

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman Bob Eastman convened the Board at 7:00 PM in the Nowak Room of the Town Office and introduced other members of the Board: Ms. Julie Gilman, Mr. Lionel Ingram, Mr. Joe Pace, Mr. Bill Campbell and Mr. Russell Dean, Town Manager.

**2. Public Comment**

Mr. Mike Lambert is concerned about three items. He is upset about the current state of Channel 22. He states that he spoke with Sam Bruno and that Sam advised him that the problem is that the tapes are being played at the wrong speed. Mr. Lambert would like this rectified and would like to know when the rest of the equipment will be implemented and when Channel 22 will be adequately staffed. Secondly Mr. Lambert asks when the large hole at Stewart Park will be repaired and asks why it has not been repaired prior to now. Thirdly, Mr. Lambert is concerned with the Squamscott River. He says that he has repeatedly seen a brown sludge in the water that resembles sewage and asks the Town to investigate the cause of this. Additionally, Mr. Lambert expressed an overall concern with the Squamscott River. He believes that the proposed sale of Fort Rock Farm would be detrimental to the River, and asks the Board to look at the issue carefully.

**3. Minutes**

*Mr. Ingram moved to waive the reading of the minutes of September 24, 2007 and accept the minutes as submitted; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.*

**4. Appointments**

*Mr. Campbell moves to appoint Jennifer Perry to the Great Bay Estuary Commission. Mr. Ingram seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.*

**5. Discussion/Action Items**

- a. Elliot Street Parking- Mr. Jim Tanis of Elliot Street has requested that the No Parking side of Elliot Street be changed to the other side of the street. Currently there is No Parking on the Academy side of the road. Mr. Tanis says that there are 2 reasons that this change makes sense. First, changing the parking would be more convenient for both the Academy people and the residents, and secondly, it would be more safe both sides of the street to switch the No Parking side. Mr. Ingram suggests that Chief Kane and the Director of Security at the Academy look at the issue together, and that Mr. Dean draft an ordinance.
- b. Fire Department Staffing- Mr. Campbell asked for a review of the need for these added firefighters. Chief Comeau reviewed that the Department will be able to save money at the Fire Department by the hiring of these additional firefighters by not having as much overtime. The staffing levels will increase, enabling the Department to allow for vacations and sick time without having calling in additional coverage right away. Mr. Arthur Baillargeon asks how many ambulance and fire calls are received by the Fire Department. Chief Comeau says that this coming year they are projecting 1630 ambulance calls and 1300 fire calls for service, and that the income from ambulance calls is used to offset cost of the ambulance service. Mr. Campbell thinks that this vote is premature and that this request

should go through the yearly budget process. Ms. Gilman notes that this is a change that the department has funding to complete, and that if the money were not in the budget already, it would need to go through the budget process, but the department does have the money already. Ms. Gilman also thinks that Chief Comeau and Mr. Dean should work together to resolve the callback system issues. Mr. Pace notes that these Fire Department jobs are existing jobs, just adding more of them to save money is within the Board's authority. Mr. Ingram reminds the Board that the Fire Department was asked to figure out a way to cut overtime in their budget for quite a while and they did that. **Mr. Ingram moves to authorize the hiring of 4 new firefighters. Mr. Pace seconds. VOTE: Mr. Eastman: Nay, Mr. Pace: Yeah, Mr. Campbell: Nay, Mr. Ingram: Yeah, Ms. Gilman: Yeah. Motion Carries.**

- c. Amend Classification Plan- Mr. Pace would like to clarify the role of the Human Resource Director in union negotiations. **Mr. Ingram moves to amend the Classification Plan as presented by the Town Manager. Mr. Campbell seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.**
- d. Energy Efficiency Committee Charge- Ms. Gilman proposes a seven member committee to include a Selectmen's Representative and a member of the Public Works Department. A preliminary report should be reported to the Board in August of 2008. **Mr. Campbell moves to adopt this committee charge as presented. Mr. Pace seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.**
- e. Planning Fees- After a comparison with surrounding towns, the Planning and Building Department has developed a revised fee schedule. Mr. Eastman notes that the fees for abutters should be consistent regardless of the proposed project. Mr. Dean will ask that the changes be advertised and will schedule this item for a Public Hearing at the next scheduled Board meeting.
- f. Budget Transfer Policy- (Attached) Mr. Dean read the policy, and Mr. Eastman recommends that the new Town Policies be numbered. Ms. Gilman asks to clarify policies and procedures. Mr. Dean states that a policy is a governing document and the procedure is the method that is consistent with the policy. This policy follows MS-6 and State RSAs. Mr. Eastman would like a numbering system to be developed prior to adoption of another policy.
- g. Mosquito Policy- (Attached) Deputy Chief Ken Berkenbush appears to answer questions about the mosquito policy. Mr. Campbell asks if the spraying is really effective, to which Mr. Berkenbush states that it is effective on mosquitoes that are present at the time of spraying, but it does not have a lasting effect. Mr. Campbell asks when the spraying would be done and should it be included in the Policy? Mr. Berkenbush says that he would begin testing in May and using larvacide to combat the larva. The barrier spray is used in accordance with the weather. Barrier spray is used at schools and parks and is released at different times to work for an extended amount of time. The adulticide spray is used on an as-needed basis. Mr. Campbell thinks that the policy should reflect the circumstances under which each is used. Mr. Ingram would like more information on the effects of these sprays on humans. Mr. Berkenbush would also like to address the concerns raised by Mr. Lambert regarding the Squamscott River. Mr. Berkenbush had investigated the brown sludge that Mr. Lambert referred to with Natalie Healy of the DES. The river had a high Ecoli reading in a certain area and they thought that it could be sewage that was in the River. The houses neighboring the River were checked for failing septic systems and did not find any evidence of failed septic systems. The Police Department has been notified to watch for any dumping

into the River from commercial trucks or motor homes. The Fire Department, Police Department, DPW and DES continue to look for the source of this issue. Mr. Ingram suggests that the tides have been bringing the contamination into the River.

**6. Public Hearings**

None.

**7. Permits & Approvals**

**a) Abatements & Exemptions-**

None.

**b) Permits**

None.

**8. Reports**

**a) Town Manager's Report-**

The next Board of Selectmen meeting is on October 29. Mr. Dean has presented an Action Status Report to the Board to keep track of requests for action for the Town Manager. Mr. Dean has given an update to the Board on the goals that were set for him earlier in the year. The voting place for the Town will be the Town Hall, however the date has not been set. The transfer station will be expanding its hours for the fall to include an extra hour on Saturday mornings and additional hours on Sundays. The Breast Cancer Walk and Fall Festival were very successful. The Water Project is approximately 60% complete and is currently on time.

**b) Selectmen's Committee Reports**

Mr. Pace: Nothing to report tonight.

Mr. Campbell: The Conservation Commission met last Tuesday regarding Fort Rock Farm but did not make any decisions. The Planning Board met and approved Sewall Development project and heard the preliminary report on the PEA Wellness Center and a preliminary proposal for a Linden Street subdivision. Congratulations to Coach Tufts at the Exeter High School on his 300<sup>th</sup> win with the soccer team.

Ms. Gilman: The Zoning Ordinance Review Committee's next meeting will be Thursday at 2PM. The HDC will meet on Thursday at 7PM. Ms. Gilman would like to copy the article in Town and City magazine to the Land Use Boards regarding ex-parte communications. Mr. Eastman thinks that the Town Planner could distribute that article.

Mr. Ingram: The River Committee will meet on Thursday at 9AM.

Mr. Eastman: Nothing to report tonight.

**9. Public Comment**

None.

**10. Non Public Session-**

None.

**11. Adjournment- At 8:28 PM Mr. Campbell moved to adjourn; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Geis  
AA