

**Kingston, New Hampshire  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting of March 18, 2013  
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM in the Selectmen's Office of the Kingston Town Hall. In attendance were Chairman Mark Heitz and Selectmen Peter Broderick and George Korn.

**Non-public Session**

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Korn and second of Selectman Broderick, Chairman Heitz polled the Board for a unanimous vote to adjourn to non-public session under the provisions of N. H. RSA 91-A:3, II-c. The Board adjourned at 6:45 pm.

The Board returned to public session at 7:05 pm.

**Department Head Discussion of Default Budget Impact**

Department Heads Richard St. Hilaire, Bill Seaman and Don Briggs, and Library Trustees Chairman Lesley Hume were present to discuss with the Board how their departments' budgets will be affected by adoption of the default budget at Town Meeting. Chairman Heitz advised that the Board hadn't had a chance to sit with the Finance Officer to determine how best to deal with the budget, but stated that any suggestions from Department Heads will be taken under advisement. Chief Seaman asked if he at least will be able to accomplish his computer upgrades, taking any necessary decreases in other lines of his appropriation. Chairman Heitz pointed out that the Fire Department's proposed 2013 budget actually was lower than the 2012 appropriation so, depending on how the overall reduction to the 2013 appropriation is handled, there may be no shortfall in funding the department's entire budget. Chief Briggs advised that he already has ordered a cruiser and will need to notify the dealership if he's not going to be able to pick the car up. Road Agent Richard St. Hilaire advised that he hopes the entire impact of adopting the default budget amount won't fall on his department. Chairman Heitz stated that the Board will be meeting with Finance soon and will discuss the outcome with Department Heads once that meeting has occurred. Ms. Hume advised that the Library and Historic Committee people who had sought amendment of the Budget Committee's proposed budget at the Deliberative Session had not foreseen that the amendment would lead to a "not recommended" vote by the Budget Committee. She noted that those who had amended the budget to include funding for an archivist for the town's historic documents are sorry that the unintended consequence of their amendment was a decision by the Budget Committee to not recommend the amended budget amount. Chairman Heitz agreed that the Budget Committee's action was unfortunate, particularly given that the voted amendment of \$7,250.00 was far less in variance with the Budget Committee's recommended budget than is the \$60,000.00 decrease represented by passage of the default budget.

Chief Seaman asked if the Board will reconsider the policy of requiring pre-approval by them of any purchase exceeding \$500.00, by raising that amount. He used as an example the purchase of protective, disposable gloves for ambulance workers. Purchase of three cases - which is a standard re-stocking of supplies for the two ambulances - exceeds the \$500.00 limit. Chief Briggs noted that the \$500.00 limit was authorized by Town Meeting vote in 1996 and will need to be amended by Town Meeting if it's to be raised. Chairman Heitz advised that he really has no issue with purchase of consumables necessary to the day-to-day operations of departments, but he intends that the Selectmen will maintain oversight of expenditures for one time purchases, repairs, etc., to give the Board an opportunity to ask questions and ensure that money is being wisely spent.

**Compatibility of Offices Discussed**

Lesley Hume discussed with the Board a written challenge to her acceptance of a position on the Budget Committee, to which she was elected by write-in vote at Town Meeting. The challenge is based on the fact that Ms. Hume now serves as a Library Trustee. The Board reviewed two legal

opinions obtained, both of which speak to the matter of incompatibility of offices. Ms. Hume advised that she really had sought the Budget Committee position in hopes of smoothing the process of budgeting for the Library. She further advised that on two other occasions Library Trustees had served simultaneously as Budget Committee members. The Selectmen noted that, while they likely wouldn't have recognized an issue had there not been a challenge, they do see that there is an inherent incompatibility to holding both offices at the same time. Ms. Hume will consider which of the positions she would like to serve in and advise the Board once she's made a decision.

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Broderick and second of Selectman Korn it was unanimously voted that, based on two independent legal opinions, there is an incompatibility to serving simultaneously on both the Board of Library Trustees and the Budget Committee.

### **Daley House Proposal**

Chairman Heitz read aloud an email received from Bronson Pinchot, who has a television program on the DIY network relating to restoration projects for Greek Revival houses. Mr. Pinchot expressed an interest in looking at the Grace Daley House for possible salvage of some of the materials and may use the salvage project as the basis for one of his program's episodes.

The Board discussed the fact that another, local, preservationist has expressed an interest in period materials from the site and that another resident has talked about moving the home intact to another location in Kingston.

It was agreed that a Request for Proposals for removal of the building from its present location will be sent out to those who've expressed an interest and will be publicly advertised. Chairman Heitz noted that the proposals will need to address full removal of the building rather than a piecemeal salvage operation, although the town's preference is for as much of the building to be preserved as is possible.

### **Application to Use Comeau Field Considered**

An application for use of Comeau Field by the Sanborn Junior Indians Football Club for the period from August through November of this year was reviewed. In light of a discussion held at the March 11, 2013 Selectmen's meeting, it was agreed that the permit will be issued conditional upon all participants vacating the field area by 7:00 pm in August and September and by 5:30 pm in October and November. All other rules for the use of the field also will need to be followed, and an insurance certificate will need to be received by the town prior to the first use of the field in August.

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

**MOTION:** Upon motion of Selectman Broderick and second of Selectman Korn it was voted to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2013 meeting as printed. Chairman Heitz abstained from the vote.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm and the Selectmen retired to address administrative issues.

Respectfully submitted,  
Catherine Grant  
Administrative Assistant