

**Center Harbor Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 14, 2009**

Chairman Randy Mattson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Selectmen Charley Hanson and Richard Drenkhahn. Richard Williams, Ken Hibbert, Police Chief Mark Chase, Building Committee Co-Chairmen Peter Loudon and Bob Chance, Emergency Management Director David Hughes, Meredith News Reporter Sarah Schmidt and Selectmen's Secretary Robin Woodaman were also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Hanson motioned to accept the minutes of January 7, 2009. Ms. Mattson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PROPOSED 2009 BUDGET AND WARRANT ARTICLES: The Selectmen discussed the following proposed 2009 budget items:

Coalition Communities: The Selectmen reviewed an email from Pat Remick, of the Coalition Communities, stating that she will follow the email up with a formal letter to the Board of Selectmen with an appeal for a proposed contribution to the continuation of the Coalition Communities office. Ms. Woodaman explained there was an approved 2007 warrant article to donate \$500 to the Coalition Communities, but no warrant article in 2008. The Selectmen will wait to receive the formal request before taking budgetary action.

Winnepesaukee Wellness Center: \$6,000 requested for 2009 (\$4,000 approved in 2008). The Selectmen discussed the increase in their request for funding. Ms. Mattson explained it will up to the voters to decide whether to approve or deny the request.

Town of Moultonborough Fire Tower: \$1,050 requested for 2009 (\$1,050 approved in 2008).

Emergency Management Division:

Disaster Response: \$150 proposed for 2009 (\$0 approved in 2008).

Hazardous Material Response: \$150 proposed for 2009 (\$150 approved in 2008).

Computer Equipment & Supplies: \$550 proposed for 2009 (\$0 approved in 2008).

Office Supplies, Services & Equipment: \$200 proposed for 2009 (\$600 approved in 2008).

Conferences & Training: \$250 proposed for 2009 (\$500 approved in 2008).

Power Point Projector: \$0 proposed for 2009 (\$1,900 approved in 2008).

Parks & Recreation Director: Ms. Mattson proposed increasing the originally proposed Parks & Recreation Director's wages of \$10,000 to \$12,000 in anticipation of additional hours that may be required by the new Director and the other Selectmen agreed.

General Building Repairs & Maintenance: There was discussion regarding the Selectmen's plan to propose the establishment of an Expendable Trust Fund for repairs and maintenance of the Municipal buildings. Ms. Mattson proposed \$5,000 for the General Building Repairs & Maintenance line item to cover incidental repairs and maintenance and the other Selectmen agreed.

VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION SIGN: Ms. Mattson explained during last week's Selectmen's meeting, the Selectmen discussed the sign with Code Enforcement Officer Ken Ballance at the beginning of the meeting and Town Clerk Sheila Mohan later in the morning. Ms. Mattson explained the Board of Selectmen decided last week that a construction permit was required because the value of the sign was \$1,500. She reported speaking with Ms. Mohan and Anatole Paquette (Paquette's Signs) after last week's Selectmen's meeting and explained Mr. Paquette informed her that the value of the sign is \$1,000; therefore no construction permit would be required. Ms. Mattson reported she reviewed the Non-Residential Site Plan Review Section 4 with Ms. Mohan, which stipulates conditions for the Selectmen to grant an exception for Site Plan Review. At the recommendation of the Town Clerk the Selectmen signed the following letter to Ms. Mohan, Clerk of the Center Harbor Planning Board:

“The Board of Selectmen is granting an exception for Site Plan Review to the Town of Center Harbor per Section 4 of the Non-Residential Site Plan Review regulations section of the Town Ordinances for placement of a sign located on the Municipal Building’s property at 36 Main Street, TML 9-26. Upon review of Section 4, the Selectmen find that all conditions have been met as required for the exception.”

Copies of the letter will be forwarded to Mr. Ballance and the Center Harbor Volunteer Firemen’s Association.

Mr. Hughes explained this fundraising activity was started by Chip Sorlien of the Center Harbor Women’s Club and is a joint effort involving the Women’s Club and the Volunteer Firemen’s Association. He explained the goal is to raise \$50,000 in thirty days; he reported there is an anonymous donor and they are “challenging” the businesses in Town to contribute. Mr. Hughes reported the funds raised will be used to purchase a portable Thermal Imager, a new AED and another Holmatro tool with rams, then various other community projects the Association gets involved with.

NEW BUSINESS:

ASSESSING CONTRACT: The Selectmen signed the contract with Commerford, Nieder, Perkins, LLC for 2009 assessing services.

APPOINTMENTS:

RICHARD WILLIAMS: Mr. Williams and Mr. Hibbert submitted a request to operate a hot dog vending cart at the Town beach/boat launch location as they had last summer. They reported the hours of operation will be similar to last year; opening between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and closing by 5:00 p.m. Ms. Mattson motioned to grant permission to Mr. Williams and Mr. Hibbert to operate a hot dog cart in the designated location during the designated hours. Mr. Drenkhahn seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

BUILDING COMMITTEE (BC) CO-CHAIRMEN PETER LOUDEN AND BOB CHANCE AND POLICE CHIEF MARK CHASE:

Chief Chase reported the BC has gone through a thorough selection process for an architect for the new Police Department. He reported the BC received approximately fifteen Request for Proposals (RFP’s) and they interviewed five candidates and conducted site visits to tour facilities designed by some of the applicants. Chief Chase reported one architect stood out and fits Center Harbor’s needs. Mr. Louden explained this architect conducted a lot of research to see what the project involves and reported his presentation was very thorough and well communicated. Chief Chase reported his was the lowest price. The BC unanimously recommended Gary Goudreau, President of Goudreau & Associates Architects, PLLC be contracted for this project; the project cost is \$66,300. Mr. Hanson motioned, based on feedback received from Mr. Louden, Mr. Chance and Chief Chase and the unanimous vote by the BC, to hire Goudreau & Associates Architects, PLLC. Mr. Drenkhahn seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Ms. Mattson asked when Mr. Goudreau would begin. Mr. Chance explained he will begin right away and reported there will be a timetable in place; Chief Chase explained the process actually began in 2002. Mr. Chance explained Mr. Goudreau is eager to present the plans to the Townspeople and reported Mr. Goudreau will be at the 2009 and 2010 Town Meeting to answer questions. The Selectmen scheduled a Public Hearing for the Police Department building plans for Saturday, February 7, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

Chief Chase reported there has been no final decision on the location of the new Police Department building. He reported Town Attorney Doug Hill feels more research is required regarding the possible use of the Morrill Park area and requested the Board’s permission for Attorney Hill to continue; the Board agreed to this request. Chief Chase explained that if part of the park area was used for the Police Department other areas could be designated for the public park. He explained the Morrill Park area has good visibility, is close to the Town Offices and the site work would cost less.

The Selectmen thanked the members of the BC for their timely and thorough efforts to date. Chief Chase reported it is a great committee.

POLICE CHIEF MARK CHASE: The following items were discussed:

Speed limit hearing: Chief Chase asked what happened at the December 10, 2008 Public Hearing regarding speed limits on Piper Hill Road, McCrillis Hill Road, Follett Road and Bartlett Hill Road. Mr. Hanson reported residents attending had a concern regarding going from 25 mph to 30 mph. Mr. Drenkhahn reported the Selectmen explained the speed limit had to be 30 mph to be enforceable, but Mr. Hanson read conflicting information in the Local Government Center's publication "A Hard Road to Travel". Chief Chase reported he refers to the RSA laws and explained an engineering or traffic study is required to legally post roads at 25 mph. There was discussion regarding Fire Chief John Schlemmer's recommendation that all Town roads be posted at 30 mph; Chief Chase explained roads such as Kelsea Ave. and Coe Hill Road should not be posted at 30 mph, they should be lower. Mr. Drenkhahn explained he feels roads should be posted at 25 mph if Chief Chase feels that is appropriate. Chief Chase will research the cost of a legally defensible traffic study such as rubber strips counting speeds for one month. Mr. Hanson motioned to post the speed limit of 30 mph on Piper Hill Road, McCrillis Hill Road, Follett Road and Bartlett Hill Road as recommended by Chief Chase and discussed at the December 10, 2008 Public Hearing. Mr. Drenkhahn seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Police cruiser: Chief Chase requested permission from the Selectmen to order the new Police cruiser from Irwin Motors with the contingency that if it is not approved at Town Meeting, the order would be cancelled. Chief Chase explained this has been past practice and it would allow the Police Department to take custody of the new cruiser shortly after Town Meeting. Ms. Mattson motioned to grant Chief Chase permission to order the new Police cruiser from Irwin Motors with the contingency that if it is not approved at Town Meeting, the order would be cancelled. Mr. Hanson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Grants: Chief Chase reported the State of New Hampshire Department of Highway Safety should authorize the 2009 speed enforcement grants shortly.

Automatic Emergency Defibrillator AED: Chief Chase reported the Police Department has loaned an AED from one of the cruisers to be used in a Fire Department rescue vehicle until the Fire Department receives an AED.

Officer Don Welch: Mr. Hanson reported he heard from a citizen who was pleased with the manner in which Officer Welch handled this citizen's issue with snowmobiles on her property.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: At 8:21 p.m. Mr. Hanson motioned to go into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II(c) to discuss matters that would affect someone's reputation. Mr. Drenkhahn seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. At 9:12 p.m. Ms. Mattson motioned to end the non-public session. Mr. Hanson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

RECONVENE: At 9:14 p.m. Ms. Mattson reconvened the Board of Selectmen's meeting.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

NEW FIREFIGHTER: The Selectmen approved Evan Bleakney as a Firefighter.

ABATEMENT APPLICATION: The Selectmen reviewed the following abatement application:

Williams

TML 7-85

PERMANENT APPLICATION FOR PROPERTY TAX CREDIT/EXEMPTIONS: The Selectmen reviewed the following application:

PROPOSED 2009 WARRANT ARTICLES:

Town Clerk, Tax Collector & Treasurer terms: There was discussion regarding the Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer being elected for three year terms; the Towns of Meredith and Moultonborough have adopted these terms. Mr. Hanson recommended proposing three warrant articles to increase the above terms from one year to three years and the other Selectmen agreed.

Sand/Salt Storage Shed: The Selectmen discussed the possible requirement, per RSA 33:8-a, II, to hold a public hearing for the lease/purchase of a sand/salt storage shed.

CURRENT BILLS PAYABLE: The Selectmen reviewed, and approved the payroll and accounts payable manifests as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE:

TOWN OF MEREDITH: The Selectmen reviewed a copy of a letter sent from the Town of Meredith's Public Works Director Mike Faller to Craig Gustafson regarding Mr. Gustafson's concern about snow being pushed on his lawn by a bucket loader. Mr. Faller explained to Mr. Gustafson that the Town of Center Harbor maintains that section of road for Meredith and Meredith, in turn, maintains a few of Center Harbor road sections in exchange. Mr. Faller reported he confirmed that there was a Center Harbor Highway Department employee pushing snow back with a loader, but the employee was unaware that the snow was pushed back beyond the grade stakes Mr. Gustafson had installed. Mr. Haines apologized for the mishap and stated he would inform his operator.

Mr. Faller reported he and Mr. Gustafson discussed the 30' easement area that is depicted on the subdivision plan and recorded on his deed. Mr. Faller reported he will get a legal opinion as to the use of the easement so all have a clear understanding of what can and can't be done in the easement area.

SQUAM LAKES AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: The Selectmen received an invitation to the Squam Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. The Selectmen would like a letter sent thanking them for the invitation and explaining that is the evening of the Town's first budget hearing.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY: The Selectmen received notification of scheduled meetings to discuss the major disaster declaration process, eligibility and document preparation.

ADJOURNMENT: At 9:39 p.m. Mr. Hanson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Mattson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Woodaman,
Selectmen's Secretary