

**DRAFT MINUTES
MINUTES**

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

JANUARY 17, 2012

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Robert Aldrich convened The Board at 7:00 pm in The Nowak Room of the Town Office Building. Other members of The Board present were Selectman Frank Ferraro, Selectman Matt Quandt, Selectwoman Julie Gilman, Selectman Don Clement and Mr. Russ Dean, Town Manager.

2. Public Comment - None

3. Minutes & Proclamations

A. Regular Session: December 5th, 2011, December 12th, 2011

Mr. Quandt moves to approve the December 5th, 2011 minutes as amended. Mr. Ferraro seconds. Vote: Unanimous. Motion Passes.

December 12, 2011 minutes. Mr. Thayer wishes to express that he does not represent the Budget Committee, his comments at the December 12, 2011 Selectman's Meeting were his personal opinions.

Mr. Quandt moves to approve the December 12th, 2011 minutes as amended. Ms. Gilman seconds. Vote: In Favor, Mr. Ferraro, Mr. Quandt, Ms. Gilman. Mr. Clement abstains. Motion Passes.

B. Regular Session: January 9th, 2011

4. Appointments - None

5. Department Reports - None

6. Discussion / Action Items

A. New Business

1. Budget and Bond Hearings FY 2012

Mr. Clement moves to open the Public Hearing on the 2012 Bond Articles. Mr. Quandt seconds. Vote: Unanimous.

Chairman Aldrich wishes to address each bond article separately beginning with Article 5. Chairman Aldrich reads the Article and asks for comments from The Board or the public. Mr. Bob Eastman, of Hampton Falls Road comes forward. He asks The Board if all Bond issues were posted in a local newspaper. Chairman Aldrich indicates they were. No further discussion regarding Article 5 ensues.

Article 6; Chairman Aldrich reads the Article and calls for comments from The Board or the public. Mr. Ferraro indicates the key aspect to this article will be the work performed on private property. He is concerned that the voters will not know exactly what they're voting for. Chairman Aldrich confirms the proposal was from DPW and Water and Sewer. The first \$1,000 will be the financial responsibility of the property owner, the remaining will be the financial responsibility of the Town of Exeter.

Mr. Clement clarifies that the cost to The Town of Exeter will only be to 5 feet from the foundation of the property owners dwelling. Anything inside 5 feet of the dwelling is the financial responsibility of the property owner. Mr. Quandt wonders if there is a cap to the expense and Mr. Clement responds that every property will be different. Chairman Aldrich calls upon (unknown man who did not introduce himself) to offer a projection of cost. (Unnamed man) believes the cost will vary depending on how far the dwelling is from the right of way. Mr. Ferraro suggests adding this topic to the agenda for next week. The Board asks (unnamed man) for a cost projection for the next meeting.

Article 7; Chairman Aldrich reads the Article and calls for comments from The Board or public. Don Woodward of Hemlock Street comes forward. The co-operative he lives in has been looking at putting \$72,000 out of a capital improvement fund to purchase water meters for the co-op. He asks if the specs of the meters are available so the co-op knows exactly what to purchase. Chairman Aldrich indicates the DPW has the specs and can answer his question definitively. Mr. Ferraro asks if this Article is eligible for debt forgiveness, since that is not noted in the Article itself as it has been in years past. Mr. Dean

indicates it is eligible. Of the \$600,000 the user impact in the first year is around \$10. On the advice of counsel the debt forgiveness numbers will not be added to the ballot this year. A short discussion ensues regarding the debt forgiveness numbers not added as a note to the ballot. Mr. Dean explains that the forgiveness is already approved. Mr. Clement reminds The Board The Town is obliged to raise and appropriate the entire amount. This Article would be a return on investment. The new meters would give a more accurate reading. Mike Jeffers, Water and Sewer Superintendent indicates the projected accuracy changes predicted by Weston Sampson is approximately 2%. \$74,815 per year will cover the payment. As the meters are mechanical and brand new, they will prove to be significantly more accurate than any older versions.

Article 8: Chairman Aldrich reads the Article and calls for comments from The Board or public. There is no comment.

Article 9: Chairman Aldrich reads the Article and calls for comments from The Board or public. There is no comment.

Mr. Quandt moves to close the public hearing on Bond Articles. Mr. Clement Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Quandt moves to recommend the bond Article 5. Ms. Gilman Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Clement moves to recommend the bond Article 6. Ms. Gilman Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Quandt moves to recommend the bond Article 7. Ms. Gilman Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Quandt moves to recommend the bond Article 8. Ms. Gilman Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Clement moves to recommend the bond Article 9. Mr. Quandt Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Quandt moves to open the public hearing for the general fund budget. Mr. Clement Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Chairman Aldrich presents several slides to break down the 2012 budget. He calls for comments from The Board or public. There is no comment.

Mr. Quandt moves to close the public hearing for the general fund budget. Mr. Clement Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Chairman Aldrich advises that the remaining warrant articles do not require a public hearing and calls for The Board to vote on each of them.

Article 12: Chairman Aldrich reads the Article and calls for comments from The Board.

Mr. Quandt moves to recommend Article 12. Mr. Clement Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Article 13: Chairman Aldrich reads the Article and calls for comments from The Board

Mr. Quandt moves to recommend Article 13. Mr. Ferraro Seconds. Vote: To recommend, Mr. Ferraro, Mr. Quandt and Ms. Gilman. Opposed; Mr. Clement. Motion Carries.

Article 14: Chairman Aldrich reads the Article and calls for comments from The Board.

Ms. Gilman Moves to recommend Article 14. Mr. Quandt Seconds.

A short discussion ensues relating to the verbiage of “hundred year” slate roof. Mr. Clement feels like the phrase should not be included in the Article. Mr. Ferraro agrees, and feels that the Article should end with ‘at Front Street.’ The Board agrees to amend the verbiage of the Article to read “To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ninety-nine thousand nine hundred dollars (\$99,900) for the purpose of replacing the slate roof on the Town owned building at 47 Front Street.”

Ms. Gilman amends her motion to reflect her move to recommend Article 14 with the new verbiage. Mr. Quandt Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Article 15: Chairman Aldrich reads the Article and calls for comments from The Board. Bob Eastman, Hampton Falls Road,

Exeter comes forward. He wonders if the Getty site has been declared a 'clean site?' Chairman Aldrich indicates a report from Getty has been received and he is comfortable with the findings. Mr. Ferraro reminds The Board that a DES file on the property is still open and another round of samples are to be taken in April. At the last recommendation from DES, the Benzene had spiked in the well and DES had recommended venting procedures. Mr. Quandt reminds The Board that they may recommend the Article and then decline the purchase in the future if the site cannot be defined as 'clean.' Mr. Eastman feels that Getty should be responsible for cleaning the site prior to the Town purchasing it.

Mr. Ferraro moves to recommend Article 15. Ms. Gilman Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Article 16: Chairman Aldrich reads the Article and calls for comments from The Board. There is no comment.

Mr. Quandt moves to recommend Article 16. Ms. Gilman Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Chairman Aldrich indicates there is no action required for Article 17 as it is a resident petition article.

Chairman Aldrich indicates there is no action required for Article 18 as it is a resident petition article.

B. Old Business - None

7. Regular Business

A. Bid Openings - None

B. A/P and Payroll Manifests

Mr. Ferraro moves to approve an accounts payable warrant for checks dated 1/13/2011 in the amount of \$426,282.72. Mr. Quandt seconds. Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Ferraro moves to approve an accounts payable warrant for checks dated 1/13/2011 in the amount of \$131,228.38. Mr. Quandt seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Ferraro moves to approve an accounts payable warrant for checks dated 1/13/2012 in the amount of \$47,543.99. Mr. Quandt seconds. Vote: Unanimous

Mr. Ferraro moves to approve a weekly payroll warrant for checks dated 1/11/2012 in the amount of \$153,338.62. Mr. Quandt seconds. Vote: Unanimous.

C. Budget Updates

Mr. Dean advises The Board that as of January 13, 2012 the fiscal year 2011 has closed. A year end report will be available closer to the end of January 2012.

D. Tax Abatements & Exemptions - None

E. Water/Sewer Abatements - None

F. Permits

Mr. Dean presents a permit request from New Hampshire Employment Security (NHES). The permit is for use of the Town Hall on February 9, 2012 for a job fair.

Mr. Quandt moves to approve the permit for use of the Town Hall February 9, 2012. Ms. Gilman Seconds. Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Ferraro asks if the organization moving to re-open the IOKA Theater has applied for a permit. As he recalls, the organization has an event scheduled for Wednesday, January 18th, and Saturday January 21st. Ms. Gilman informs The Board that these events will each be hosted by a Board or Committee currently in the Town of Exeter government. Mr. Dean advises that Town of Exeter Boards or Committee's do not require requests for permits.

G. Town Manager's Report

Mr. Dean has nothing new to report at this time.

H. Legislative Update

Mr. Quandt advises The Board that a session will begin tomorrow, January 18th at 10:00 a.m. It's likely that this session will include re-districting and an amendment on income tax.

I. Selectman's Committee Reports

Mr. Ferraro reports he was unable to attend the Planning or Water and Sewer meetings last week.

Mr. Quandt reports an upcoming Cable Committee meeting on Thursday January 19th.

Ms. Gilman reports a Heritage Committee meeting last week. The Committee has determined the small building on the Getty property has some value. The Committee has reached out to the National Association of Automobile Museums and some interest has been generated in having someone taking the building away.

Mr. Clement reports he missed the Water and Sewer Advisory Committee meeting last week. He has an upcoming River meeting Thursday, January 19th. He also reports a Great Bay Dialog meeting tomorrow January 18th.

Chairman Aldrich has nothing to report.

J. Correspondence - None

8. Review Board Calendar

The Board will meet on Monday, January 23rd with the possibility of a non-public session.

9. Non Public Session

10. Adjournment

Mr. Quandt moves to Adjourn. Ms. Gilman Seconds. Vote: Unanimous

The Board stands adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Pond
Recording Secretary