

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting 16 September 2014

Members present: Steve Leighton, Chairman, Jim Andersen and Lynn Sweet
In attendance: Scott Whitehouse, Fire Chief

The meeting was called to order at 6:25PM.

Minutes from the September 2, 2014 meeting were read and approved as written. The Selectmen reviewed and approved payroll and the payment of bills. Correspondence was read. The Board responded to correspondence from Health Trust regarding the distribution of a refund due the Town. The Selectmen's Office will write a letter in support of efforts by members of the community seeking grant money for the purchase of a dry wood chip boiler for Strafford School.

NHDOT has approached the Town about releasing another portion of Province Road to the Town. Due to issues with the condition of some sections of the road, the Selectmen agreed that a commitment from the State for upgrades and improvements to the road would be necessary before any agreement could be presented to the Town.

Officer Bryant Scott has taken a position with the County Sherriff's Office and will be leaving the Strafford Police Department later this year. His full time position will be filled by Chris Dustin who is currently a part time officer.

Progress on the First Crown Point bridge project was reported. The Selectmen met with Earth Mechanics and Bob Durfee to discuss some details including the placement of the dry hydrant and the need for a turnoff. It was determined that the turnoff is unnecessary. DuBois and King will design the dry hydrant and Earth Mechanics will estimate cost for construction.

The members of the Board met with Scott Whitehouse, Strafford's new Fire Chief, whose starting date was moved to September 14, 2014. The Board reviewed the expectations for the position of Fire Chief with Scott. Scott is expected to have gained EMT training within a year; he is currently scheduling an EMT class to be held in Town and expects other towns to be interested in attending as well. He will attend a Selectmen's meeting once a month during his probationary period in an effort to foster good communication; Deputy Chief Dave Hartranft will attend with him every other month. They also expect ongoing and intentional communication with the Police Department. For the October 14th Selectmen's meeting he will present initial budget requests to the Board as well as departmental and personal goals.

Lakes Region Mutual Aid will hold its annual hearing for its budget on October 7th. Scott Whitehouse will be serving on Lakes Region's capital improvement program committee

Two matters concerning the Recycling Center were discussed. The Selectmen will follow up on them.

Christine Bane has been hired as a deputy town clerk. The Selectmen approved the purchase of a computer for use by the tax collector and town clerk deputies.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board a motion was made, seconded, and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:39PM.