

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 17, 2012
Town Hall 6:30pm

Chr. O'Reilly called the meeting to order at 6:30pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Chairman Jack O'Reilly, Selectmen Rick Stern and Jan Stuart; Library Trustees Steve Bush, Granville Knox, Melissa Prefontaine, Fire Engineer John Klanchesser and AA Beatrice Marconi.

Minute Approval: The minutes of Sept 5, 2012 were tabled until the next meeting.

Manifest Approval: *S. Stern moved to approve the manifest dated September 18 in the amount of \$84,145.18. Seconded by S. Stuart. Motion passed 3-0.*

Langdon Library Trustees Report: The Trustees wanted to keep the Selectmen informed of changes and progress as they continue to prepare for plans for a new addition and the reformation of their financial structure in relationship to the Trustees of the Trust fund and the Town. Mr. Bush stated that they have chosen an architect out of a field of 12 and asked the Selectmen their thoughts on having an attorney review the proposed contract. The Selectmen felt that was a good idea. The trustees will contact the AA for names and contact info. Regarding the new financial composition, they are looking at a start date of Jan 1, 2013. They go on to state that their policies and procedures have been reviewed, brought up to date and are in place. They are currently reviewing bookkeeping and financial controls and will soon be in place. They are anticipating the first check from the town on January 1, 2013, however the Board informed them that it would come as early January as possible. They will be submitting a warrant article as after researching years worth of town reports, to accept gifts and donations, it has to be voted on by the town for them to do so on the Library's behalf. Melissa went on to briefly discuss the trust fund situation and history of interest paid. In her research, she found a number of actions by the town in the past (no malice intended at the time) that have been deemed illegal. They are in the process of correcting some procedures and curing errors from the past, but will need legal assistance. In an effort to save costs, the trustees have done thousands of dollars worth of research to turn over to legal counsel. What they hope to attain from the Selectmen is their support to go forward. She estimates that the legal costs could be approximately \$10,000. S. Stern asked if the Trustees of the Trust fund past actions from years gone by could be part of the 'curing' process. Melissa answered yes, but clearly understand that any actions from the past from the Town, trustees, etc...were never done with malice intent. They acted to the best of their knowledge, and overtime, the regulations have changed.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner: Chr. O'Reilly stated that it is planned for Thursday, October 25

Blinds in Selectmen's Office: 2 proposals. Rte One Carpet \$ 263.15 and Affordable Blinds \$ 265 verbal. *S. Stuart moved to accept the Rte One Carpet Proposal not to exceed \$ 263.15. S. Stern seconded. Motion passed 3-0.*

Electrical Inspector: *S. Stern moved to appoint Michael Regan as Electrical Inspector upon receipt of the resignation letter from Maldini. S. Stuart seconded. Motion passed 3-0.* (approx. mid Oct)

Flag Viewer: The Board felt the Flag Viewer, who will be responsible for coordinating the flying height for the flags by the War memorial in the Historic District and Town Hall could be established. The Police Dept pole is locked and they adjust their own flag. The Fire Dept does their own flag too, but if the Viewer sees that they are not flying at the correct height, he/she can notify them. *S. Stuart moved to create a Flag Viewer position for the period between October 1, 2012 and October 1, 2013 and to appoint Mr. David Sweeney to said position. S. Stern seconded. Motion passed 3-0.* The AA will do up an appointment.

Conflict of Interest: In a note from FX Bruton, he informed the Selectmen that he has represented Cumberland Farms for a period of time and with him performing work on the Town's behalf, he wanted to know if the Selectmen felt an upcoming issue would be a conflict. S. Stern felt the Town should get 3rd party legal advice on this. An attorney will be contacted.

Bike Path Survey: Planner Morgan suggested the Selectmen get a survey done of Nimble Hill Road to determine the Town's actual boundaries. S. Stuart feels this will be beneficial for all uses and needs. ***S. Stern moved for Knight Hill to provide a proposal to the town from Town Hall to Shattuck Way. S. Stuart seconded. Motion passed 3-0.***

Disability Insurance: Davis and Towle has recommended that Newington consider switching our Disability Insurance carrier to another company as the carrier we have now has projected very large increases for 2013. The AA was asked to contact Davis & Towle to get a list of reference users for the potential new carrier.

Facility Use Requests:

Piscataqua River Brass TH Sept 16,23,30 Oct 21 and Nov 18 6pm-8pm

OTH Nov 4 dep/fee waived

Active Retirement Assoc – Sept 26 & Oct 3 - 50 to 70 people – Town Hall dep/fee waived

Seacoast Mother's Assoc-N Haberstroh OTH 2nd fl/Kit – Oct 20 - 40 to attend fee only waived

Portsmouth Symphony – Sept 27 – DeRochmont Rm 6:30pm dep/fee waived

The above requests were approved (*Chr. O'Reilly abstained on the vote for Piscataqua River Brass and Portsmouth Symphony*)

Clicker Requests: Paula Cecada, Bernard Christopher – both approved for 1 each 3-0 vote.

Changing Sign-on Password on each TH Computer: The Board signed a memo to go out to each person who has a sign on with the Computers at Town Hall asking everyone to change their passwords and reminded them not to share it with anyone. The AA will put a 'to do by' date in the memo. Regarding each person forwarding their new passwords in a sealed envelope to be contained in a lock box, S. Stern did not feel that was necessary. Selectmen decided to forgo this part of the request.

Shattuck Way: J. Klanchesser asked if this was a shim or top coat. S. Stern it was currently a shim coat until the manholes were adjusted however, a top coat was coming. John when on to comment about the truckers speeding. S. Stuart suggested a request to the Police Dept to patrol may be in order and she will contact Chief Tretter with Mr. Klanchesser's concern.

Fire Station Electrical Box: John Klanchesser also requested that our bldg. inspector make arrangements for an electrical inspection at the Fire Station as when the compressor starts, you hear noises coming from the box. The AA was asked to speak to Mr. Stowell to have our inspector look into this.

New Business – Noise complaint: Mrs. Mills is still quite upset about the rapid gun fire she hears from her house. She does understand that the Selectmen reviewed this extensively last year. Chr. O'Reilly consulted with the Police Dept who visited the property and reviewed the area in which was being utilized for shooting. RSA 159-26 prohibits any regulation of guns and gun fire and knives, etc other than by the State. S. Stern asked that the AA send a copy of this RSA to Mrs. Mills.

Town Hall Computer Company: S. Stern stated that Portsmouth Computer charges \$200 per month to monitor the server. He'd like to work with P. Computer on this issue further (price). Regarding the purchasing of a new server, S. Stern felt that if P. Computer will be our computer company then an estimate for the costs should come from them. (unit and transfer of documents and set up). S. Stern went on to say that 24/7 monitoring of server will be a benefit and reduce service calls as they will know of problems as they happen. Plus, the cost of monitoring covers costs to repair. Chr. O'Reilly felt 90 days was a good test period for P. Computer which would bring us to the end of the year. However, S. Stern said that the town would have 90 days to alter the components of the 1 year contract. S. Stuart had reservations in the past with 1 person doing the work as if something happened to that person, we may then be out on a limb. S. Stern will also proceed with getting information on the purchase of a lap top and will report back. S. Stern will bring the info back to the Board. ***S. Stuart moved for S. Stern to negotiate a maintenance contract and will get a server cost and transfer costs. Chr. O'Reilly seconded. Motion passed 3-0.***

The Board briefly discussed the filing notices to Superior Court of various utilities. Chr. O'Reilly wanted to be sure all 3 members were aware. No details discussed therefore no need for non public.

Water Line under Spaulding Bridge: S. Stern spoke briefly about the water line under the bridge and his attempts to communicate with Jim Hersey of the DOT.

At 8:07pm the meeting adjourned with no objections.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beatrice Marconi
Administrative Assistant