

**Kingston, New Hampshire  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting of January 31, 2011  
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm in the Selectmen's Office at the Kingston Town Hall. In attendance were Chairman Mark Heitz and Selectmen Peter Broderick and Charles Hart.

**Update on Insurance Situation**

Mark Heitz reported that he had spoken with Finance Officer Cindy Kenerson about her attendance at a meeting held to update the public on the status of the contract impasse between Anthem Insurance and Exeter Hospital. A survey of insured employees indicates that a majority want the Board to explore other options to the town's coverage so that, in the event no agreement between the town's present carrier and Exeter Hospital is reached, employees may be able to keep their current health care providers. The Board is awaiting proposals from other carriers so that cost comparisons can be made.

**Highway Department Updates**

Road Agent Richard St. Hilaire advised the Board that a planned amendment to the FEMA grant application for Ball Road culvert replacements should be held in abeyance until after bids on the main project have been reviewed. The State has only \$36,000.00 available to assist with the approximate \$140,000.00 cost of the road work that the scope amendment will cover. The town would need to cover the entire remaining \$104,000.00. If after bids for the main project are received it's determined that sufficient funds will remain in the grant award to cover - along with the \$36,000.00 (which will be earmarked for the project by the state until the bids are received) - 75% of the additional road work, the town can move to amend the grant application and scope of the project then. Once the project scope is changed, the town is obliged to do the work even if the amount of grant funds available doesn't reach the 75% contribution level that the main project grant covers. Mr. St. Hilaire and the town's engineers think that bids may come in enough lower than the estimates that all of the work can be done within the confines of the original project estimates along with the additional \$48,000.00 (\$36,000.00 from the State and \$12,000.00 from the town) that the amended project scope will entail. Selectmen agreed to go ahead with engineering for the additional roadwork, to be ready to file the amendment once bids on the main project are received.

Mr. St. Hilaire then advised that he had reviewed the applications received for the open Buildings and Grounds position and had selected ten to be interviewed. The Board added an additional two, and the resulting twelve applicants will be contacted and requested to obtain their criminal and driving background records in preparation of continuing in the interview process.

Mr. St. Hilaire then advised that his 2011 budget estimate of \$65,000.00 for plowing apparently will be insufficient for the year. He had reduced his estimate from 2010's budget of \$80,000.00 based on the amount remaining at the end of 2010. However, at an approximate cost of \$5,000.00 per storm, and given the eight storms already and the three expected over the next week, along with the fact that there are 4 additional months when plowing can reasonably be expected to be necessary (February, March, November and December), he would like to amend the plowing budget during the Deliberative Session on February 5, 2011 to \$95,000.00. Chairman Heitz advised that while an increase certainly seems to be necessary, he doesn't feel an additional \$30,000.00 can be justified. He suggested that an increase of \$15,000.00, which will bring the amount to level funding with the 2010 amount, be requested. Mr. St. Hilaire and the Board agreed that an amendment will be proposed to increase the Highway Budget by \$15,000.00. Selectman Broderick advised that he will propose the amendment.

#### **Joint Loss Management Committee Proposal Reviewed**

The Board reviewed with Mr. St. Hilaire a proposal received from the Joint Loss Management Committee to purchase additional absorption mats for the Town Hall's entry ways and hallways, and motion sensors for lighting in some of the stairwells and interior hallways. It was agreed that the mats purchased for use during elections will serve and that Mr. St. Hilare will arrange with an electrician to have the motion sensors installed.

#### **EPA Stormwater Report Expenditures Review and Approved**

The Board reviewed and approved a purchase order to cover the cost of preparing EPA required stormwater reports.

#### **Non-public Session**

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Chairman Heitz and second of Selectman Broderick, it was unanimously voted to adjourn to non-public session under the provisions of N. H. RSA 91-A:3 (a).

The Board adjourned to non-public session at 7:55 pm.

The Board returned to public session at 7:58 pm.

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Broderick and second of Selectman Hart, it was unanimously voted to seal the minutes of the non-public session for an indefinite period.

#### **Review of Previous Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Hart and second of Chairman Heitz, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2011 meeting as printed.

### **Review of Building Inspector's Memo**

The Board reviewed a memo from Building Inspector Robert Steward relative to a request from the Board that Mr. Steward conduct an inspection of the property located at 48 Exeter Road in order to ascertain its level of compliance with regulations and site plan facts and findings. That request had been made in response to an enforcement request received by the Board from the Planning Board. Mr. Steward had included with his memo a 2008 letter from Town Counsel that indicates a loss in 2008 of the grandfathered status of a commercial use operating on the property. The Board agreed to request that Mr. Steward conduct an inspection and provide a list of violations to the Planning Board site plan Facts and Findings, to present regulations, and to safety codes, in order to determine their future course of action.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Catherine Grant  
Administrative Assistant