

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of October 18, 2010
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order in the Selectmen's Office of the Town Hall at 6:31 pm by Chairman Mark Heitz. Also in attendance was Selectman Charles Hart.

Non-public Session

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Hart and second of Chairman Heitz, it was voted to adjourn to non-public session under the provisions of N. H. RSA 91:A-3, II-a. The Board adjourned at 6:32 pm.

The Board returned to public session at 6:55 pm.

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

Planning Board Discussion

Planning Board Chairman Richard Wilson advised the Board that the Planning Board expects to work on an Impact Fee Ordinance over the next year, and has included a budget line of \$6,000 to have a professional perform the research and write the Ordinance. He also advised that the budget will not include funds for the purpose of having the town's inspectors at Planning Board meetings when necessary, since the inspectors' own budgets will cover those expenses.

Non-public Session

MOTION: Upon motion of Selectman Hart and second of Chairman Heitz, it was voted to adjourn to non-public session under the provisions of N. H. RSA 91:A-3, II-c. The Board adjourned at 7:01 pm.

The Board returned to public session at 7:15 pm.

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

Church Street Rights of Way Discussion

John Whittier, Muriel Ingalls, Kenneth Weyler, Charles Miller, and Charles Tucker were present to discuss their hope that the Town will vacate its interest in a 30' right of way running from Church Street to Greenwood Pond. The Congregational Church is trying to get approval for a site plan that includes an addition to the church as well as an increase in parking. A portion of the parking area will encroach into the 30' strip of land deeded to the Town in 1907. Mr. Tucker advised that the process to vacate would involve Town Meeting action and the authority of the Probate Court. Chairman Heitz expressed his concern about relinquishing the town's title without some other access to the pond being secured on the Town's behalf. Mr. Weyler and Mr. Whittier noted that a second right of way, located north of Gideon Hall will continue to be available. Deeds and plans of the area were reviewed, and it was agreed that further research will be needed to ensure that title to the more northerly right of way actually was legally granted to the Town. The request will be discussed further at a later date. Chairman Heitz advised that, since the Church project will require a Variance to the setback requirements of the Zoning Ordinance if the use of the right of way isn't considered, he will be willing to address the Zoning Board of Adjustment in support of the application.

Selectmen agreed to request that Surveyor Paul Nichols attend an upcoming meeting to share his research of the Church Street area and advise of the Town's rights concerning the two rights of way.

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

It was agreed to postpone review of the October 4, 2010 meeting minutes until Selectman Broderick is present.

Administrative Business

It was agreed that a Substance Abuse Policy, allowing for drug and alcohol testing of employees who are suspected of violating the town's existing Alcohol and Drug Policy, will be developed to supplement the Personnel Policy. Individual department operating procedures relating to substance abuse will continue to be recognized within those departments.

A proposal by the Fire Wards that a sport utility vehicle now operating in the Police Department vehicle fleet be transferred to the Fire Department for its use as the Chief's Utility Vehicle was discussed. Selectman Hart advised that Chief Briggs approves the transfer. He intends to purchase a new SUV as well as repeaters for the mobile radios, from funds accumulated in the outside details revenue fund. The annual cruiser purchase will remain a part of his regular budget. Chairman Heitz noted that the top-heavy design of the SUV makes it ill suited for an emergency response vehicle, and noted that by allowing the Fire Department to continue to keep the present Fire Chief's cruiser in the fleet even after the SUV is acquired - for use of the inspector and of other department employees traveling to training sessions, etc. - the Board will be allowing expansion of the fleet that may be difficult to reduce back to the present level when the cruiser falls out of service.

It was agreed that, because the maintenance department wants to wax the floors at Town Hall on Election Day, and because the Town Clerk-Tax Collector's Office will be closed on that day anyway, Selectmen's Office employees will leave at noon on November 2nd. The following day, when the office ordinarily would close at noon, employees will be available until 4:00.

Because concerns have been raised by some of the ballot clerks that serve at elections, discussion was held about the suitability of the restroom facilities at Swasey Gymnasium. It was agreed that the situation will be evaluated during set up on November 1st and that any steps necessary to ensure that the facilities are suitable will be taken.

A Notice of Repurchase to a former owner of tax deeded property was signed and will be hand-delivered, advising of the former owner's right to re-purchase by paying the tax debt in full within 45 days.

The Board approved the hiring of a new Budget Committee Secretary.

The new rates for health, dental and life insurances were reviewed. Some rates have decreased; the largest increase is in one of the employee health plans offered, and is 4.2%.

A petition from Merrill Avenue residents requesting that the speed limit of that road be lowered to 20 MPH was discussed. The statutes relating to speed limitations will be reviewed and the petition will be considered at the next meeting.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 pm and the Board retired to address administrative issues.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Grant
Administrative Assistant