioned a sir tax on other companies to make up for the revenue that

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PSNH is losing to other companies. Senator Odell said that there is a huge distortion in the market since they deregulated the industry. He said that people who stay with Public Service will pay a bigger burden. Senator Odell said that the Legislature will have to get involved to sort the issue out.

Vice Chairman Butt is concerned with the lack of revenue coming from the state to the Town of Weare, specifically the retirement costs being burdened on the town. Senator Odell said that there have been difficulties with the retirement program being under funded and post retirement costs. He said that it is a major issue, but over the long term, the annual increases should stay flat. He questions why the state ever got involved in retirement costs at local levels. Senator Odell said that it is a complicated issue, but he will have better information when he returns to the town.

Vice Chairman Butt mentioned the revenue reimbursement from flood control from states that benefit from the flood control. He said that there is an amendment saying that the town will get paid regardless if the State of MA pays the State of NH. Senator Odell said that there are a number of towns that made an agreement with the State of MA; the towns would give up some of their land for flood control and that State of MA would pay those communities. Until the last two years the State of NH has paid those towns every the amendment is stating that the state will fully pay the towns in the compact, but the question is if the Governor puts it in the budget. The towns should get paid 60% of what the allocation should be. They will be discussing the contractual obligation with the Governor. Vice Chairman Butt stated that the revenue does mean a lot to the town. Senator Odell said that they will know on February 14th if it is in the Governor's budget. The state has a shortage of revenues as well. Vice Chairman Butt noted that it is obligation the state has to the towns. It was discussed that Governor Lynch took it out of the budget and the Legislature couldn't put it back in. Vice Chairman Butt said that with what he read, he was under the impression the town would be getting the money. Senator Odell will notify the Town Administrator after February 14th of the Governor's decision.

Frank Campana requested that as the Town Report is developed he would like the Board to still contain in it the salary wages in the format that it has been presented. Chairman Clow responded that there is no plan to deviate from the format.

Mr. Campana thought it was helpful that the CIP articles were noted as CIP articles. He would like them to be identified as CIP articles in the Mailer as well to inform the voters. He added up the six CIP articles and they total \$400,000.

DEPARTMENT HEADS – Tim Redmond, Public Works Director

Temporary per-diem position – Jeff Lewis was injured while responding to and assisting the Fire Department with a serious motor vehicle accident. Mr. Redmond told the Board that he asked the Fire Department if there were any qualified Fire personnel interested in a per-diem position. He selected Ryan Boisvert, who resides in town, to train with Jon Osborne during last week's snowstorm. Mr. Redmond is requesting to utilize Mr. Boisvert as a per-diem employee until Jeff Lewis is able to return. Mr. Boisvert would be paid \$13.00 per hour straight time, which is a good deal for the town. Mr. Boisvert would be utilized just for plowing only, whenever they need a snow driver to be available. Mr. Redmond told the Board that all steps have been covered and Mr. Boisvert is available to work whenever they need him. He would give the Highway Department priority and the Fire Department would be given secondary priority. Mr. Boisvert is already a town employee and if he was to get hurt, he is covered and is listed as a town employee. Mr. Redmond said that he will be using Mr. Lewis's salary line, because he is out on worker's compensation. This is a good deal to keep the position covered and will have a positive impact on his budget at the end of the year.

Selectman Lacasse moved, Selectman Leary seconded to allow the Highway Department to hire Ryan Boisvert per-diem for plowing at \$13.00 per hour until Jeff Lewis returns to work. Passed 5-0-0

Promotion of Richard Weldon to Operator – Mr. Redmond told the Board that Mr. Weldon has 24 years of road construction experience and is the most qualified man for the position. He is recommending that Richard

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Weldon be promoted to Heavy Equipment Operator at the rate of \$14.00 per hour. Vice Butt questions the need to enter into non-public session to discuss other applicants and why they weren't considered for the position.

Asphalt Paving Bid Extension – Advanced Excavating and Paving has offered to extend the 2012 Asphalt Bid to 2013 at \$68.66 per ton in place. With rising petroleum prices, Mr. Redmond feels that this is a very good deal for the town. Mr. Redmond said that they have done very good work. Even the DOT pays more when liquid asphalt costs increase. Mr. Redmond said that every paving contractor has a liquid asphalt clause.

Selectman Lacasse moved, Selectman Leary seconded to extend Advanced Excavating and Paving's contract through 2013 extending their 2012 prices at \$68.66 per ton. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Lacasse seconded to enter into non public session @ 7:55 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3II (b). A roll call vote was taken, Vice Chairman Butt – yes; Selectman Lawton – yes; Selectman Leary – yes; Selectman Lacasse – yes; Chairman Clow – yes. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Lacasse seconded to come out of non public session @ 8:10 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Vice Chairman Butt – yes; Selectman Lawton – yes; Selectman Leary – yes; Selectman Lacasse – yes; Chairman Clow – yes. Passed 5-0-0

Selectman Leary moved, Selectman Lacasse seconded to promote Richard Weldon to Heavy Equipment Operator at a rate of \$14.00 per hour effective February 8, 2013. Passed 5-0-0

DISCUSS 2013 TOWN MAILER – A copy of last year's mailer was presented for review. Maureen Bilodeau would like to send the ballot to the printer, with the Board's approval. Voting is in five weeks and Ms. Bilodeau would like to get them printed so they are available to send out for absentee ballots. The Board reviewed changes in the warrant articles that were affected by Deliberative Session.

Vice Chairman Butt moved, Selectman Lacasse seconded to change the default budget from \$4,831,241 to \$4,821,241 in Article 6 based on new information. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Clow said that everything else is contingent on other articles passing.

Vice Chairman Butt said that no matter which way the vote goes for Article 7 there will be a savings next year because the employees will be paying 5% of their premium; the worst case is that it won't start until August 1st.

Town Administrator Bolton will get legal opinion as to whether Articles 7 and 8 should reference Article 6 or just state operating budget.

Town Administrator Bolton told the Board that she asked Laura Spector about putting the tax impact on the official ballot and she recommends that the town does not put the tax impact on the official ballot, but it can be done in the town mailer.

The Mailer needs to be to the printer by February 20th. The information in the mailer needs to be factual and speak to the purpose of the article.

Chairman Clow said that the bond article for the bridge is so confusing, he is not sure they can explain it in the paragraph that they use for the purpose. He wonders if it is possible to write a separate letter, not promoting it, but explaining it in full detail. Vice Chairman Butt said that to him the purpose is straight forward and the financing is based on recommendations from DRA and the Bond Counsel. They might want to state the actual cost to the town. They are obligated to pay the interest.

The Selectmen will write explanations for each article that they spoke for at Deliberative Session and the Board will discuss each paragraph at their next meeting.

MANIFESTS

Checks dated: January 31, 2013

Weekly Payroll \$41,802.11

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Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Lawton seconded to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sign manifests and order the Treasurer to sign checks dated February 7, 2013. Passed 5-0-0

Accounts Payable	\$644,295.05	(Weare School \$350,000)
	\$26,613.00	(Warranty Bond Release)
Gross Payrolls	\$42,796.65	(Includes taxes, credit union, police detail)
	\$6,271.71	(Fire Monthly)
	<u>\$7,887.80</u>	(EMT/FIRE)
TOTAL	\$727,864.21	

Also, to order the Treasurer to sign payroll checks dated February 14, 2013, that will include payment for weekly wages and matching taxes. Actual amounts paid and reports backing up the numbers will be disclosed at the next scheduled Board meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Lacasse seconded to approve the minutes of January 21, 2013 as amended. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Lacasse seconded to approve the minutes of January 28, 2013 as amended. Passed 5-0-0

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

The signed the road bond release for Rossdale Lane.

Mr. Gene Bilodeau would like the Board to sign the pole applications to put flags on public utility poles May 28th to June 4th.

Selectman Lacasse moved, Selectman Leary seconded to allow Chairman Clow to sign the Public Service Pole Attachment agreement. Passed 5-0-0

Selectman Leary moved, Selectman Lacasse seconded to allow Chairman Clow to sign the Granite State Telephone Pole Attachment agreement. Passed 5-0-0

1. Traffic Control Ordinance – Discussion will be put on a future agenda.
2. Town Hall Doors – To be put out to bid
3. Emergency Management Director – A discussion needs to be held with Chief Vezina to see what his intent is.
4. Cemetery Contract – Has been signed by all parties.
5. Computers will be installed tomorrow starting at the Fire Department and then the Town Office
6. Mildred Hall Advisory Committee – a meeting will be scheduled on a future agenda
7. Cable Committee – The Board will schedule a discussion with the Cable Committee
8. General John Stark Scenic Byway – A Weare representative needs to be appointed
9. Chase Park Wetlands Application – Received a letter from DES indicating that they are looking for more information and want a cross section of the proposed beach which shows existing and proposed grades relative to the normal high water line. A letter was put in Mike Housman's box.
10. Police Policies and Procedures – Town Administrator Bolton spoke with Bob Barry from Primex, who told her that LGC has some model policies that he could share. Vice Chairman Butt thought it was going to be written by the Police Chief. Chairman Clow said that at the meeting with Alan Gould they talked about sample models being available and recommendations regarding sick time and certain recommendations in the MRI Report. Vice Chairman Butt said that they have not discussed this and he thinks they need to meet with the Chief of Police. Town Administrator Bolton said that she put this on the list to let the Board know

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that there are options available. Vice Chairman Butt said that the Police Chief should be writing this and feels that they are going about it the wrong way. Chairman Clow agrees it should be coming from the Police Chief. The Board will set up a meeting with the Police Chief to discuss which policies they have discussed in the MRI Report. There are sample policies that are available. The Board has not established what the priorities are and will discuss it after the election. Selectman Lacasse thinks that they should identify the highest priority policies before meeting with the Police Chief. It was discussed that this will be put on the February 25th agenda.

It was discussed that “Auburn” was replaced with “Weare” in the Traffic Control Ordinance and it was re-distributed via email. Vice Chairman Butt asked if they are going to include a section for out of town detail. Chairman Clow would like to talk to the Police Chief about the issue, what the out of town details bring in for money to the town, and how often the town’s cruisers go out of town. Vice Chairman Butt said that his concern is based on the MRI Report and though the detail is not a direct cost to the town there is an indirect cost.

It was discussed that the computer company keeps delaying the installation of the computers. Vice Chairman Butt would like to know the reason for the delays.

It was discussed that the purpose of the Town Administrator’s list is to keep the items fresh in everyone’s mind.

Town Administrator Bolton told the Board that Spaulding Hill was notified of an issue with emailing from the Fire Department and Police Department due to the wind. They did come out and fix the issue. Selectman Lawton asked about the location of the computers that were replaced at the Police Department. Chief Begin kept the serviceable computers in his office and disposed of the old monitors and keyboards that were not needed. The Board discussed that an inventory needs to be done on all computer equipment.

Selectman Lacasse moved, Selectman Leary seconded to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. Passed 5-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Cherry Palmisano, Recording Secretary