

MINUTES BOAD OF SELECTMEN DECEMBER 20, 2011

Members Present: Selectmen Crichton, Ramsey, Murphy, Chambers, Elton

Others: TM Trefethen, TC Buckman, Deputy TC Albert, Police Chief Towne and 30 members of the General Public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION Chambers second Elton "approve minutes of December 6, 2011 as presented" Passed 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Oscar Stone asked various question to members of the Board.

Resident Tom Lavigne asked about the Fire Grant the town received.

Resident Dave Stolpe asks various questions to members of the Board.

Resident Peg Wheeler asked various questions of the Board members.

Resident Joe French asked about the recall petition.

Resident Davis Rodrigue asked questions on the recall petition.

COMMUNICATION

Manager reviewed the material with the Board. Action was taken on one item. MOTION Crichton second Murphy "contact should be made to the DOT to inform them that the Berwick Officials feel consideration should be given to better sidewalk development with any refurbishing of the bridge" passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNT PAYABLE WARRANTS

MOTION Elton second Chambers "approve warrants 1223, W1223, 1224, W1224" passed 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fireworks Ordinance Discussion: *MOTION Murphy second Crichton "table further discussion until January 17, 2012" passed 4-1.*

Continue Review of Town Policies: *MOTION Chambers second Murphy "approve town policies preciously reviewed which include "Decorum at Meeting of the Board of Selectmen", "Alcohol and Drug Testing Policy", Board of Selectmen Attendance Policy", Board of Selectmen Rules and Regulations" passed 4-0-1 (Chambers).*

Open Police Officers Position: Board had asked the Administration to attempt to hire a Police Officer who is already Full-time certified. The attempt was made with no results. The Administration is now

asking to allow the Department to look at Part-time in-house individuals who may wish to fill this open position. *MOTION Crichton second Murphy "proceed with the hiring of a new Full-time Police Officer as has been the past practice of the Department" passed 5-0.*

Status of out of Service Cruiser: *Motion Chamber second Elton "place the surplus cruiser out to bid and place a minimum bid of \$7,000 on this purchase" passed 5-0.*

NEW BUSINESS

Appointments to Boards and Committees: The board approved all the appointments provided to them under their authority as of December 20, 2011, with the exception of the Sewer Trustee appointment because they had no background on Ken Hall. They also confirmed all the appointments of the Town Manager as of December 20, 2011.

Discussion of Recall Ordinance: Town Clerk has certified the petitions for recall presented to her. The Board of Selectmen can either order an election by secret ballot tonight or within 10 days order an election. *MOTION Crichton second Murphy "move forward this evening and order the election" Motion failed 2-3.* The Board has scheduled a meeting for Friday December 30, 2011 @6:30PM to discuss this further as is their authority granted within the ordinance.

Discussion on development of FY12/13 Municipal Budget: The Board instructed the Town Manager to have Budgets presented to them at a meeting to be scheduled for January 4, 2011 beginning at 6:30PM. These operating budgets should reflect 0% increase with the exception of cost dictated by contractual obligations.

ABATEMENTS/SUPPLEMENTALS

MOTION Chambers second Elton "table action on Map R15 Lot 1-2 until further information is provided upon the right of way" passed 5-0.

MOTION Chambers second Elton "deny abatement request on Map R1 Lot 15" passed 5-0.

MOTION Crichton second Chambers "approve abatement request as recommended by the Assessors Agents on Map R1 Lot 26" passed 4-1.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Oscar Stone of the Bridge design and sidewalks.

Resident Peg Wheeler on the Recall Process.

Resident Joe French on the Recall Process.

Resident Ton Lavigne on the Recall Process.

Resident Mike Doran on the Recall Process.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION Chambers second Elton "to adjourn" passed 5-0 @ 10:14PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Keith M. Trefethen

Town Manager