

**January 12, 2010
Selectmen's Meeting**

Present: Mark Richardson, Chairman, A. Richards, and A. A. Milkovits
(Selectman Guiry absent due to family matter.)

Meeting opened at 7:30 PM.

Vendor checks were discussed and signed.

Agenda:

Hearing on Nuisance Dogs:

Chairman Richardson opened the hearing at 7:30 PM. There were 7 citizens present, including the Library Aide Denise Ginzler, Town Clerk Susan Wagoner and Police Chief Barry Hutchins. Mr. Richardson explained the background and reason for the hearing. The Selectmen had received a complaint from Robert Doyle, Townsend Road about dogs he had encountered on his jogs through Town. In some cases the dogs were menacing and one had even followed him home and done damage to Doyle's front door while trying to get at Doyle's dog. Chairman Richardson then opened the floor for the citizens to speak. Mr. & Mrs. Stedman, Gilman Hill Road had been having serious problems with their neighbor's dogs. The neighbor's dogs repeatedly come onto Stedman's property after their dog and have even done physical harm to the dog. They would definitely support passing RSA 466:30-b, the referendum for controlling dogs at large, definitions of vicious and menacing dogs with applicable fines. Ms. Ginzler spoke of the difficulty in walking to work on Darling Hill Road because of the number of nuisance dogs. Douglas Whitbeck, Brookline Road walks his dog every day and encounters some very threatening, loose dogs. Mr. Doyle stated that, as a taxpayer, he has a right to exercise his freedom in walking the trails, etc. in Town. There seemed to be some confusion with how the RSA would apply to dog owners. Police Chief Hutchins explained the RSA – dogs must be under the owner's control at all times which may not necessarily mean dogs must be on a leash at all times. Also there is a schedule of penalties starting at \$25 for non-compliance. Mrs. Wagoner felt the penalties were not stringent enough, as some dog owners in town do not respond to civil forfeiture fines for non-licensing. After more discussion, it was decided to contact Town Attorney Little for advice on re-writing the dog control ordinance and define a higher penalty schedule. Depending on Attorney Little's advice, there may be another hearing for the adoption of RSA 466:30-b in February and then the ballot vote at town elections. The hearing closed at 8:35 PM.

Appointment:

1. Jack Moorhouse, field representative from Homeland Security, met with the Board to discuss requirements for grant applications. EMD Don MacIntosh, Fire Chief Cook, Police Chief Hutchins and Town Clerk Susan Wagoner were present for this discussion. Mr. Moorhouse discussed the 50/50 grant for the generator for the Police Station. Some of the requirements include: finishing the E.O.P., being NIMCAS (national Incident Command System) compliant, having a quote for the generator, installation, etc., having an EPA survey of site, as well as having a Hazard Mitigation Plan. He also explained that part of the 50/50 match could be a

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“soft” match consisting of the Town doing the installation of the generator. Mr. Moorhouse reviewed the NIMCAS requirements for the EMD, Police Chief, and Fire Chief. Most of the courses could be taken online. He also discussed the E.O.P., stating that it needs some corrections and additions but he considers the plan accepted. Chairman Richardson and EMD MacIntosh will make the corrections and finalize for the Selectmen's approval. Mr. Moorhouse reviewed step by step the EMD book. Mr. MacIntosh stated that since the police station will be the E.O.C., all EMD materials, E.O.P., etc. should be maintained in the police station. All present agreed. Mr. Moorhouse will be available to the Selectmen for help in finishing the grant.

Selectmen reviewed the following:

1. EQ Ratio study – Selectmen will contact Town Assessor Richard Rockwood for his review of the study before sending it in to the DRA.
2. From Kevin Bell – complaint on second dwelling still listed. Selectmen will direct the Building Inspector to coordinate an inspection of the Bell's property with Town Assessor Rockwood and then report their findings to the Board.
3. Re: Abatement Appeal of Rowntree, 650 Valley Road From the BTLA: Decision on Angela Rowntree's appeal – the appeal was denied due to the taxpayer's failure to return the 2008 Inventory form on time.
4. From Bradley Gaudet, questions again on the assessment of his property, lot H-36. Selectmen will request Town Assessor to answer Mr. Gaudet's complaint.
5. From Plodzik & Sanderson – contract for auditing of 2009 financial statements, costing between \$8500 and \$9500. The audit would start on March 31, 2010. Chairman Richardson signed the contract.
6. From NRPC – contract for circuit rider. The Director recommends increasing the contract from \$3,000 to \$5,000. No decision was made at this time.
7. Draft form of digital data submission requirements for the subdivision regulations.
8. PSNH pole licenses signed by the Board
9. Paid in full statement for 2009 TAN
10. From Building Inspector – Report for the census of residential building permits issued.
11. From LGC – return of 88% of insurance deductible for the subrogation recovery on the explosion that destroyed the town's truck last January.
12. Police logs
13. From LGC – Notice of Endorsement for providing liability protection for Third-Party Claims arising out of the use of trampolines and other rebounding devices.
14. 2010 Hearing Notices: January 26th for bond for backhoe for the Highway Department and February 9th, required hearing for the petitioned warrant article for SB 2.
15. Draft 2010 proposed budget – Chairman Richardson set the first budget hearing for Tuesday, January 19th at 7:30 PM with the Fire Highway and Police budgets to be reviewed with the Financial Advisory Committee. He will also review the bottom line to see if raises would be possible.

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16. List of Elected Offices expiring in March.
17. Letter submitted to the paper from the Board of Selectmen concerning the critical issues facing the Board for the 2010 budget season.
18. From D.E.S. – Complete Forestry Notification for Pelletier, lot A-26-3.
19. Invitation to Eagle Scout Ceremony of Christopher Elliott – Selectman Richards will attend.
20. Two notices of foreclosure for lots K-48-1 and J-42, J-49
21. Other correspondence

Selectman Richards discussed her concern for welfare issues on the Town Clerk's website. There was a recent inquiry from a resident for help with utility bills. The Town Clerk had sent out email concerning this resident to her email list. Welfare is only to be handled by the Selectmen's Office.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 AM.

Barbara L. Melton
Admin. Assistant