



Northwood Board of Selectmen Minutes of August 1, 2017

Chairman Wolf called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Chairman Rick wolf, Selectman Scott Bryer, Selectman Donald Hodgdon and Town Administrator Joseph Gunter.

Citizen's Forum

Tom Chase: I have several quick items. I have spoken with Steve Roy about serving on the Conservation Commission. He has met with us during the month of July and he is expressing an interest in serving as an alternate. I would encourage you to reconsider your decision and re-appoint him to the commission. He was asked if Mr. Roy had submitted a letter of intent. Board noted that a letter of intent would be required. Mr. Chase noted he would advise Mr. Roy.

Mr. Chase: The second item I would like advise is that the milfoil program at Jenness and Pleasant Lake awaits full funding. I understand the way that money was allocated for this year was to give monies to Jenness as well as Pleasant Lake. I was at the deliberative session to add \$3,000 in the hopes that the Mary Waldron Beach ramp be completed and the citizens that use that boat ramp and live on Bow Lake realize the threat posed to the lake by milfoil being introduced, they would introduce a milfoil lake host program. I do not know whether that has happened and I hope that it will. In the meantime, I would hope that the selectmen would allocate the monies to Jenness and Pleasant Lake so that they have those monies on hand to continue those valuable services to the community with their lake host program. Chair Wolf: I think we need to receive a request from these people in order to allocate the money.

Public Hearing

Acceptance of Highway Block Grant Funds

Chair Wolf: We do have a public hearing tonight and it has been noticed at the Library, Town Hall and Post Office. He read into the minutes the Notice of Public Hearing as posted. From what I see here the amount is \$87,444.57. Does anyone have any comment? Mr. Gunter: The State has surplus funds this year and they were looking for ways to hand it back to the towns and have done it in the form of a block grant. There is a whole list of allocations to the towns and Northwood has \$87,444.57. These funds can be used just as the previous block grant was used. Selectman Bryer: Just a note, the State had allocated additional funding in the budget. There was not any kind of surplus. I have a question - we have a budget which has already been set so are they saying that we have to accept this without a town meeting. We do not have the authority to increase the budget. Mr. Gunter: This is just like a grant. We are accepting unanticipated funds and we can spend it this year. If not, this grant actually rolls over. Selectman Bryer: What is the RSA for



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acceptance of these funds? Mr. Gunter: I do not have the RSA's with me. Chair Wolf: Any other comments. Selectman Hodgdon: If we accept this, what do we plan on using this for? Selectman Bryer: I would like to see it going into paving additional roads. I want to see it going directly to that, Chair Wolf and Selectman Hodgdon both agreed. Selectman Bryer: I would be more comfortable if I could see the RSA's on acceptance of these type of funds and how it is spent. I just want to make sure about it, dot my "i's" and cross my "t's". Mr. Gunter: I have a letter from the Governor's legal counsel on this. It is RSA 31:95 which requires the holding of a public hearing for receipt of funds in an amount greater than \$10K. So, under 31:95B II, the board of selectman had to hold a public hearing to accept grant funds such as this in an amount over \$10K. Selectman Bryer: Under that does it allow us to expend it in the same year as we accept it? Mr. Gunter: Yes, and not only that but it is allocated just like the previous block grant. (Selectman Bryer reviewed documents.) Mr. Gunter: This gives us permission to spend on the roads as well as town equipment if the town desires. Selectman Bryer: After reading this document, the specific language allows us to expend this year.

Selectman Bryer motion to accept these additional appropriation funds of Highway Block Grant in the amount of \$87,444.57 with the intention to be used on road construction. Selectman Hodgdon seconded motion. After discussion motion carried 3/0.

Chair Wolf: The only discussion I would have on this would be that we get together and decide as a team as to what this money is to be spent on. Selectman Bryer: I think the intention of the State was to get these monies to the towns because they realize there is an infrastructure problem and I do not want this spent on equipment. Chair Wolf: That was not my point. We should all be agreeable as to what projects the monies are spent on. Mr. Gunter: I know there has been some discussion about fixing the drainage issue on Bow Lake and I had asked for quotes. This is just to give you all an idea of what it would cost to fix that water issue. This is by no means a guarantee that you have to choose this obviously but I wanted you all to know the numbers for that because it has been ongoing.

Appointments Jeness Pond – Milfoil Discussion

Hal Kreiger: I have brought with me David Copeland, Steve Steiner, Kim Bailey, Mike Moore and Paul Dunlevy (who were all introduced to the board.) Mr. Kreiger: I was the president of the Jenness Pond Association for the last four years. Mike is taking over and Dave will be vice-president this coming year. The reason for coming in is to convey the importance of the milfoil program and I just want to give you an idea about this. Mr. Kreiger read off a list of various lakes that already contain milfoil. That is



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just from the very first payroll. He explained how the lake host program and the questions asked of boatowners about containments.

Mr. Kreiger noted that a request for funding in a warrant article this year was approved. He related that he had gone to NH Lakes and applied for a grant that totals \$11,280 based on a request of receiving \$4,500 from the town. He noted that the reason he was present tonight was because the town gave them part of that funding - \$750 but not the \$4,500 that was requested. Mr. Kreiger: We would like to ask for half now and half after the first of the year but that amounts to only \$3,400 and we could really use the additional monies. We need to not only fund weekends but if you want to have a good program, staffing needs to be consistent. Milfoil does not go away in September and we have to pay hosts to keep them which comes out to \$11,000. We need help from the town on this.

Steve Steiner: I have been on Jenness Pond for 15-16 years. I feel we have been very vigilant as a shore owner's association in trying to protect our pond. I understand that Northwood Lake is infested with invasive species and I am not suggesting any of the monies be taken away from them as they clearly need to stay on top of this. I cannot think of a better example than the old adage that an "ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." The amount of money that we are asking for from the town to help us remain vigilant and staffing with paid, trained lake hosts is a fraction of what it costs once the lake is infested. In addition, the town collects property taxes based on our property value and it is estimated property values drop a minimum of 30% when a lake is infested with an invasive aquatic species. Again, it would seem to me that a dollar spent today may save hundreds of thousands of dollars in the future when the town loses significant revenue from properties that have a high value. We are not just standing there with our hand out; we have worked hard to protect our pond and we are asking for the town to help us with this endeavor so that we can insure to continue to protect our pond and maintain our property values which is important to us and the town.

Selectman Hodgdon: Is there any help that we can get from the town of Pittsfield? Mr. Kreiger: Quite frankly, this year they committed more than the town asked. After speaking to Pittsfield shore owners, they related that they just wanted to contribute funds to our town. Selectman Bryer: You know that I have supported giving monies for this in the past, but I am asking this question because I find this to be a non-stop request for a little bit more each year. I am giving you my personal opinion on this and you are probably not going to be happy. I personally own my house and invest in my house. My house is my asset. I do not live on a lake and know that you have a higher interest in protecting that lake to keep your resale value up. I am starting to get blinded by the fact that residents that don't own waterfront property are subsidizing your neighborhood. That is a fact. Mr. Kreiger: We are not asking for all the money; we have done more than our share. Mr. Kreiger explained the breakdown



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relating that this is a 60/40 partnership. Selectman Bryer: I understand that but there is going to be a point where residents are going to question why we continue to subsidize this. Mr. Kreiger: I think you have to review the specific approved warrant article supporting prevention. It is the will of the people to spend this money for this purpose.

Mr. Steiner: What about the money that is being subsidized for Northwood Lake which is already infested? Are the people in the town opposed to that? I could say that I do not have any children in school so I am subsidizing that. I think people would be willing to subsidize this because the income strain for the town is significant. Loss of this revenue would be significant. The amount we are asking for some subsidizing from what we are already spending from the association.

Selectman Bryer: I am okay with the monies for this year. Did the amount of \$4,500 somehow get lowered? Chair Wolf: Normally, we give it out in two portions. Board discussed how the warrant article monies were distributed among the various lakes. Mr. Kreiger explained how they would like to continue the program.

Selectman Bryer motion to approve \$2,750 for the milfoil program. Selectman Hodgdon seconded Motion.

Chair Wolf: I do support this but I feel at some point you are going to come back next year and it is all separated out. If one should ask for more funds, it is going to end up that you will all receive nothing. I do not know how we can fix that. Selectman Hodgdon: Maybe next year we can get a better breakdown. Mr. Kreiger: The time to have that discussion would be during budget time. Chair Wolf: I did not realize that there were any problems with this. Mr. Steiner: Would level funding be more acceptable? Level funding would allow us to project plans for the future preventing a discussion every single year. Selectman Bryer: I just wanted to relate what people are saying about this funding and are other towns helping.

Motion carried 3/0.

Unfinished Business Audit Quotes

Mr. Gunter: It has now been a few weeks since we opened. There were four bids. Selectman Bryer: Before I make my motion, I have a couple questions. How long has Vachon had this contract? Mr. Gunter: It has been quite a while. Other bidders were Vachon Clukay, Plodzick and Sanderson, Robert Green, PLLC. Selectman Bryer: What was the Plodzick and Sanderson quote? Mr. Gunter: \$13,000. Selectman Bryer: They are a pretty good firm.



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When I first became a selectman, they had the contract. I have a little background in finance and I think it is good to switch it up occasionally. Mr. Gunter: I had Sandy review this and her preference was Vachon Clukay.

Selectman Bryer motion to approve Plodzick and Sanderson for audit. Selectman Hodgdon second motion.

Chair Wolf: I haven't read it all. There was a lot of information there and I did not put my best effort forward on this what with the road issue and trying to review the eight books we go which we received at the same time. Selectman Hodgdon: I am going to agree with Rick but also would like to say that I do not have a lot of experience in financing and accounting, so I am taking the advice of my fellow selectman on this. If you are saying that is something that we should change every ten years, then I would accept your opinion on this. Selectman Bryer: It is good to get a fresh set of eyes in here every once in a while. For the record, I am fine with Vachon but we had Plodzick and Sanderson for 10-15 years and then switched to Vachon like we are doing now.

Motion carried 3/0.

Mr. Gunter noted that Plodzick and Sanderson would be auditing our 2017 books. Selectman Bryer: Is that going to affect the actuarial services at all? Mr. Gunter: No. They will have everything done by the time of the next audit. That was the arrangements that was made with the actuarial.

Assessing Quotes

Selectman Bryer: We only have two assessing quotes. Mr. Gunter. Yes. Selectman Bryer: Usually, I let administrator take the lead, but at the State level, bids over a certain dollar amount are published in trade magazines or at the municipal magazine or even a state-wide newspaper. What did we do for these quotes? Where did we advertise for these quotes? I know we left this up to your discretion, but I would like to know about this. Mr. Gunter: Just as we always do, this was advertised where we could acquire the most "hits." For this one in particular, NHMA? Selectman Bryer: Was it in Town and Country? Mr. Gunter: Only if NHMA advertises in Town and Country. I did not call Town and Country and put it in that magazine. Mr. Gunter: This was advertised like the other bids that we put out for positions, pavilion construction, auditing services and tree removal. Selectman Bryer: We do have a formal policy but right now you have only been putting it on the website and municipal association website. Mr. Gunter. Yes, and there is no guidance in our town policies on how many locales they would have to be posted. Selectman Hodgdon: I think that Scott is thinking that it relates to a specified field and would be posted in applicable fields where we do not ordinarily post items. I can see where something like this could be posted in different places.



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Selectman Bryer: I am aware that there is an assessing association which is separate from the municipal association. Was it posted there? Mr. Gunter: It was not, in fact, they do not take RFP's. They will take employment but not RFP's. Selectman Bryer: Did you call them? Mr. Gunter: There was no phone number listed but I did e-mail them. Selectman Bryer: Did you ask them if there was a way to advertise that you could use to get multiple hits? Mr. Gunter: No, I did not ask that question.

Chair Wolf: From now on when we put anything out to bid and I have spoken of this before, the RFP's need to go away. They need to be sealed bids. Mr. Gunter: They were sealed bids. Chair Wolf: We did not open them. Mr. Gunter: Yes, you did. Board agreed that they were opened by the Board previously. Selectman Bryer: How come our current assessor did not bid? Mr. Gunter: Fred Smith bid under his name while the previous organization was Purvis & Son Associates.

Fred Smith, Assessor: I am associated with Purvis right now, but agreed with management that I would be bidding for assessing services in the Town of Northwood under my name. Since I am retiring in the near future, I discussed this with Purvis and they agreed they would not be bidding. I will be working for Purvis for the rest of the year and if approved, would then be doing the assessing under my company name. Mr. Gunter: I have an e-mail from Purvis noting that they spoke with Fred about this last year and she agreed with Fred on what he has discussed tonight. Chair Wolf: I find this hard to believe because I spoke with her myself and she said she was unaware that assessing bids were taking place right now. She was very amazed that it was taking place without her knowing. I spoke with her personally. Mr. Gunter: I did, too, and I have an e-mail from her and she apologized noting "It was my mistake."

Fred Smith: I have a number of towns with which I have contracts through Purvis which end in 2018. I have made arrangements with Purvis and she agreed, that I would be picking up the Northwood assessing. She was agreeable to this and I think she simply forgot.

Chair Wolf: Personally, I think this should be rebid. Mr. Gunter: It is up to the Board. We can rebid it and put it back out there. What we got is the average amount of proposals. (He related the various towns pertaining to responses.) Chair Wolf: I have spoken to the town administrator before and asked him what was going on and evidentially, he knew the story and did not come clean with me. He knew that Fred was bidding on it personally. Mr. Gunter: This was the first I realized it. Chair Wolf: This gives me a bad feeling, Joe. It gives me a horrible feeling and I do not like it. Mr. Gunter: Rick, this has nothing to do with me. Fred Smith: I made it very clear that the proposal is in my name and not in the company name. Chair Wolf: I am shocked about this and if you take offense, that is alright. I am entitled to my opinion as you are. Fred Smith: And, I am entitled to the truth. Chair Wolf: I do not care whether it is true or untrue. Fred Smith: Obviously not. To rebid it after there are two



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companies that submitted bids which is an average number of receipts, is really unfair to those two companies. Chair Wolf: It is our choice.

Selectman Bryer: When does our current assessing contract end? Mr. Gunter: At the end of this year. Does the board want me to put this back out? Selectman Bryer: I am not saying there is anything wrong, but there is a concern from other members of the Board that they would like to rebid it. Selectman Hodgdon: There are two bids here, was the other party invited to speak on their behalf? Chair Wolf: How come they did not come tonight? Mr. Gunter: Anyone is allowed to come and sit in the audience, but none of the them were invited. This information is on the agenda. It is up to them not to me to take the initiative to be here. Selectman Bryer: There are two bids here and I would tell you that it does not behoove us to go out to bid; you might get one or two bids or none. I understand that the process might be a little confusing.

Board further discussed whether to rebid, the use of an assessing company that would be new to the town or to choose a definite bid tonight.

**Selectman Bryer motion to approve Cross Country Assessing Services contract.
Selectman Hodgdon seconded motion.**

Selectman Bryer: It is alright if you still want to send it out to be rebid but at some point, we are going to have to decide. Selectman Hodgdon: This assessor is all set with DRA? Mr. Gunter: DRA would like to review the contract just to make sure that it is okay. You can choose this company but DRA has requested that they review it first before it is actually executed. Board agreed that both companies are qualified and though there are no issues with Purvis but rather a matter of after so many years with one company, perhaps a "fresh set of eyes" would be beneficial.

Motion carried 3/0.

New Business

Acceptance of Minutes None

Process Various Assessing Forms and Applications

Selectman Hodgdon motion to approve application for reimbursement for forest land of 8/1/17. Selectman Bryer second Motion.

Selectman Hodgdon: We have two State properties- Northwood Meadow State Park and Woodman State Park. Northwood Meadows has 552 acres and the other has 52. They give you a value per acre, total assess that after which DRA determines how much we get. They give us a set amount by statute. Mr. Gunter: There is never a solid dollar amount



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Motion carries 3/0.

Roll Call:

Selectman Bryer – Yes

Chairman Wolf – Yes

Selectman Hodgdon – Yes

Selectman Hodgdon motion to approve tax relief for Tax Map 118, Lot 2-1, 30 Old Woods Rd of \$430 which is the 10% current use penalty. Selectman Bryer seconded motion. Carried 3/0.

Selectman Hodgdon motion to approve tax relief for Tax Map 224, Lot 33, 139 Blakes Hill Road for \$5,800 which is the 10% current use penalty tax. Selectman Bryer seconded motion. Carried 3/0.

Approval of Manifests

Selectman Hodgdon motion to approve payroll manifest V2017, #16 in the amount of \$571.91. Selectman Bryer second motion.

Board requested information as to whether this is something that has been straightened out for payroll errors. Mr. Gunter: I think this matter is now pretty cleaned up. Chair Wolf: If this keeps up, the best thing for us to do is put in a timeclock and then this will cut it all out. They punch the timeclock when they come in and when they leave and then there is no question. However, we do it, it is better than adding their own hours. Selectman Bryer: The State does not have the best system but is there any way that we can create a template that would require them to put in their time such as in military time. Even if you put a clock system in, the Police Commissioner could say that they do not want this. Selectman Hodgdon: I do not think that there is a dispute that they are working the hours but rather they are just not getting them down properly. Chair Wolf: No, we are not disputing the hours but what type of hours they are working. This showed up in our current audit. We need to come up with a way to fix it.

Mr. Gunter: This discussion is way beyond the fact that we have already fixed this. The packets four months ago would reveal that it is in much better condition now than it was. Chair Wolf: We should not be put out just because they cannot keep track of their own time. What is going on is inexcusable. Mr. Gunter: We have taken extraordinary care in approving the payroll.

Motion carried 3/0.

Approval of Purchase Orders: None



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Miscellaneous Signatures/Approvals

Credit Approval: Mr. Gunter: This is a credit application for a company in Maine that sells sander equipment. The one in Concord folded and went out of business. We need to find a place for parts. We are not buying anything. Chair Wolf: Why do we have to go into Maine; there are plenty of companies in NH. Selectman Bryer: This is to buy plow equipment. Chair Wolf: There's a guy in Rye and other places as well as a guy in town. Why are we going into Maine to buy parts? Mr. Gunter: The road agent said he could not find the parts for the sander that he needed anywhere else. This was the closest one that he could get his parts from. Selectman Bryer: This is for a credit card – who holds the credit card? Mr. Gunter: This is not a credit card. This is so they can order parts and get them right away on a credit basis.

Selectman Bryer motion to allow Chair Rick Wolf to sign on behalf of the town for this company. Selectman Hodgdon second motion. Motion carried 3/0.

Pavilion Construction: Mr. Gunter: Rick and I talked to the builder the other day. Rick, how did you feel about that? Chair Wolf: He is going to anchor to lolly columns and go down four or five feet. Selectman Hodgdon: Are you comfortable with that. Chair Wolf: That is the way to do it. Mr. Gunter: The BOS chose the area by the upper fields on the right. Chair Wolf: I think there is a better way to do it but for the money, I am not going to cause a “stink” about it. I think the base should have a 2 x 2 base on the bottom instead of just a sauna tube. The difference is when you bury them in the ground, you have something they can hold them. That's all I have to say on this. Selectman Bryer: Was it done this way because of the price or is that just the way they build them? Chair Wolf: That is the way they do it. To do it differently, it would cost probably a \$1K more. I am not going to hold the project up if you guys are comfortable.

Selectman Bryer motion to allow Chair Rick Wolf to execute the contract to construct the pavilion. Selectman Hodgdon seconded motion.

Mr. Gunter: Concerning completion date, it needs to be done this year or we will lose the grant money. We need to coordinate with them to grade the land and then Charlie Pease will use the backhoe to do a little bit of trenching.

Motion carried 3/0.

Playground: Selectman Hodgdon: I received the picture from the Rec Department but I could not decipher anything in the picture. Black and white does not print very well. I couldn't tell what they were trying to describe there. This is about the playground. Wouldn't it be more beneficial to put the playground in the site line with the pavilion because parents can be there instead of at the playground. This is just my opinion.



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Chair Wolf: We have already started the playground in this area, and there are already pieces there. If they want to move the box and keep going. Selectman Hodgdon: We already voted on it but should the pavilion be near the playground? Chair Wolf: I did not have any choice in this matter. This playground already has some equipment on it. Selectman Hodgdon: It doesn't mean that the playground has to be near the pavilion. I am sorry I brought that point up. I just thought it made sense. Chair Wolf: I understand where you are coming from. We can vote to change this and if they want to reconsider it.

Mr. Gunter: I think there was some concerns about where the pavilion was actually placed. I have received some comments as to why we were putting it there. Selectman Bryer: I actually like where it is going though there is an issue with the landowner next door. I am not saying that we can't build it there because of that. Chair Wolf: We cannot make everybody happy.

Selectman Hodgdon motion to allow Rec Committee to place the playground in the area that they have suggested at the Route 4 ballfields. Selectman Bryer seconded motion.

Chair Wolf: I have only thing to say if we were to have the prisoners set it up. We need to make sure that this is done in the right manner so that it does not end up tipping over and hurting a child. There has to be a good concrete base to hold this equipment upright so that nobody gets hurt. Maybe the Fire Department plays a role in that or Dale or somebody.

Motion carried 3/0.

Letter from Mr. Hadley: Mr. Gunter: This is the letter from Mr. Hadley for you to sign and send to Ms. Yvonne Dean-Bailey if you so choose. (Letter read into the Minutes a letter establishing a commission to find solutions to reduce property taxes.)

Selectman Bryer: I would like to stay out of this. If a constituent of hers wants to introduce a bill like this, that's fine. I am just going to remain neutral on this. It costs "X" number of dollars to run things, so if you reduce the property tax, the money is going to have to come from someplace else. Money never magically appears; it has to be derived from somewhere. If you reduce one tax, then the money has to come from someplace else or reduce spending. I am not saying that I am pro or against, I just do not want to go that way.

Fire Truck: Mr. Gunter: There were some questions about the add-ons. Selectman Hodgdon: Regarding the add-ons, I am not for or against but shouldn't we make sure that there are not going to be any additional things that we may stumble across before we start adding other items. If something happens and we have to use the funds for



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that, if we have spent the money for add-ons, then we will not have any additional monies. Selectman Bryer: I think if you read the contract it is included. I am not opposed to purchasing a new jaws of life, but after discussing with Nick last weekend, I explained that if he could provide documentation that the jaws of life might fail, I would be agreeable with getting a new one. I just wanted to see if that was included in the original proposal. Chair Wolf: I understand that now as I did the last time you said it. My only concern is that we are not taking money by adding extras at that point. I did not want to put lights on the truck and not be able to do the jaws after that. I would think it would be better to do the jaws, rather than the extras.

Chief Bassett: When we put the truck out to bid, there were a few things we said we did not need. The hose bed cover is probably the biggest extra that we could use just because it protects the hose from the sun and the weather. Lights we have and that is why I did not push for that. Chief Wolf: From my prospective, I would rather see a citizen's life saved or a child's life saved. I would rather have the right set of jaws. Selectman Hodgdon: If we were to go with the jaws, are you saying we cannot get any of the extras or are there still some that we could get that you would prefer. Chief Bassett: I think over all the extras, I would prefer we get the jaws of life. Quite frankly, Joe and I have been working together to try and have enough money just for the jaws of life because this company is more. I guess now there is a \$2K bond. Selectman Bryer: We wanted a surety bond in case something happened. Chief Bassett: If you are going to need to post a bond, then that is going to increase my cost by "X" amount of dollars. Selectman Hodgdon: How far away are we from getting the jaws of life. Mr. Gunter: The difference is \$1,317. Chair Wolf: I think we can come up with that; it is very important. Selectman Hodgdon: Do you think you could get that out of your budget? Chief Bassett: Possibly. Chief Bassett explained that he had previously thought they would have enough for the jaws of life which was presented via brochure information. There is no breakdown as to what was allocated for the truck. I have talked to the budget committee members about it. Selectman Bryer: You got a legal opinion on this, right. Chief Bassett: I have two opinions on this.

**Selectman Bryer motion to go into non-public per RSA 91-A:3, II (A) & (D).
Selectman Hodgdon seconded motion. Motion carried 3/0.**

Roll Call:

**Selectman Bryer – Yes
Selectman Hodgdon – Yes Chair
Rick Wolf – Yes**

Board went into non-public session at 7:52 P.M.

Selectman Bryer motion to come out of non-public session. Selectman Hodgdon seconded motion. Motion Carried 3/0.



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Roll Call:

Selectman Bryer – Yes
Selectman Hodgdon – Yes
Chair Rick Wolf – Yes

Board returned to public session at 8:40 P.M.

Selectman Bryer motion to seal non-public session minutes. Selectman Hodgdon seconded motion. Motion carried 3/0.

Roll Call:

Selectman Bryer – Yes
Selectman Hodgdon – Yes
Chair Rick Wolf – Yes

Resignation:

Selectman Hodgdon: motion to accept resignation Matthew Woodbury from Fire Department with regret. Selectman Bryer seconded motion. Motion carried 3/0.

Selectman Hodgdon: In his letter he was asked to stay on in a part-time manner. He is not a resident. Selectman Bryer: Let him move on. I say give him some time to see if he can help us, then we can decide differently. Obviously, we will have to fill his position, the question is do we have room in the budget to do this? Chair Wolf: The best way to leave it is to see if he can make the commitment. Selectman Bryer: I would leave it up to the fire chief's discretion.

Fire Truck: Selectman Bryer: After reviewing some correspondence with legal, I am willing to move forward with the fire truck as long as the money is there to get done what needs to get done. My main concern is getting the fire truck fully equipped and primary need is getting the fire truck complete. Whatever you guys want to do for a motion. Right now, we are going forward with that company. Selectman Bryer: After we do that, these jaws of life that are going to be on the truck, is there going to be enough money left over to do that? Chair Wolf: You cannot use monies that have already been appropriated for use of these other things. Mr. Gunter: You cannot overspend the warrant. Selectman Hodgdon: How are we going to do that? Selectman Hodgdon: What if we paid for the bond out of something else. Mr. Gunter: I talked to Walter Mitchell on that and he said that goes towards overhead and becomes part of the bill. It has to come out of the warrant. Chair Wolf: When we sell the old truck that goes back to the general fund. Selectman Bryer: Perhaps the Fire Association could make a donation of \$2K to pay for the difference. Selectman Hodgdon: My advice would be to hold off on the jaws for a while.



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Chief Bassett: I have done a little research with Joe about filling the position. I feel the Fire Department is missing is a full timer. As you know, the full timers are all capable of handling their positions but I think we should have somebody in there in some type of leadership role. I am not saying anyone that is in there now but I am suggesting a line officer which is considered to be a captain or a lieutenant to help not only me, but to help supervise these guys allowing a little bit more manageability. They would be a firefighter but have manager responsibilities reporting directly to me. They would be responsible for several additional tasks. Obviously, it is going to cost more money once you add a title to the position. The best person for this job would be a paramedic because they could oversee all the medical aspects. Selectman Bryer: I'm okay with paying that position more. You have the money in your budget, right. Chief Bassett: Joe and I would have to look closely and it would depend on their qualifications. Mr. Gunter: I need to get some additional information on that. Chief Bassett requested whether to post it. Board continued to discuss the pay scales for the position as well as the budget aspects and scheduling needs.

Chief Bassett: Just so you know, Engine 3 just went to Burgess today for an inspection as well as a lack of power. We thought it might be an issue with a turbo but luckily it was only the filter for the turbo which was not allowing enough air to process through. Hopefully it will be fixed by tomorrow.

Library: Mr. Gunter: I have to let you know that Library is having a Pied Piper of Hamlin summer reading program. There is a swim to save Bennett Island leaving from Bennett Bridge Beach. They have their permit and a map for the Board of Selectman. This has already been approved by the State.

Mr. Gunter: Looking at the plans, the retaining wall that goes from the parking lot to the beach originally had a three-foot gap for drainage. The selectmen did not want that and they are going to shrink that down to a foot which is as tight as they can do it to allow drainage through there. They are going to fill it with stone and there is a pipe that goes through there to allow drainage. There is going to be a gap but it needs to be there. Chair Wolf: The only place where it might be a problem is the stairs going down if it is going to run all the way across there. Selectman Hodgdon: Are you saying you come down the stairs and there is going to be a like a trench. Mr. Gunter: No, it is going to be filled with stones. Chair Wolf: It is going to be in front of the stairs. Mr. Gunter: There is not going to be a safety concern with these stairs. We will make sure. Chair Wolf: I was hoping that we could pave the little part by the stairs. Mr. Gunter: The stairs will be in the middle of the parking lot. Is that okay with the BOS? Chair Wolf: I think it is a good idea. Mr. Gunter: The construction on this plan specifically says they are moving the logs from underneath the parking lot which we talked about. He is saying he is going to support it. They made some tweaks to the ramp itself. It is going to be 12 ft. wide instead of 10 ft. The ramp, this is because of the type of permit, is going to be 20 ft. into the water not 50 because if



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they dredge out that much it would require a higher level of permit. Selectman Hodgdon: Is that going to make it cheaper for doing a shorter ramp? Mr. Gunter: On the excavation side, it may make a difference. Total length of the ramp is about 55 ft. and we are increasing the depths at the lowest point by four feet. This has been approved by the State but I wanted to let the Board of Selectman know.

Selection Bryer motion to allow Chair Wolf to sign all these documents on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Hodgdon seconded motion. Motion carried 3/0.

Reports:

Town Administrator's Report

None.

Individual Selectman's Reports

Chair Wolf: On Tasker Road, we have a hole in the road that is a couple inches deep and which should be repaired. The hole needs to be filled in as soon as possible. Mr. Gunter: Will have them do it tomorrow.

Chair Wolf: We got our backhoe fixed – right. Mr. Gunter: We did. Chair Wolf: We are still ditching with a bucket and I think continued use with that is going to cause more damage with the machine because of the age. I am concerned about that.

Selectman Hodgdon: I thought we bid it out. My question is the guy doing it and if he is not doing it, then why? Mr. Gunter: I know the contractor was a little bit busy and the highway department needed to get the ditches dug. It was a time constraint.

Chair Wolf: I am just afraid that by digging a lot with that front bucket, the next thing we are going to need is a transmission. Mr. Gunter: It is the only thing that will get it done. They cannot use the big bucket. Selectman Hodgdon: They should be using the rear bucket. Mr. Gunter: That is what they are doing. I'll ask about the ditching and what's up.

Adjournment

Selectman Bryer motion to adjourn meeting. Selectman Hodgdon seconded motion. Motion carried 3/0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Delores Fritz
Municipal Secretary