

**Newington Board of Selectmen
Meeting**

**January 17, 2005
Newington Town Hall
6:00 p.m.**

In attendance: Selectman Jack O'Reilly, Selectman Cos Iocovozzi, Fire Chief Roy Greenleaf, Board of Fire Engineers Leslie Brock, Wilbur Goins, Stephen Sabine, Town Planner Tom Morgan, James Teetzel President, CEO Wilcox Industries and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Gillespie, Helen Frink and John Frink,

Not in attendance: Chairman Jan Stuart

6:00 PM – *Call to Order*

Pledge of Allegiance

Miscellaneous

Dana Truslow of Seacoast Land Trust did not attend this meeting. Discussion on the Trickey Cove agreement was tabled.

Helen and John Frink asked the Board of Selectmen about the status of the Conservation Agreement between the Town and the Frink family. Selectman O'Reilly said that because the amount of the purchase price had been change, the Board felt that it was important that the Town's people be made aware of the change. Helen Frink stated that the Warrant allows the Town to Bond up to \$500,000. Selectman O'Reilly stated that in addition to the Warrant a flyer was sent out to all the residents stating that the most the Town expects to contribute would be \$300,000. The Board understood that the reason the Town had to Bond up to the \$500,000 was to show good faith to the Federal Government. (This was explained to the Town on the Town Meeting Floor.) He stressed that the Board feels the Town needs to know the amount is more than what was agreed upon two years ago. AA Gillespie was instructed to write a letter to the Town's and the Frinks' attorneys, the Rockingham County Conservation Commission, and Town's Conservation Commission saying that based on what the Townspeople voted on in 2003 and because the amount of the purchase is now \$122,500 more than the original agreement, the Board of Selectman feel it is important to take the issue back to the Towns' people for clarification.

6:34 PM – Selectman Iocovozzi opened the Public Hearing

The purpose of this Public Hearing is to consider the acquisition of land pursuant to NH RSA 41:14-a. The subject property is presently owned by Matrix Financial Group, and is situated at 25 Piscataqua Drive, Tax Map 27, Lot 22. The purpose of the land acquisition is to enable the extension of Shattuck Way southerly toward Portsmouth. A plan of the location of the 60-foot wide strip proposed for the acquisition was presented to the Board by James W. Teetzel, President, CEO of Wilcox Industries. Wilcox Industries are currently under agreement to purchase the property from Matrix Financial Group. Selectman O'Reilly asked if there was any discussion. Fire Chief Greenleaf reviewed the plan and stated it would be beneficial for egress and access if Wilcox had

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more than one way in and out of the parking lot. Mr. Teetzel said he was agreeable to taking out three or four parking spaces to accommodate a second curb cut. Selectman Iocovozzi said that would be something to present to the Planning Board when the road extension is built. There was also discussion on the addition of water hydrants. There being no further questions the Public Hearing was closed by Selectman Iocovozzi at 6:42 p.m.

The Treasurer's Report for November 2004 was reviewed and accepted.

Selectman O'Reilly made the motion to accept the minutes of December 27, 2004 and January 3, 2005. Seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 2-0.

Budget Review

Fire Chief Roy Greenleaf presented the Fire Department Budget of \$918,018.00 to the Board. Selectman O'Reilly noted that the budget has an increase of 19.7% and that most of it is in salaries and benefits. Chief Greenleaf said that last year's budget reflected half a year on the two new positions. This year he is budgeting the full year. Selectman O'Reilly asked about the increase in the uniform line and the training expense line. Selectman O'Reilly stated that he was concerned because there was a lot of money spent during 2004 on firefighters that have left. Chief Greenleaf said that the \$5000 was for uniform allowance for 10 guys at \$500 each. The remaining increase in uniform expense was for Class A uniforms for the Fire Fighters for Lt. Christopher DeWolf's funeral. This is a one time necessary expense. Chief Greenleaf said that the cost of classes and instructors has increased this year along with the costs of mileage, food and hotels. Selectman O'Reilly asked if the Chief is working on establishing a hiring contract for new recruits in order to recoup some of the expense of training if they leave. The Chief stated that the last recruit he hired was already trained, however he does have a hiring contract he will be using on future hires. Selectman Iocovozzi asked about public education. Chief Greenleaf said that he decreased that line because there is still informational material at the Fire Department that they can use. Selectman O'Reilly asked about the Dues and Subscriptions line, more specifically the Rotary dues. Chief Greenleaf responded that it is networking and getting to know other business people in the seacoast area. Selectman O'Reilly asked the Board of Fire Engineer if they thought it was worth belonging to. Leslie Brock asked how much the membership cost. Chief Greenleaf said \$240 per year. Stephen Sabine said he felt it was good PR. Selectman O'Reilly asked about the increase in Fire Equipment expense. Chief Greenleaf explained that the department needs three new Knox boxes for the engines totaling \$6,000. Knox box allows entrance to all the businesses in the area. The only way to get into the Knox box is with a special code. If any of the Fire Fighter's loses their key for the box, they will be suspended for one week with no pay. Chief Greenleaf added that he also wishes spend \$4000 on new mobile lockers to replace the old wooden ones. The mobile lockers will hold the gear and allows for ventilation. He also is planning on purchasing lockers for the bunk rooms totaling \$900. Selectman Iocovozzi asked if there is any way to decrease the budget 4 or 5%. Chief said that would be a \$40,000 decrease

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which is just not possible. He added to drop the budget that much he would have to lay a guy off. Selectman Iocovozzi stated the department was already short on help. There was discussion on the painting the interior of the Station and the need to replace to Bay Floors. There was also discussion on the amounts needed to be placed in the Capital Reserve Funds this year. Selectman O'Reilly made the motion to recommend the Fire Department Budget of \$918,018 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 2-0.

Town Hall Use

A Town Hall Use form for Thermo Electron for a January 21st event was approved and signed.

A Town Hall Use form fro Gail Pare for a January 22nd Memorial for Norman Myers was approved and signed.

7:20 PM - Non-Public in accordance with RSA 91A:3, II Personnel

7:49 – Non-Public Adjournment. No Votes were taken.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was:

Adjourn 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Gillespie
Administrative Assistant