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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

DECEMBER 30, 2002

1. Convene the Board.

Chairman Pace convened the Board at 7:00PM on the above date and introduced the board members to the audience. Also present: Paul Binette, Robert Eastman, Lionel Ingram, William Campbell and Town Manager George Olson.

2. Minutes of the Board of Selectmen's meeting of the December 16, 2002 meeting.

*Mr. Binette moved to accept the minutes as submitted; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: Unanimous.*

3. Town Office Renovation warrant article.

Mr. Olson reviewed his December 20<sup>th</sup> memo and provided sketches of proposed changes (both attached). He reiterated that since the plans were sketched, it's not just moving offices around to provide more space but the air quality issues need to be addressed.

Mr. Eastman, noting both Mr. Binette and Mr. Olson mentioned air quality over the past two weeks, asked whether studies have been done. Mr. Olson reported two have been completed and the sense is the problem deals with ventilation/air exchange, as opposed to the thought there was a mold problem. There is nothing to substantiate the mold issue.

Mr. Olson feels the plans would meet the needs for the next 20 years at least, noting the slow growth in the number of employees serving the Town at the offices. With improved space use, additional employees could be added as the need arises but he does not anticipate ten more people being in place.

Mr. Eastman asked if the final plan is shown? Mr. Olson noted there have been several schematics made, noting one shows "Scheme 1" the other "Scheme 4". These are not final sketches, but it is a start.

Mr. Campbell asked if the study proposed would be completed by the same people? Mr. Olson did not know but felt there should be an evolution of what has been presented, rather than starting fresh. He noted there has been a lot of thought and time on the part of the employees given toward the ideas for change. Mr. Ingram asked if the \$50,000 could be placed in the budget. Mr. Pace reminded him the Board had already approved the proposed budget.

Mr. Campbell asked that all ideas be reviewed, including holding meetings across the street and making use of the Nowak Room.

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*Mr. Ingram moved to support the Town Office renovations plan of \$50,000 as a warrant article; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous*

4. Use of Buzell Avenue for truck deliveries.

Mr. Eastman stated he placed this on the agenda at the request of an interested person. There was no one present to address the issue.

5. First reading of change to Town Ordinance 102.4 School Hours Restrictions.

Mr. Olson reported this was scheduled to address the conflict of language between two current ordinances regarding the parking across from the Annex on Linden Street. However, since the agenda was posted, Barbara Blenk found an ordinance passed in August of 1979 that states "200 feet" in both sections rather than what is currently stated as 299 in 101.2. Sometime over the years, "200" was retyped as "299". No action is necessary except for a corrected section of 101.2 to read "200".

6. Permits:

NH Citizens Awareness requested the Town Hall on February 11<sup>th</sup> for a community meeting.  
*Approved.*

7. Town Manager's Items:

- ❖ The Town's offices will be closed Wednesday, January 1, 2003.
- ❖ Rubbish and recycling will be delayed one day beginning Wednesday (Wednesday's pick-up is Thursday, Thursday's on Friday and Friday's on Saturday).
- ❖ Volunteer board members are needed for Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Council on Aging and Recreation Advisory. Residents should forward a letter of interest to the Board.
- ❖ The next meeting will be Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, beginning with Public Hearings for the budget, bond and disabled exemption.

8. Selectmen's Committee Reports:

Mr. Ingram attended a Safety Committee meeting – nothing to report.

Mr. Eastman met with the Planning Board and noted there are 9 proposed Zoning amendments for Town Meeting action.

Mr. Campbell noted the Downtown Historic District Committee viewed five presentations for the downtown area and they are currently being evaluated.

Mr. Binette had no committee meetings to report but noted he has still not heard of plans for use of the parking lot on Court Street by the School for the students following vacation. He stated the lot has still not been plowed.

Mr. Pace had no meetings to report but reported the Board agreed to a change to the budget process. In the past, the Board has used a portion of the fund balance to offset the cost of some warrant articles so as not to have an impact on the Town's tax rate. This year, the voters will have no prompting on the articles except to read that the Board endorses the article. Following the vote, the Board will apply what is necessary from the fund balance to keep the Town's portion of the tax rate steady. He noted the budget has increased this year due, in part, to some articles being placed back in the operating budget.

The Board will be energetic in urging the voters to pass the articles, noting any articles sponsored by the Board are considered important, and be aggressive in educating the voters on what passage means. If residents have questions, they are encouraged to contact the Board.

9. Public Comments:

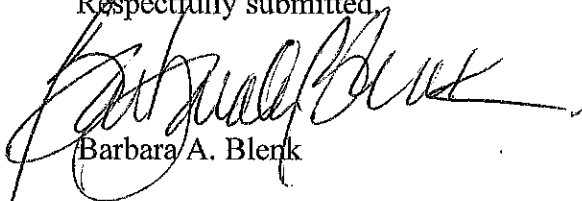
Cecilia Samiljan, Robin Lane, heard the Board was to discuss traffic on Buzell Avenue and hurried down from her home. Chairman Pace noted there had been no one present to discuss the issue but invited Ms. Samiljan to express her opinions.

She stated the truck traffic is very bad on Buzell and felt it is unnecessary to have delivery trucks to the Hospital use Buzell, when they have Alumni Drive, off Portsmouth Avenue, which would better for all. She noted there is a bus stop on Buzell Avenue and the traffic places the children in danger and, with the street being as narrow as it is, it already requires vehicles to make a wide swing onto Buzell from High Street. With High Street being 90% residential, he urged the Board to consider the traffic in the area and consider no trucks on Buzell Avenue.

Chairman Pace thanked Ms. Samiljan for her comments.

***Mr. Ingram moved to adjourn; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous. Time: 7:27PM.***

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara A. Blenk

attach.

