Town of Newington, NH

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 1, 2014 Town Hall 6:30pm

Chair Jan Stuart called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm

**Present:** Chair Jan Stuart, Selectman Rick Stern, Selectman Cosmas Iocovozzi, Police Chief Jon Tretter, Fire Chief Andy Head, Sewer Commission members: Chair George Fletcher, Skip Cole; Conservation Commission Chair, Jane Hislop and member Jim Weiner; Library Trustees Chair Melissa Prefontaine, Steve Bush, Gup Knox, Jack O’Reilly, D. Moulton, Recreation Committee member, L. Thomas, Road Agent and Martha Roy, Town Administrator.

**R. Stern moved to delay charging the school and library for snow plowing until their respective fiscal years began. This was seconded by C. Iocovozzi, with all in favor.**

**Emergency Management Budget:** J. Stuart asked that the Executive Assistant wages be listed as something other than a stipend as this has not been approved by Town Meeting. Chief Tretter has a salary in mind and J. Stuart stated that was fine with her. The Board wanted funds to be placed in the budget for the Town Hall serving as a shelter. The Chiefs will modify the budget. C. Iocovozzi thought that it should be listed under wages. R. Stern suggested $1,000 is placed under “shelter wages”. **C. Iocovozzi moved to approve the Emergency Management budget of $15,421. R. Stern seconded the motion with all in favor.**

The Fire Chief discussed the proposal of Santa riding through town on Sunday, December 21st. The Board consensus was to allow this. A notice will be placed on the Town sign.

**Sewer Commission:** G. Fletcher and S. Cole presented the budget to the Board. They explained that the engineers are in the design phase for the Sewer Plant upgrade. They do not anticipate going out to bid for the construction until next fall. No principle or interest payments are necessary in 2015. **C. Iocovozzi moved to approve the Sewer Commission budget of $813,367. R. Stern seconded the motion with all in favor.**

**Conservation Commission:** The Conservation Commission members presented their budget to the Board. The Beautification line is primarily for the Pocket gardens in town. There is a need for large rock to be placed in the Library Rain garden. This would be the only expense from Conservation. J. O’Reilly stated that he is aware of 10 rain garden grants by the Great Bay Stewards. He will research more and get back to the Board on availability of funds to finish Library Rain garden. C. Iocovozzi thought that there should be a maintenance contract in place. The amount listed in their wages expense line was noted as not all expended. M. Roy will check the recording secretary’s wages and make sure they are allocated correctly. J. Stuart expressed thanks for the budget decrease of 13% proposed in 2015. **C. Iocovozzi motioned to approve the Conservation Commission budget of $13,426. R. Stern seconded the motion with all in favor.**

**Library Budget:** M. Prefontaine reviewed the need to realign staff to meet the needs of the library. The Librarian position will become hourly in 2015. She explained that $4,000 will be direct deposited for retirement as of January 1st, per his contract. The library will be saving money by having more part time employees. J. Stuart stated that the Library Trustees have done a great job in decreasing their budget. G. Knox discussed the need to untangle all the trust funds. The Trustees explained that this will be brought to Town Meeting for action. **C.** **Iocovozzi moved to approve the 2015 Library budget of $181,290. R. Stern seconded the motion with all in favor.**

**Planning Board Budget:** Discussion regarding Coast bus was held. J. Stuart was concerned about carrying the cost load for other towns. She understood many towns were not funding the service. D. Hebert stated that the Town should support the businesses and industries by partially funding the bus service. Years ago at a Town Meeting the funding was approved in a warrant article.

C. Iocovozzi suggested that the Board consider making it a warrant article for Town Meeting. **C. Iocovozzi moved to approve the Planning Board’s budget of $151,101 for 2015. J. Stuart seconded the motion. 2 in favor and 1 opposed.** [This did not include the COAST bus funding]Denis continued the discussion about the warrantarticle for the Town Meeting. M. Roy and Tom Morgan, Town Planner, will work on the draft.

**Recreation Committee Budget:** The Summer YMCA Program had $8,000 left in the budget due to utilizing an unpaid intern. D. Moulton stated that the new grills purchased this year are working out very well. Playground equipment and school tennis courts will need maintenance in 2015. Bridges on the trails are needed. **R. Stern moved to approve the Recreation Commission’s budget of $51,050. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion with all in favor.**

**Denis asked the Board to put $30,000 for PSNH electrical line development concerns in the legal line.**

**Transfer Station Budget:** Tipping fees were discussed. M. Roy will review this budget and give the Board a new budget.

**Minutes Approval:** **R. Stern moved to approve the public and non public minutes of November 17th and 24th. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

**Manifest Approval:** **R. Stern moved to approve manifests for $20,882.05 dated 11/18/14 and $23,691.35 dated 11/25/14. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

**Highway Encumbrance:** **R. Stern moved to encumber $7,100 to sandblast, paint, and for unanticipated repairs for the 2007 International Plow truck.**

**C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

C. Iocovozzi discussed the importance of the light at the corner of Piscataqua and Woodbury Ave. being moved back 10 feet going northbound.

The Board would like L. Thomas to pave McIntyre Road in 2015 from the corner with Little Bay Road to the top of the hill.

C. Iocovozzi asked L. Thomas to call HOP and get a quote for a diesel steam cleaner/pressure washer.

**R. Stern moved to go into a nonpublic meeting at 8:49 pm. All were in favor on a roll call vote.**

The Board returned from nonpublic at 9:12pm.

**R. Stern moved to seal the nonpublic minutes indefinitely. This was seconded by C. Iocovozzi and all were in favor on a roll call vote.**

**Adjournment**: **R. Stern moved to adjourn at 9:12pm. J. Stuart seconded the motion with all in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha S. Roy

Town Administrator