

TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE  
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN

Minutes of Meeting October 25, 2011

Present: Randy Morrison, Steve Davis, Francis Muzzey, and Catherine Stover

Also Present: Chief Kevin Kay, Kenyon Karl, Palmer Koelb, Cynthia Campbell, Nicholas Campbell, Eric Merluzzi, Drew Merluzzi, Donna King

Francis made a motion to open the meeting at 6:06 pm, seconded by Steve and approved. Randy not present.

Selectmen discussed the transfer of monies into the capital reserve, and checks written for the return of inventory penalties.

Selectmen reviewed &/or signed the following:

- Highway requisitions and summary of upcoming events
- Quitclaim Deeds for Moulton M/L 08-03-09, Sackett, M/L 11-06-2A, Laauwe M/L 08-03-7B
- Notice of Intent for Leiter, OP# 11-475-16, M/L 02-01-02
- Notice of Intent for Swainbrook Campground, OP# 11-475-17, M/L 02-01-01
- Preliminary Estimate regarding Evans Bridge – Bridge Aid from DOT

Donna King addressed the selectmen regarding the updated agreement with Avitar allowing the tax collector to move forward in setting up the ability for residents to pay property taxes with credit cards. Previously Avitar had contracted with Govolution for services, and have since cancelled their contract with Govolution and are now using Invoice Cloud. Steve was willing to update the authorization, Francis refused to sign. Donna stated that she would prefer to bring her issues before the board when all 3 Selectmen are present.

Chief Kay gave the Selectmen a status update. The cruiser is back from Grappone, the window and power steering have been fixed. Snow tires will need to be swapped in the near future. Chief Kay told the Selectmen that Plymouth State University has generously offered to the Police Department, a color laser printer for free including extra ink cartridges. He would like to publicly thank them. .

Chief Kay stated that we have had some more burglaries, and the New Hampshire State Police may have some leads. He stated that the Police Department strongly recommends that residents remember to lock doors.

Selectmen discussed the letter received from the DOT regarding the Updated Preliminary Estimate for Bridge Aid, dated 10-19-11. It states that the replacement of the bridge is currently eligible for the State Aid Bridge Program, with total project costs of \$668,000.00. Selectmen discussed the fact that although we are eligible for this amount, they do not anticipate expenses to be anywhere near this figure for the restoration of the Evans bridge.

Randy Morrison joined the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Francis discussed hours set aside for roadside mowing. Francis stated he had spoken with Bobby, and he authorized 20 hours, and told Bobby that if Randy approved an additional 20 hrs (total of 40) that Francis would support that as well. Randy stated that he did authorize 40 hours total. Randy stated that

the equipment is available for use, and George Wilkins, who has done roadside mowing for the town in the past will do the mowing.

Donna readdressed the Selectmen, as Randy was now present. She summarized her request that the Selectmen sign the authorization to move forward with the software to allow residents to pay their property taxes via credit card and online. Francis again stated his disapproval. Steve made a motion to approve the authorization, as it was previously authorized, seconded by Randy and approved.

Donna also asked for the Selectmen's input on increasing the dog license fees from \$6.50 to \$7.50 for altered dogs and from \$9.00 to \$10.00 unaltered. She also asked that they consider raising the penalty fee for those that do not register their dogs by the required deadline to be increased from \$25.00 to \$50.00. Steve said that he opposed to licensing increases, Randy stated that he would be in favor. Based on the votes, Francis chose to abstain from voting, and in the absence of a majority vote to change the rates, the rates will remain unchanged. After discussion, Steve said he would vote to increase the late penalties, but not the license fees. He stated that he would like to first check the RSA to see if the Town is able to vote on these 2 issues separately, or if they must be both voted on together.

Donna asked the Selectmen if they would like to use a new color for each year in regards to the transfer station stickers obtained when the resident registers their vehicle. Selectmen discussed about how many stickers are used each year, how many were left, and the pros and cons of using a new color. Francis stated that it was voted long ago that the Tax Collector shall give a sticker to the resident when they register. There will be no fee applied for the sticker. Donna stated she will handle the issue.

Francis discussed the updated utility values which have been assessed by the DRA. Francis made a motion that we accept DRA values, seconded by Steve and approved.

Selectmen discussed beginning to schedule budget workshops. Francis made a motion that we begin the budget workshops December 6<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday at 5:00 pm, and continue through the month of December, seconded by Randy and approved.

Board discussed storage of Selectmen's documents, as the vault is overcapacity. Francis mentioned the possibility of storing boxes in the vault at the doll house. Steve stated he prefers to have the cemetery documents stored there. They also discussed the need to clean out the vault at the doll house, as it contains items that can be given to a library or donated elsewhere such as some older law books. The Selectmen agreed to meet at the Doll house on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 am to clean out and invoice the contents. Also in need of review is documents and storage space at the old town hall.

Francis motioned at 7:20 pm to go into a Non-Public Meeting per **RSA 91-A:3, II(c)** – Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting, seconded by Randy and approved. No decisions were made

Randy motioned to come out of the Non-Public Meeting at 7:35 pm, seconded by Steve and approved.

Randy motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm, seconded by Steve and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Stover

Minutes accepted by \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_