

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting May 12, 2015

Members present: Jim Andersen, Chairman, and Bryant Scott

In attendance: Scott Whitehouse

The Selectmen's meeting opened at 6:35PM.

Bills and payroll were reviewed and payment was approved. The Selectmen reviewed and addressed correspondence as necessary. Minutes from the April 28th Selectmen's Meeting were read and approved.

The Selectmen recognized and thanked the Strafford Garden Club's fine work in caring for the plantings in front of the Town Office. The Selectmen received a note of thanks and accompanying confections from a resident grateful for some drainage work the road agent had addressed.

The Selectmen signed correspondence acknowledging the Library trustees as having the authority and task of overseeing the finances of the Hill Library and making decisions as they relate to the operations of the Library; they operate under the Town's tax ID. Addressing a separate matter, it was clarified that maintenance to the library is handled within the library's budget; the same is true for the Police and Fire Departments.

Scott Whitehouse had a few items to discuss with the Selectmen.

- He has passed the EMT practical exam and the Inspector 1 class. He is hoping to take the national registry test the last week of May.
- Scott reported that the department received commendation from two individuals about the handling of an emergency call by some younger members of the department. The Selectmen added their congratulations.
- Scott would like to begin work on the dry hydrants that were approved at the March 2015 Town Meeting. He has some specific repairs/ installations he would like to target initially. He also wanted clarification on expending the funds and what happens to the funds at year end if they are not completely expended. A capital reserve fund will be established with any leftover funds, with the Selectmen as agents to expend.
- He reported that the Autopulse has broken. The department purchased an extended warranty on it earlier this year, and he is hopeful that will handle some of the the cost of repair.
- The Board congratulated the Fire Department on their great response to the recent fire in Town. Scott spoke briefly about some details. He believes that the house is 98% salvageable.
- Scott reported that the department has responded to 5 structure fires this year; that is ahead of last year.
- The department has participated in numerous mutual aid calls as well.

The Selectmen signed an appointment slip for part time police officer to start on May 15th. This officer is currently certified and works part time for another Town.

The Selectmen reviewed the road Agent's signed contract with Pike Industries for asphalt work. Because it differed from the original contract, they had a few questions. As Greg could not be reached, they requested that he come to their next Selectmen's Meeting.

The Selectmen's Office is making preparations for the opening of the Bow Lake beach. Three lifeguards have been secured. The Selectmen approved moving forward with only 3 lifeguards if they are willing and able to provide adequate coverage. Portable toilets for the beach area have been arranged for delivery before Memorial Day.

The Selectmen present reviewed the assessor's letter regarding the property valuation adjustments that might be made as a result of the NHDRRA Equalization Ratio study. The Board in its entirety will meet on Thursday at 5:30PM to review several matters, this being one of them.

The Town's follow up inspection with the DOL has been rescheduled for May 20, 2015. The eyewash station at the Recycling Center has been installed and Ben is making a template for marking the traffic flow on the pavement.

The Selectmen's Office is exploring options for Town Hall telecommunications service. The Town Administrator will meet with Metrocast this week and speak with Fairpoint following that visit.

James St. Jean Auctioneers have been contacted about auctioning 2 Town owned/tax deeded properties sometime this summer.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board a motion was made, seconded, and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:00PM.