

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2012**

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

Guests: R. Birdsall, J., Worthen, J. Beaudoin

Non Public Session - 6:45 pm. RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) reputations – with MRI, Inc.

The public session began at 7:00 pm

Public Announcements

- September 11th, polls are open for the Primary from 8am to 8pm at the Hampstead Middle School.
- The Town Clerk's office will be closed on Tuesday, September 11th
- Drug Take Back day is scheduled for Saturday, September 29, 2012 at the Fire Station on Little's Lane
- 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

Regina Birdsall, State Representative- Representative Birdsall stated that she was looking to be re-elected to State Representative for the new District 13. She has served a term as the representative for the Hampstead/Kingston/Plaistow area and she is a 13 year Coast Guard veteran. She noted that she was on the House Committee that worked on the Voter Id law. Her platform for re-election is jobs, environment, and the economy. She felt that State needs to do better in bringing in new business. She stated that we are losing our young people to other areas for the jobs. She has heard from area businesses that the current SBA State Regulations are killing them and she hopes to be able to help them.

Department Heads

Highway Department- Mr. Worthen updated the Selectmen on the recent meeting of the Highway Safety Committee. They discussed options with the streetlights. There was a program through PSNH to turn street lights off at midnight to help save money for communities. It wouldn't work for our community because it can only be on the high pressure sodium light and the majority of what we have is the mercury vapor. Mr. Worthen said that he looked into what the cost would be to switch the lights from the mercury vapor to the metal alloyed which is a white light or to the high pressure sodium lights (HPS). The cost for the metal alloyed would be \$85,000 with a 7 year pay back. The HPS lights would be \$71, 000 with a 4.7 year pay back. The committee realized that it is a lot of money and with the LED lights coming out soon it would be better to wait and see what the cost to switch to them would be. They felt there was no sense to change now and then in three or four years have to do it again. There are about 120 lights that are HPS and 148 lights that are mercury vapor. The HPS lights are pretty much at intersections where you would not want to shut them off.

Selectman Hartung noted that now was a good time for residents to look around and see if they see lights that are not coming on or working properly. They can contact the Selectmen's office with the pole number and address.

Selectman Lindquist asked Mr. Worthen about disposing of the bulbs and who would be responsible. Mr. Worthen stated that PSNH is responsible to replace the bulbs.

Wash Pond Road- There was a request by the Laidlaw Bus Company to have a school bus stop ahead sign posted on Wash Pond Road near Blue Heron. There is a child there that needs to cross Wash Pond Road to catch the bus and it is on the S curves. The Highway Safety Committee agrees that two signs should be posted to warn drivers. Mr. Worthen believes that the bus company will pay for the signs. The Committee also discussed putting a stop sign at the end of Central Street where it merges into East Main Street (Route 121A). There is currently a yield sign at that location. The committee also discussed putting a stop sign coming off Emerson Avenue towards Main Street (by Sign Island). Central Street is a town road and the Selectmen could decide whether or not to put a stop sign there. The one at Emerson and Main Street is on State Road and would need to be done by them. Chief Beaudoin was asked if he heard from the State regarding the letter sent to have the intersection of Emerson Ave/West Road/Main Street/Stage Road looked at for a light and for the speed change on Sandown Road. Chief Beaudoin replied that he had not heard anything.

Selectman Hartung motioned to take the advice of the Highway Safety Committee and to change the yield sign at Central and East Main Street to a stop sign heading south towards Plaistow. Selectman Lindquist seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Worthen was told to come back to the next meeting to if the school bus company did not agree to pay for the signs.

Chief Beaudoin also mentioned that he had a response from the State of NH regarding the crosswalks for Camp Tel Noar. The request was denied because the camp is only in session 2-3 months a year and that it would be better to have someone crossing the campers by stopping the traffic than it would be to have the cross walks in. Chief Beaudoin tried to explain that if people are constantly driving by the crosswalk and never see anyone using it, they tend to forget that they are there and when they are needed, people won't be paying attention. Mr. Worthen was asked about the cross walk in front of the town offices. He responded that he would get to it soon.

Police Department- Chief Beaudoin-

He said that they interviewed 5 final candidates and did oral boards. They have decided on one applicant and are waiting for his background check to come through. Chief Beaudoin hopes that they will have someone to bring forward at the next meeting for the Selectmen to meet and appoint.

New Business

Review of budget schedule- Mrs. Theriault presented a schedule for the 2012-2013 budget season. There was a request by Chairman Murphy to change November 13th to November 7th. This will also be the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

2013 Budget- Mrs. Theriault asked what direction the Selectmen would like to give the department heads for preparing the 2013 budgets. Both Selectmen Hartung and Murphy asked for a flat budget or less if possible. Chairman Murphy asked that they all start with a zero based budget and build it from there. He also noted that he historical spending will be looked at.

Annual MS5- the Board of Selectmen signed the MS-5. Each member was also given a copy of the 2011 Financial Statements to review. Selectman Lindquist noted an error in the description of the sick pay benefits and asked that it be corrected.

Dragon Mosquito- Selectman Hartung noted that the Town of Hampstead works with Dragon Mosquito Company and that the Health Officer, Kris Emerson keeps in close contact with them. Each month we receive a detail list of where they have trapped, set and surveyed. With the recent positive testings of West Nile Virus and a positive find for EEE that the Town is monitoring the situation. It is still suggested that people take protective measures when they are outdoors until the frost has been able to kill the mosquitoes.

Discussion about wholesale energy suppliers RFP

Mrs. Theriault stated that last year the Selectmen met with three companies regarding energy suppliers. She asked if the Selectmen were interested in sending out an RFP this year and stated that it might be difficult to get the companies in to have a work session. Resident Power, ENH Power and White Columns all offer discounts to the residents along with the town. White Columns is the current energy supplier and PSNH recently reduced their rates to stay competitive with the energy suppliers so there may not be a large savings. Chairman Murphy explained that last year it was new to them all and the work session was to explain the whole process. He went on to state that it wouldn't be needed this year and the RFP process would work fine. They agreed that the start date of any new contract should be consistent with the end of the current contract.

Old Business

Liaisons Reports

Chairman Murphy

School Board- Selectman Murphy stated that he attended the last meeting of the school board and they discussed a donation of a pavilion to be built near the parking lot and soccer fields at the Middle School.

Selectman Lindquist

She had no updates at this time.

Selectman Hartung

Elections- Selectman Hartung noted that he recently attended a workshop on voter education which was mainly about the voter id law. He went into some of the changes that will take effect and how tomorrow's election will be a trial run for the new rules. He stated that the election law committee in Concord did a great job and worked hard to keep it easy for the voters. He noted that starting with the election on 9/11/12 voters will be required to show a picture id and he read what ids would be accepted. He also noted that no voter would be turned away tomorrow due to a lack of an id. However, for future elections a photo id will be required and if someone doesn't have a drivers license they can get a residency letter from the Town Clerk's office and bring to registry to get a free photo id for voting.

Administrative Assistant Report

RFP for fuel and equipment

Mrs. Theriault contacted Hampstead Schools to see if the Town and the Schools could go out to bid together. Since the school heating RFP is handled through the SAU, which works with many schools and towns it really won't work logistically to have the SAU only contract with Hampstead and not the other towns that it represents for their schools.

Therefore, Hampstead should send out its own RFP for heating and equipment. Last year the contract ran from November to April, the heating season. She will use the same parameters that were used last year for the Heating RFP.

Work on Generator

Mrs. Theriault explained that she had requested an extension for the installation of the generator. She doesn't expect to hear until after September 19th whether or not our extension has been approved. However, while it hasn't been formally approved, it is her understanding that if there was something wrong with the request we should have heard by now. The most affordable way for the project to go forward is to have the Town act as the contractor. Jon Worthen is getting prices on the generators and Kris Emerson will be checking into the cost of the electrical work. Selectman Lindquist also spoke with Mr. Emerson on it.

Meeting Minutes

There are several non-public meeting minutes that need to be reviewed at the end of the meeting.

Activity Log

There was a meeting today regarding the I-net downstairs with Comcast representatives. The system is antiquated and of no use to anyone at this time. Selectman Hartung suggested that a letter go out to everyone that may have some connection with it (i.e. cable, school etc) to set a certain date as a shut off and then shut it down and see what happens. Selectman Lindquist will bring the information to the Cable Committee whereas they were waiting for the results as part of the negotiations. The Selectman asked that the LED lighting with PSNH be added to the activity log, the RFP for fuel and the generator work.

- Call for candidates :
 - Ordway Park, full members and alternates – monthly meetings
 - Cable Committee volunteers – monthly meetings
 - Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee – monthly meetings
 - Town Facilities Committee
 - Hampstead Police Building Committee.
 - Rockingham Planning Commission member
 - Patriotic Purposes Committee take off next meeting or add alternate to it.

Selectman Lindquist noted that she has two people interested in being on the town facility committee and wanted to know what the status of the new committee was. Mrs. Theriault will send out the contact information on the three current appointed members to each other so that they can set up a time to meet and will copy Chairman Murphy whereas he is liaison to the Buildings and Grounds department. Selectman Lindquist also offered to spearhead it if needed.

Correspondence

Comcast-There was a notice the Channel 2 which is currently WGBH Boston is going away and NHPTV will be moving from their current channel on 11 to channel 2. There will be similar changes on the HD numbers as well. WGBH Boston will no longer be carried at the request of NHPTV.

Hampstead Area Water Company- There is a notice that there will be a pre hearing on the requested rate increase by HAWC before the PUC (Public Utilities Committee) on September 18th at 10:00 am. It is open to the public and people that want to weigh in on the increases can email the PUC at PUC@PUC.NH.GOV or send a letter to the PUC at 21 S.Fruit Street, Concord, NH 03301 or they can call HAWC at 603-362-4299.

Visitors Comments

There were none

Future Agenda Item

- Energy Committee

- Hampstead Senior Committee
- Town Administrator

Selectman Lindquist motioned to go into nonpublic session RSA 91-A:3 II (c) reputation at 8:01. Selectman Hartung seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Selectman Hartung (yes); Selectman Lindquist (yes); Chairman Murphy (yes).

Once in the non public session the Selectmen realized that they should be in under employee matters (a) and made the correction at 8:02 pm.

Selectman Lindquist motioned to come out of non public session at 8:19. Selectman Hartung seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Selectman Hartung (yes); Selectman Lindquist (yes); Chairman Murphy (yes).

Selectman Lindquist motioned to seal the minutes of the non public session. Selectman Hartung seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Lindquist motioned to go into nonpublic session RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) reputations at 8:19. Selectman Hartung seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Selectman Hartung (yes); Selectman Lindquist (yes); Chairman Murphy (yes).

Mrs. Theriault asked if Chairman Murphy had discussed with the Cohen Foundation the amount of the PILOT program with the addition of the new property. Chairman Murphy responded that they had been no discussions on that. Mrs. Theriault updated the Selectmen on what she could see as the amounts that were previously negotiated. The Selectman agreed on the number that they would go to and Mrs. Theriault will forward that information to Town Counsel. Mrs. Theriault will also check into the deadline for filing an abatement and filing for the BTLA.

Selectman Hartung motioned to come out of nonpublic session at 8:29 pm. Selectman Lindquist seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Selectman Hartung (yes); Selectman Lindquist (yes); Chairman Murphy (yes).

Selectman Hartung made a motion to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. Selectman Lindquist seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A True Record.

Approved By:

Tina Harrington, Recording Secretary

Sean P. Murphy, Chairman

Priscilla R. Lindquist, Selectman

Richard H. Hartung, Selectman