

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
January 9, 2012**

PRESENT: SEAN P. MURPHY, CHAIRMAN; RICHARD H. HARTUNG, SELECTMAN; PRISCILLA R. LINDQUIST, SELECTMAN; SALLY THERIAULT, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Budget Committee Members: B. Vass, B. O'Brien
Guests: Eagle Scout members from outside Troop 33 and Girl Scout Gold members and families

Public Announcements

- Tuesday, January 10th is the Presidential Primary and the polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Hampstead Middle School.
- The Town Clerks/Tax Collector's Office will be closed on Tuesday, January 10th.
- Wednesday, January 11th is the Public Hearing on the budget, which is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at the Town Offices.
- Friday, January 13th is the Public Hearing on the bond for the proposed Police Station, which is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at the Town Offices.
- The Town offices will be closed on Monday, January 16, 2012 for Civil Right's Day
- Waste Oil, fluorescent light bulbs, car batteries and thermostats are collected at the Town Garage on the first and third Saturdays of the month 8 am to 1 pm. Books may be dropped off at anytime.

Visitors Comment

There were none

Department Heads

None Present

New Business

Presentation of Gold Star Girls Plaque and Eagle Scout Plaque (for those boys that are in a troop other than Hampstead Troop 33)

James Whitney, Troop Leader of Boy Scout Troop 2412 thanked the Board of Selectmen for allowing the presentation of the plaque tonight and for supporting scouting over the years. He explained that in Hampstead there is Troop 33 which a lot of Hampstead boys join and follow through to the Eagle Scout badge. He explained that some of the boys choose to join troops in Derry, Chester or Atkinson and this plaque will now recognize them for their award. He also noted that the plaque for the Girl Scouts now recognizes the accomplishments of the girls as well. The Gold Star is similar to the Eagle Scout. It was noted that the two plaques will be hung in the front foyer for the residents to see.

Mr. Kirk, the father of two Eagle Scouts thanked the Selectmen. He is an assistant scout leader in Chester and noted that Eagle Scouts don't just do their projects for the towns that they live in but for the State of NH as well.

The Selectmen thanked them for coming and noted that the town benefits from the Eagle Scout projects as well as from the Gold Star projects.

Default Budget-

Chairman Murphy read the 2011 budget as well as the 2012 proposed budget with the 2012 default budget for each department.

2011 Budget was \$5,262,391.49, /2012 Proposed \$5,175,176.22, /2012 Default 5,259,877.46.

The 2012 proposed budget is \$87,215.27 less than the 2011 actual. The 2012 default budget is \$84,701.24 more than the 2012 proposed budget.

Selectman Lindquist had a question on the default budget for the dental insurance which was changed from \$2,880 default to \$3,000. There was a question on the LTD and STD as well. Mrs. Theriault explained her process for developing the default budget and agreed that she would go back and look at those lines that Mrs. Lindquist had an issue with.

Overall the Selectmen agreed to look over the default budget and digest it for the meeting on Wednesday.

Mr. O'Brien asked about the cable budget. Selectman Lindquist replied that the cable salaries go through the general fund and then are reimbursed to the town 100%. She noted that they need to budget to be able to spend and that is better to do it this way to take of income taxes.

Discussion concerning additional cost-sharing start date

Mrs. Theriault reviewed the history from April 2010 regarding the cost sharing on the medical/dental insurance. In 2010 the employees started paying a portion of the medical/dental insurance (5%). If the insurances went up each year, the employees picked up half the cost to a 10% maximum. In 2011 there were changes to review dates and the effective date of any COLA. They were moved to an April 1st date and Mrs. Theriault explained that she thought all benefit changes moved to that date and therefore the change in the cost sharing would be effective April 1st. In 2012 the insurance is up and the employee will be paying 10% of medical and dental, but would not be receiving a cost of living (if budget passed) until April 1st. Mrs. Theriault also noted that there were several department heads that had understood it the same way, that all changes would be effective April 1st. She stated that if that is not what was intended, then it should be put in writing into the personnel policy. Chairman Murphy asked when the new rates are effective to the town and was told January 1st. He was concerned that it would be unfair to the residents to pick up the difference on the increase. He noted that it was not advantageous to the employee and waiting is not advantageous to the public and you don't want a town employee doing anything different than the public. As an employee, he stated that he has to pick up any additional costs without an increase. Selectman Lindquist stated that the COLA and the insurance rates were two different items and the cost should be based on the whole year, from January forward and this is what the Board told residents at the time.

Selectman Lindquist motioned to change the medical/dental insurance rates on the non union employees' insurance plans effective when the rates change i.e. January 1st.

Selectman Hartung seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Chairman- Selectmen Murphy explained that at the last meeting of the Board of Selectmen discussion took place to change the seat of the Chairman effective January 1, 2012. Sean Murphy will be serving as the Chairman.

Liaisons Reports

Selectman Lindquist

Heritage/Historic Commission- Frances Munroe, the holder of the Boston Post Cane, recently passed away. She was awarded the cane in 2004 at the age of 98. The Heritage/Historic Commission is looking to accept applications to award the cane to the oldest Hampstead resident with at least 15 years of residency in town. The nominations can be made by anyone and are available on the website and at the town office.

The Commission is applying for a grant to repair the balustrade at the Meeting House. The grant is a matching grant and Selectman Lindquist noted that the Commission would provide the matching funds.

Chairman Hartung

Scenic By Way-Selectman Hartung noted that he attended the scenic by way meeting in Chester. He also assisted Mr. Harms today setting up the voting booths at the Middle School.

Administrative Assistant Report

Mosquito Control Grant

Mrs. Theriault checked into the mosquito control grant that used to be provided to Town. In years past, we would get 25% of the costs associated with mosquito control, however over the last year or two that was reduced to 12.5%. For the year of 2011, the State is offering no money for two reasons, one it didn't declare a public health threat and second, there are no funds available for this effort.

EMPG Grant for Generator

For approximately one year Sandy Koleque-Spolaris (EMD) and Mrs. Theriault have been working on obtaining a grant for a generator. The Town has received notice that a grant for 50% of the cost associated with the installation of a generator for the Town Office building has been approved, contingent upon the approval by the Governor's Council. The project is estimated at a cost of \$25,214, with approximately \$2,500 in the form of soft contributions (employees' labor). The grant from the State is in the amount of \$13,857.00. A public hearing is required. However money last year was set aside in the budget for this project. This year it was withdrawn in order to reduce the Town's budget. She asked if the BOS want to accept the grant and if so, where will the 50% of the Town's contribution be coming from. The Selectmen agreed that they would take it under advisement, but felt that if needed, they would be able to find the money needed. As a side note, the Town has been working on getting a generator for the Town via grant for approximately 10 years. Chairman Murphy asked where the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) would be and was told that it is still the Central Fire Station. With the addition of the generator the Town Office could be named the EOC.

October snowstorm grant

Jon Worthen, the Road Agent and Mrs. Theriault will be meeting with a FEMA representative tomorrow to go over the paperwork in order to apply for a 75% grant for costs associated with the October snowstorm.

Appointments

There was a request to have the Fire Wardens, Deputy Fire Wardens and Issuing Agents reappointed.

Selectman Hartung motioned to appoint Michael Carrier as a Fire Warden, Kerry Clark, Jim Gilmartin, Will Warnock, Maurice Worthen and Chris Dane as Deputy Wardens. He also motioned that Ed Clark, Steve Morse and Bryan Plante be appointed as issuing agents. Selectman Lindquist seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

(Note Chris Dane went from being an issuing agent to a Deputy Warden)

Call for candidates:

- o Cable Committee volunteers - monthly meetings
- o Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee - monthly meetings
- o Capital Needs Committee
- o Scenic Byways project
- o Friends of Ordway Park-monthly meetings

Visitors Comment

Future Agenda Item

Energy Committee
Hampstead Senior Committee
Town Administrator

Non Public Session

Selectman Lindquist motioned to go into non public session under RSA 91A 3:2 (a), employee matters at 8:01 pm. Selectman Hartung seconded the motion. On a roll call vote;

Selectman Lindquist: yes, Selectman Murphy; yes, Selectman Hartung; yes;

Selectman Lindquist motioned to come out of non public session at 8:22 pm. Selectman Hartung seconded the motion. Roll call vote;

Selectman Lindquist: yes, Selectman Murphy; yes, Selectman Hartung; yes;

Selectman Lindquist made a motion to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. Selectman Hartung seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

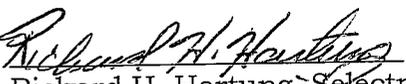
A True Record.



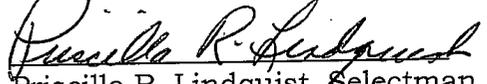
Tina Harrington, Recording Secretary

Approved By:

Sean P. Murphy, Chairman



Richard H. Hartung, Selectman



Priscilla R. Lindquist, Selectman