

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Minutes

Date: August 13, 2014

Members Present: Janet Flinkstrom, Mike McCallum and Steve Ingerson

Time: 7:06 p.m.

2) Selectmen approve minutes of July 30, 2014 as recorded.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Janet Flinkstrom Vote: JF/MM - Aye
SI - Abstain

3) Warrant #W05P approve and sign Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$48,656.63 subject to further review.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Janet Flinkstrom Vote: JF/MM - Aye
SI - Abstain

4) Warrant #W06B approve and sign Vendor Warrant in the amount of \$59,541.28 subject to further review.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Janet Flinkstrom Vote: JF/MM - Aye
SI - Abstain

5) Motion for Selectmen's signatures on State Primary Warrant (4).

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

6) Motion to approve and sign on a One Day Liquor License for the Holmes-Curran-Bennett Post 361 Annual Car Show on August 31, 2014 at Allen Field #415.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steve Ingerson Vote: Unan

Northeast Municipal Gas Pipeline Coalition update (if any) Janet Flinkstrom:

There have been several meetings with many people attending. Demonstration held in Boston was well attended from several towns. Coalition's goals are to investigate if more gas is really needed. They do have a Mission Statement she will bring to next meeting. Rep. from Groton is very versed in this and he is working on several angles and information to help with this endeavor. They meet every 2 weeks at this time. SI asked if any information or conversation with Sheila Harrington had gone on about the pipeline running along Route 2. JF explained what information she had. The Commonwealth is supposed to be committed to be a green state and use less fossil fuel. The leakage from the existing pipelines could possibly make up the 1000 kWh shortage that occurred last year. LW is concerned about a gas charge on our utility bills to pay for this new pipeline.

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Any Other Business Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman:

MM talked about memo from Bob Hanson in regards to the EMS Budget. SI asked why the Board had received it. MM had noticed on the expense sheet from the Accountant that the expenditure line was high on the overtime and asked Bob to check into comparisons from previous year. MM stated that last year we had to do a Reserve Fund Transfer into this line and SI suggested they ask Bill Seymour to attend a meeting. JF & MM agreed. Suggested they all sit down & try to get the line under control.

Keith Maynard states he has been receiving several disturbing comments on the response times of emergency personnel being excessive, up to 60 minutes. JF states that the only complaint brought to the Board was from Lillian Whitney who had requested an ambulance on a holiday. LW stated she had an issue & went directly to Fire Chief who would not respond to her. SI states he had heard about a Piper Rd. delay also. SI heard it was 90 minutes to respond & resident had a heart attack. MM says that seems unbelievable. MM states we only have 2 FT personnel on day shift. The rest are volunteers.

KM wants the response time looked into and the overtime costs. He also asked if there are any personnel issues in EMS. LW would like to have it looked into as to what other towns do. JF tried to explain to her what the procedure is now and that more coverage costs money. KM tried to interrupt JF and she spoke to him. He continued to talk and she loudly and firmly had to make him stop talking and remind him she is the Chairman and therefore can allow or not allow anyone to speak. MM stated he did check a month's worth of run times data over a year ago & the response times were reasonable; he does not know if that has changed since then. JF stated the first ones to arrive are the Police (24/7) and they are 1st Responders and start the process. LW states according to the town report there are 4 Captains on the Fire Dept. MM reminded her that the firefighters are not all EMTs. JF assured the meeting that this will be looked into.

Assistant to the Board of Selectmen's Report: Read by MM and available on Ashby Website. SI read announcements. LW asked to use the Finance Meeting Room for a 250th Committee meeting on August 21st.and invited the BOS to attend.

Public Comments (if any):

KM asked why New Ipswich Road was paved if the water line will be going through it. MM spoke to this. SI states he asked the Highway Supt. for information and he refused to give it to him. He states he can show a letter stating this. SI suggested maybe we could have an interdepartmental meeting on a monthly basis for better communication within depts.

KM finds it hard to believe that the Highway Supt. didn't know there is a water line going through and paved the road anyway. MM states Bill Davis was at Town Meeting when the warrant article for the water project was explained and voted.

7) Motion to adjourn at 8:08 p.m.

Motion: Mike McCallum

Seconded: Steve Ingerson

Vote: Unan

Signed by: _____

Dates Minutes Approved by Board of Selectmen: _____