#### 1,2. Convene the Regular Meeting; Introduction of Board Members.

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

# 3. Minutes: August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Mr. Campbell moved to waive the reading of the minutes of August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006 and accept the minutes as presented; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.

# 4. <u>Bid Award: Municipal Trash Bags.</u>

Mr. Dean said there are two big announcements – one is that we will be saving on trash bags, albeit nominal, and the second is that we can now offer drawstring bags. For these two reasons, the Department of Public Works is recommending we award the bid to Phoenix Recycling.

Mr. Pace moved the Board of Selectmen approve the award of bid for municipal trash bags to Phoenix Recycling for a one-year term at \$179.88 per 1,000 bags for the 33 gallon bag, and \$103.14 per 1,000 for the 15 gallon bag; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: Unanimous.

#### 5. Bid Award: Gasoline & Diesel Fuel 2006 - 2007.

The Department of Public Works is recommending the bid be awarded to Dennis K. Burke of Chelsea, MA, who is our current provider. Chairman Binette asked if this would be a fixed price throughout the year, and Mr. Kevin Smart, Maintenance Superintendent confirmed that it was.

Mr. Campbell moved the Board of Selectmen approve the award of the gasoline and diesel fuel bid for 2006 – 2007 to Dennis K. Burke of Chelsea, Massachusetts in the amount of \$2.59 per gallon for ultra low sulfur diesel, and \$2.69 a gallon for regular gasoline; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: Unanimous.

### 6. <u>Bid Award: Sluiceway Repairs, Water Treatment Plant.</u>

Mr. Smart explained that last year, this project was put together simply as a repair of the sluiceway. After the Mother's Day Flood and other recent flooding events, it was determined that the sluiceway needed more repair than was originally budgeted, and their best option at this point was to replace the existing sluiceway in its entirety.

Bids were originally received on repairs only, so Mr. Smart contacted the low bidders to see if they would be interested in forwarding a rate for the new replacement project. Rome Construction was the only contractor interested and willing to forward a new rate, but he has the equipment for the project and can still work within our timeframe to complete this project.

Mr. Campbell asked if we had worked with this company in the past and if we knew there work, to which Mr. Smart replied that they have done a number of projects for Public Works and have always done a great job.

Mr. Campbell moved the Board of Selectmen approve the award of the Water Treatment Plant sluiceway repair to Rome Construction in the amount of \$27,500; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.

#### 7. Bid Award: Replacement for Rescue 1.

Mr. Dean said the Fire Department reviewed the one submittal that was received, and it meets all the specifications they needed. This will be the third ambulance purchased from Sugarloaf, Inc. The funding for this would come from the ambulance fund.

Chairman Binette asked if the Fire Department said what they will be doing with Rescue 2. Mr. Dean stated the other truck will be going to the Police Department to be used as a crime scene vehicle.

Mr. Ingram moved the Board of Selectmen approve the award of bid in the replacement of Rescue 1 ambulance to Sugarloaf, Inc. in the amount of \$164,955, with funding for said bid to come from the ambulance fund; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.

#### 8. <u>Bid Award: Thermal Imager.</u>

Mr. Dean reviewed that we received four bids for the Thermal Imager. The Fire Department is recommending we purchase the thermal imager from C&S Specialty, Inc. of North Smithfield. They are also the low bidder on this project, and the Fire Department has used this company for a number of other items for the department.

Mr. Pace moved the Board of Selectmen approve the award of bid for the thermal imaging camera for the Fire Department to C&S Specialty, Inc. of North Smithfield, RI in the amount of \$9,845; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.

# 9. <u>Bid Award: ALS Training Mannequin.</u>

Mr. Dean stated that the Fire Department is recommending we award the bid for the ALS Training Mannequin to Bound Tree Medical, LLC. They are requesting the Mega Code Kelly model, which includes a 7 year parts and service guarantee.

Mr. Campbell questioned the price, as this was not the low bid. Mr. Dean explained that the low bid was actually an incomplete bid and thus why it was not chosen.

Mr. Eastman asked if this would also be paid out of the ambulance fund, and Mr. Dean said they anticipated paying for it out of the General Fund. Mr. Eastman felt it should be paid out of the ambulance fund, and Mr. Ingram agreed. They both felt anything relating to the ambulance should be paid out of the ambulance fund. Mr. Dean said that would not be a problem, as there is enough money in the ambulance fund to pay for this item.

Mr. Eastman moved the Board of Selectmen approve the award of bid for the ALS Training Mannequin to Bound Tree Medical, LLC, of Henniker, NH in the amount of \$6,542, with funding for said bid to come from the ambulance fund; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: Unanimous.

#### 10. Meetings with the Board: Eloise Brown.

Ms. Eloise Brown approached the microphone to speak to the Board and read the following statement:

Thank you for allowing me to address the Selectmen's Meeting today on behalf of the residents of Epping Road. I am Eloise Brown of 40 Epping Road. We are requesting a paved sidewalk on our side of the street from the Toland house near the corner of Columbus Ave, to extend to Winter Street, a number of nine houses. At the present time it is very difficult to cross the street as the traffic is heavy. Trucks, buses and cars speed past above the limit of 25 mph. In the winter, due to piles of snow, we walk in the street to a cleared driveway before we can cross to the opposite sidewalk. Now as Epping Road is being developed even more, this is only going to exasperate an already dangerous situation. For the safety of the children and residents, we need a sidewalk. Please take our request seriously.

Ms. Brown added that she heard they would be tearing up Epping Road in another year, and she thought perhaps that would be a good time to install a new sidewalk.

Mr. Keith Noyes, Public Works Director, was present to respond to her request. He felt that if the Town was to move forward on this project, now would be a good time to do so. Mr. Noyes felt the problem would be that it could potentially cost anywhere from \$50,000 - \$150,000 to ensure proper drainage systems are put in place. Chairman Binette asked if this could be incorporated into the specs on the Epping Road project, and Mr. Noyes said he has already spoken with the engineers and they felt they could easily incorporate this into their plans with minimal up-front engineering costs.

Mr. Noyes said by installing a sidewalk, the drainage could cost two to three times the cost of the sidewalk itself. With that being said, he felt the best approach would be to ask the engineers bidding on the project to incorporate this into their bids as an alternative option, and once bids are received, a decision can be made at that time, based on their figures, as to whether or not this can be fit into the budget of the project. Chairman Binette agreed that sounded like our best option.

Mr. Ingram agreed as well, but he also thinks that we should look to see how this fits into our overall plan. He believes if he lived in an area of town that has other pressing priorities that need attention and found that a decision was made to spend this type of money for a sidewalk, he would want to know what else was on the agenda to determine if this decision made sense.

Mr. Eastman would rather have the Board support this project now versus have the residents get a petition together, which they will do anyway. The Town has been "looking into" this sidewalk for about 12 years, and if Epping Road wasn't such a major road, he may feel differently, but with Epping Road being what it is, he encourages the Board to support having sidewalks on both sides of this road.

Mr. Campbell thinks we should be careful because we have another resident who wants a sidewalk on Westside Drive. Mr. Eastman said he would not be as supportive of that initiative since that road is

so narrow to begin with. Mr. Ingram feels it may be a good time to look more closely at our overall sidewalk program.

Mr. Noyes said at this time, they are focusing on arterial roads. On some roads, they will be putting in bike paths, which can be put in for a third of the cost of a sidewalk. Bike paths can be used by both bicycle riders and pedestrians.

Mr. Pace asked Mr. Noyes if it would be possible to get a timeframe of when we'll know if this is an option. It would be very beneficial to know if it's not feasible to include it in the Epping Road project so the Board can have a serious discussion of what our other options may be.

Mr. Dean asked the Board if the Public Works Department could have thirty days to take a look at the overall sidewalk program. Mr. Dean and the Board have received a number of sidewalk requests lately, and this would allow them to determine where priorities lie.

Mr. Michael Lambert, 18 Locust Avenue, felt that Public Works should have had some sort of historical figure on the actual cost of the sidewalk. He felt the range Mr. Noyes gave was very broad and could have been more specific. Mr. Lambert also questioned when the Town had decided it had to use granite curbing, as asphalt is a less-expensive alternative that works. He feels Epping Road has become a very difficult road to maneuver, and he feels putting in a sidewalk could be done very easily if we can find the money to do it.

Ms. Gabrielle Grossman of 31 Winter Street is also very supportive of this idea, and she would also request that the sidewalk go down an additional three houses (to what Ms. Brown had suggested). Ms. Grossman would like to see the sidewalk extend around the block to the dentist's office. There is currently no sidewalk there, and the bus drops kids off there. The Teen Outlook Center is always walking there and with no sidewalk, they are forced to walk on yards or in the road.

Mr. Ingram asked if Ms. Grossman felt the sidewalk should continue around the corner to Whitley Road, and she confirmed her intentions. She did not know if it would be at all possible, but she feels there is a need for it, as there is a lot of foot traffic due to the ballpark and fields.

Mr. Daniel Herring, 102 Main Street, who lives across from Ms. Grossman, added that on Winter Street, people travel very quickly. There are a number of kids in the neighborhood, and he is in support of anything that can be done to make this area safer. Mr. Herring believes having a sidewalk on only one side may have worked a while ago, when things were quieter, but that will not work any more.

Mr. Ingram thought that when the sidewalk program began, it was specifically geared towards schools. At that time, the plan made sense. Now, things have changed, and it seems more appropriate to look at a number of places based on congestion and traffic.

Ms. Grossman added that a crosswalk near the bus stop would be very helpful as well, but she was told that in order to put in a crosswalk, it had to go sidewalk to sidewalk, but since there is no sidewalk on one side of the road, a crosswalk would be impossible.

Mr. Jay Perkins, Highway Superintendent, reminded the Board and residents that last year was the first year any money was put into the budget for sidewalks in the last twenty years. One major

obstacle for the sidewalk in question is a number of trees that are in the way and that would have to come down. Mr. Perkins explained a number of issues that exist, including trees and drainage problems. Currently all major arterial roads have sidewalks, and our goal is to have sidewalks on both but right now the Town needs to piece together the existing sidewalks. Then we can look at various neighborhoods to see what can be done.

Mr. Lambert added he is always impressed with Mr. Perkins' command of his knowledge of specifications and nuances on numbers and jobs in Town. He feels we have a top-notch guy working for the Town. On another note, Mr. Lambert stated that he spoke with Mr. Wright Pierce at the new high school about getting a light installed to help the flow of traffic. Mr. Lambert feels the Town should lobby for a light at the entrance, as it is difficult to see around that corner. He also feels the co-op should have to kick in additional money to help pay for the detail needed in this area.

Chairman Binette asked Mr. Noyes and Mr. Perkins to look into these sidewalk issues and gather some information to report back to the Board.

Ms. Grossman asked the Board what the process would be from here, and Chairman Binette explained Mr. Noyes and Mr. Perkins will come to a future meeting with further information and they will present it to the Board at that time. Mr. Pace set Ms. Grossman's expectations that she would not hear any decisions probably until December, when they will have the additional information and they will also have more specific numbers once the bids for the Epping Road reconstruction come in.

#### 11. Second Reading: Permit Policy.

Mr. Dean took another stab at this policy, and he narrowed the permit exceptions down to two (Plywood Signs/Poster Board Signs, and Structures on the Sidewalk/Blocking off Streets/Blocking off Parking Spaces). Other than that, the majority of the language remains the same.

Chairman Binette had a question which spawned from an incident that occurred last week. Mr. Dean was out of the office, and a contractor came in after having his work site shut down. He needed a permit immediately to return and continue his work. Chairman Binette received a phone call for approval. He wondered if a provision could be added stating that in the Town Manager's absence, a member of the Board would be able to approve the permit. Mr. Pace suggested adding "In the absence of the Town Manager, duties would fall to the next ranking member of the Board of Selectmen."

Mr. Campbell had a question on the last line of the policy, which reads "If an issue has been raised regarding a permit, the Town Manager shall not issue the permit but it shall be referred back to the Board of Selectmen for their review and action." He wondered who would question the permit. Mr. Dean explained that if he had any reason to question it or if there had been any previous discussion by the Board that would lead him to question it, he would not issue the permit and would wait to discuss with the Board.

Mr. Dean asked if the Board if they would like to see anything in the second list of permits changed. Mr. Eastman felt the majority of that list know their needs more than two weeks in advance and should still come before the Board. Mr. Campbell felt this would encourage people to not think ahead on planning these events.

Mr. Ingram thought there are still some situations that these types of requests could come with a last-minute request. As an example, if an organization may need to use the Town Hall or Town Office for an impromptu meeting and would need immediate approval. Mr. Pace suggested including language that "under extreme circumstances the Town Manager is authorized to approve these."

Mr. Dean added that one thing he would like to see is to have this approval be in conjunction with the ranking member of the Board. The intent is not to be that he is taking approval rights away from the Board, it would just be an avenue to help with last-minute requests.

Chairman Binette felt the problem is that there are a number of contractors who have been working in town for a number of years and they should know that they need approval in advance. Mr. Ingram felt the problem is that citizens hire contractors and assume the contractor is doing the proper work to get approved, and then it is the citizen that suffers if a permit is not obtained properly.

Mr. Ingram said this policy does not authorize the Town Manager to provide approvals for other permits, and he asked Mr. Dean if he *wanted* authorization for these permits. Mr. Dean did not feel that was necessary.

Mr. Dean will redraft the policy with the Board's recommendation and will present it again at the next meeting.

#### 12. Squamscott Block Project Easement Approvals.

Mr. Dean asked the Board to postpone this meeting until the next meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup> as he is waiting for final verbiage on the easement agreements.

#### 13. Stewart Park Seawall Project Update.

In March, the voters approved repairs to the Stewart Park Seawall. The Town has proceeded with this project under the guidance of the Public Works Department, and Mr. Duncan Miller of Waterfront Engineers was present to give a project update.

Mr. Miller of Waterfront Engineers of Stratham, the engineering consultant on this project, said that they have completed the preliminary investigation on the project, and they prepared a permit application that was put before the Conservation Commission and it was approved. The application is now currently being reviewed by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Wetlands Bureau. They are still waiting for the permit approval from them. NH DES has a statutory review period and Mr. Miller expects to receive approval in October.

Mr. Miller said they are also moving along on the construction portion of the project, and bid packets with project specifications will be sent this week. We are anticipating having bids to be opened either at the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting or September 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of the plans for the project. Mr. Miller referenced a drafted picture of the outline of the replacement wall. The proposal was to do a more permanent wall with a timber bulkhead, similar to what is in place now. Mr. Miller's idea is to have a concrete foundation and to have granite blocks for the entire visible portion. The design had to be modified due to finding soft

clay in the ground below where the bulkhead would go, but even with doing two piles for the foundation they expect to still come in under budget.

Mr. Miller said this project was similar to one he completed at Durham Point, and he shared pictures of the seawall he designed there. This was a similar project, with a concrete foundation with granite slabs on top. He also discussed where he purchased the materials and how he was able to get a great discount rate on them.

Mr. Campbell had a question on the foundation. He noticed that there are timber supports in the plans, and he wondered why that would be used over some sort of metal supports. Mr. Campbell wondered if the wood would rot. Mr. Miller explained that the wooden supports would be buried in mud and will be in an anaerobic state. Since they will not be exposed to marine pores and since it will be in an anaerobic state, it will not decompose or rot. Mr. Miller said most bridges are built this way.

Mr. Arthur Baillargeon asked if this wall would look as good as the one near the library. Mr. Miller believed it would.

Mr. Baillargeon wanted to know how far the wall would extend. Mr. Miller showed on the diagram that the wall would go to the Philips Exeter Boathouse. It was found that the wall will go 14' over the Philips Exeter property line, and Philips Exeter Academy has agreed to pay for the portion of the wall on their land. There will be a lower wall near the boat ramp, and it will be higher as it goes out.

Mr. Lambert felt there was an aesthetic issue to consider on the Exeter River. They recently did the bulkhead near the new Bandstand over, and if you look one way, you'll see one look; if you look the other way, it looks different. He wondered if we could find granite to match the granite in the bulkhead. Mr. Campbell felt they were a good distance apart. Mr. Ingram did not believe a person could look and see both from the same viewpoint.

Mr. Ingram asked Mr. Miller if the approved permits are received in October, when would the bids go out. Mr. Miller explained that the bids will be going out this week so that contractors will be prepared when the permits are issued in October.

Mr. Ingram asked if this had already been brought before the Conservation Commission, and Mr. Smart confirmed that it had and was approved.

Mr. Miller added that they expect to have the contractor lined up by the time the permits are approved and received, and the contractors will be ready to begin work during the window governed by NH Fish and Game. Fish run through the end of October so they ask that no construction be done in the water prior to November 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Ingram felt the important part would be that we are able to get the majority of the wall in before the winter comes. Mr. Miller agreed, and said they felt they would be able to get the majority of construction completed before the winter, but the finished landscaping would have to wait until spring.

#### 14. Town Manager's Report.

- A few personnel notes to report:
  - o John Isabel, a Call Firefighter, had his 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary on July 2<sup>nd</sup>

- Jason Greene of the Fire Department had his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary on August 19<sup>th</sup> Jeff Liporto of the Fire Department had his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary on August 14<sup>th</sup>
- Detective David Nelson had his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the Police Department on August 19<sup>th</sup>
- George Sturgis of the Highway Department celebrated his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the Public Works Department on August 5<sup>th</sup>. George actually started with the Town back in 1967, working with the Highway Department. He transferred to the Sewer Department, then back to Highway, and in 1975 he transferred to the Fire Department, where he served for 21 years before he retired in 1996. Upon retirement, he returned to public works, where he began his career, and has just finished his 39<sup>th</sup> year working for the residents of Exeter.
- o Congratulations to Stephan Poulin who was promoted to a Sergeant in the Police Department. Sergeant Poulin has been working for Exeter for four years today, August 28<sup>th</sup>.
- As a follow-up to issue of trees in the river, Mr. Dean took a site walk with two wetlands inspectors from the Department of Environmental Services last Thursday. Three things came from that meeting – one, they confirmed that it is the property owner's responsibility to contract someone to remove the trees; two, they confirmed that there is no money available at the state level to help us with these situations; and three, anyone looking to remove a tree from the river needs to call DES to discuss their permitting process.
- As part of the budget process, we are looking into change the Inspection Fees and Detail Funds to revolving fund accounts. They are suggesting separating these funds so that revenue generated is more visible.

#### 15. Permits.

Mr. Dean presented the following for action:

- The American Red Cross requested to hang a banner across Water Street from September 5<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> to promote their blood drive on September 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Hilary Skovron of 25 Old Town Farm Road requested to use the Bandstand on December 30<sup>th</sup> for a wedding ceremony.
- The Quota Club requested to use the outside porch and steps of the Town Hall during their Artisan's Fair on October 21st. They have already been approved to use the inside of the Town Hall – at this time they are requesting to have additional craft participants on the porch and stairs.
- The Seacoast Wind Ensemble is requesting to use the Main Floor with use of the Stage in the Town Hall on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> for their Annual Holiday Concert.
- The Seacoast Republican Women are requesting to use the Main Floor with use of the Stage in the Town Hall on October 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 am until 8 pm for residents to meet the candidates. They are requesting the fee be waived since they are a non-profit organization and this is an educational event for the general public.
- Synergy Health and Fitness requested to have the Bruce Ellis Road Race on November 4<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. The Police have already approved the route.
- The Seacoast Progressive Alliance requested use of the Town Hall on October 8<sup>th</sup> from 1 pm to 5 pm to show a film "Iraq for Sale"
- The Rockingham Community Action Child Care Services requested to use the Wheelwright Room on September 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am to noon for a Child Care Center Director's Meeting.

- Once In A Blue Moon Market requested to hang a banner on Clifford St. between two utility poles to advertise for a Yoga Open House on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 1 pm.
- The Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce is requesting to put Christmas Trees in the landscape beds on either side of the entrance to the Train Station from November 18<sup>th</sup> to January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007.
- The Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce is also requesting to hang their annual holiday decorations across Water Street from November 15<sup>th</sup> to January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007.
- The Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce is requesting to block off Front Street from Water Street to Court Street on Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> from 5-8pm for the holiday open house and tree lighting.
- The Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce is requesting to decorate the Christmas Tree in the Bandstand.
- The Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce is requesting to decorate the Town Hall for the holidays as well.
- Phillips Exeter Academy is requesting to close Tan Lane on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> from 5 am until noon so that the Academy may hold a dedication ceremony for the Academy Campus Center. They would be setting up chairs in front of the Center (on Tan Lane). They are unable to hold the ceremony on the quad side of the center as there will be wet, newly installed sod at that location. They are also requesting to block off parking spaces on the westerly side of Tan Lane in advance of the ceremony to allow for the setup of the chairs.
- The Ioka requested to block off parking spaces on September 6<sup>th</sup> from noon until 11 pm for a tour bus for the Time Janis performance.
- Philips Exeter Academy requested to close Gilman Street to allow for a pre-season athletic cookout on the adjacent varsity baseball field on September 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:30 pm. They are also requesting to close Gilman Street for an all-campus cookout on the adjacent varsity baseball field on September 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 6:30 pm.
- The Exeter High School Football Boosters is requesting to hang a banner across Water Street on September 18<sup>th</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup> to advertise for Homecoming Weekend, Exeter vs. Winnacunnet.

# Mr. Campbell moved to approve all permits as advised; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: Unanimous.

#### 16. Selectmen's Committee Reports.

Mr. Pace On the 17<sup>th</sup>, the Historic District Commission met and had their first televised meeting. The topic of discussion was a sign at the intersection of High Street and Portsmouth Ave. They are still discussing this topic so he will have more information soon.

Mr. Campbell: The Planning Board met and approved a new housing development. A preliminary hearing was held for Exeter Commons (formerly the Globe Plaza) on adding a Starbucks and other renovations to the plaza.

Mr. Ingram: Nothing to report.

Mr. Eastman: Nothing to report.

Mr. Binette: Nothing to report.

Mr. Eastman had a couple questions for Mr. Dean. One was if he had information on the polls. Mr. Dean thanked him for his reminder and read the following statement from the Town Clerk's office:

- The Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> Checklist Session at the Town Clerk's office from 7 pm 8 pm to make corrections and accept new voter registrations. This is the last day to register to vote before the September 12<sup>th</sup> State Primary.
- Also, the Primary polling hours will be 7 am 8 pm at the Town Hall on September 12<sup>th</sup>.
  Sample ballots are available at the Town Clerk's office.
- Absentee Ballots for the Primary are available at the Town Clerk's office. Must be a registered voter to request an absentee ballot.

Mr. Eastman also thought the Board and Town Manager should consider working on a parking ordinance for election days. It may be beneficial to change two hour parking to 45 minute parking.

Finally, Mr. Eastman asked Mr. Dean to ensure the Town Office is secured at night. He has noticed windows left open and would like to make sure employees remember to close them.

#### 17. Public Comments:

Mr. Michael Lambert asked if there was any way to extend the green lights on Portsmouth Avenue to help relieve the traffic build-up that occurs daily in town. It is very common to have a line of cars from Dunkin Donuts down to the Bandstand, and with a 30 mph speed limit, it is difficult to move cars through. He wondered if there was anything that could be done about that.

Mr. Lambert also asked the Board to remind people to utilize the crosswalks.

Mr. Lambert asked the Cable TV Committee to keep in mind when they are negotiating with Comcast that Verizon has pulled out of New Hampshire due to their archaic ways, and we now have less to bargain with.

Mr. Lambert also asked for an update on the falsification of records at the Water Treatment Plant. He has not heard anything since the last time he attended the Board of Selectmen Meeting and he feels there should have been more information disclosed by now. He also inquired about the qualifications of the employees currently working at the Plant.

Mr. Noyes recapped the qualifications of the current employees. Mr. Lambert wondered if the Town was paying for relocation or temporary housing for Mr. Paul Roy from Berlin, and Mr. Noyes confirmed that the Town is not.

Mr. Lambert stated that he has a problem with how the Town is wrapping this situation up as a personnel issue and that the Town has not received any additional information. Mr. Ingram explained they could not comment because there is a process in place to handle these situations, and the Board of Selectmen is the group to which the grievant would appeal. To comment on the situation would taint the process. Mr. Dean added that the Town has not had any falsification of records since the initial situation was discovered. Mr. Lambert added he was dissatisfied with the process and felt in the very least the Town should be looking at management and changes that need to be made. He hopes when the process is complete the Board will update the Town of that process.

Mr. Arthur Baillargeon was concerned about large trucks parking on String Bridge to make deliveries. He feels this is a safety issue as it leaves a narrow space on the bridge for vehicles to pass. He believes there should be a sign for no parking or deliveries on this bridge.

Mr. Eastman made a motion to move to non-public session under RSA 91:A to discuss a personnel issue; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous. Time: 9:10 PM.

Mr. Pace did roll call. Mr. Ingram – Yes. Mr. Eastman – Yes. Mr. Campbell – Yes. Mr. Pace – Yes. Chairman Binette – Yes. The Board then moved to non-public session.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A Lund AA/HR Director