

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF SELECMEN MEETING

MINUTES

February 25, 2008

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Eastman convened the Board at 7:04 PM in the Nowak Room of the Town Office and introduced other members of the Board: Mr. Lionel Ingram, Mr. Joe Pace, Mr. Bill Campbell and Mr. Russell Dean, Town Manager. Selectman Gilman was absent for this meeting.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Minutes

Mr. Campbell moved to waive the reading of the minutes of February 11, 2008 and accept the minutes as submitted; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: Unanimous.

4. Appointments

Mr. Campbell moved to approve the appointments to the Energy Committee. Mr. Ingram seconds. VOTE: Unanimous. (NOTE: Kent Anson and Rebecca Audet were appointed by this vote).

5. Discussion/Action Items

a. Household Hazardous Waste Collection Grant Application

Mr. Dean explained that each year the Town holds its Hazardous Waste Collection Day, and the DES helps fund the event through a grant. The Town is going to apply for the grant again this year, and the application requires the Board to approve the Town Manager to apply on behalf of the Town. Mr. Campbell asked about the total FY08 Town budget for this item. The Town Manager mentioned \$5400 has been budgeted for FY08 from Town funds and should cover the event.

Mr. Ingram moves to authorize the Town Manager to apply for and expend grants funds from the New Hampshire DES related to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection 2008. Mr. Campbell seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

b. Chamber of Commerce Lease Renewal

Mr. Dean explained the Chamber will not be present this evening as they have asked for more time on this item. It was brought to Mr. Dean's attention last week the Chamber may be committed to paying property taxes as part of their agreement with the Town per RSA 72-23a. Town Counsel has opined this is the case and the Board has a copy of his opinion. The Assessor has calculated the Chamber would pay the Town beginning July 1st an amount slightly over \$2600 per year in property taxes based on his analysis. The recommendation tonight is to wait to hear the Chamber's response because their opinion about their status as a charitable organization is needed before final analysis.

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Discussion: Mr. Pace asked about a PILOT payment for the Chamber per the statute. Mr. Dean indicated if the Chamber is fully or partially tax exempt it seems this can be done but further clarification between charitable and tax exempt needs to be understood. The law is poorly worded in this area. Mr. Eastman indicated the Town has other relevant properties where there are lessees to pay property taxes, such as a school owned house at 131 Epping Road, the house the Town rents at 149 Kingston Road, the Tai Chi organization at the Tuck Building. Mr. Pace asked could we extend the Chamber lease for 30 days while this is sorted out. Mr. Dean indicated that could be done by the Board and would be in order. Mr. Ingram noted a date correction that needed to be made under the termination section of the lease.

Mr. Pace moves to extend the Chamber lease until March 31st, 2008 under the current terms. Mr. Ingram seconds. VOTE: Unanimous.

6. Public Hearings

a. Second Reading: Front Street Parking Ordinance Amendment – Mr. Dean presented the amendment. Since the last meeting the Highway Department has gone out and measured the length involved, it is a total of 251 feet covering 8 spaces. These spaces are non-delineated. There are 3 additional spaces southwest of the area that would be affected. Therefore the ordinance now reads Northerly side of street beginning 20 feet from the corner of Spring Street and running approximately 220 feet southwest along Front Street. The Board thanked Mr. Dean for this clarification. Mr. Eastman asked for public comment on the amendment and there was none.

7. Permits & Approvals

a) Abatements and Exemptions

Mr. Campbell moved to approve abatements and exemptions as presented. Mr. Ingram seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

b) Permits

Mr. Dean indicated there was a request to use the Nowak Room Wednesday evening for a candidates night sponsored by the Exeter Junior Women's Club and asked for any discussion. The Board agreed this was a good idea and were supportive. Mr. Eastman indicated he talked with Mr. Dean and there was agreement a fee should be developed for those who wish to sponsor said events to pay for EXTV staff.

Mr. Eastman moved to approve the use of the Nowak Room for a candidates night Wednesday night. Mr. Ingram seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

8. Reports

a) Town Manager's Report-

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The Town Manager indicated the Town Clerk had requested he read the following: The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in the Town Offices on Saturday, March 1st from 11:00 a.m. to Noon to accept new voter registrations and for people to make corrections.

b) Selectmen's Committee Reports

Mr. Pace: A reminder that New Hampshire has same day registration so those who cannot make March 1st can still vote by registering on March 11th. Mr. Pace thanked the Highway Department for their efforts in removing 19 inches of snow in January. The Cable Committee is meeting Wednesday at 5:30 p.m..

Mr. Ingram: The Council on Aging meeting is coming up this Thursday. The River Committee continues to meet.

Mr. Campbell: No report.

Mr. Eastman: No report.

9. Public Comment

None.

10. Non Public Session-

None.

11. Adjournment-

At 7:30 PM Mr. Campbell moved to adjourn; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Dean
Town Manager