

Minutes of the Public Hearing and Selectmen's Meeting
22 January 2013

Members present: R. Stephen Leighton, Chairman, Lynn Sweet, and JoAnn Brown
In attendance: Greg Messenger, Mark Messenger, Jim Anderson, Paul Stover

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:05PM

Notification of the public hearing was published on January 5, 2013 in *Foster's Daily Democrat* and notice of it was posted in various locations in Strafford. The proposed changes included updated e-911 street names, changes in the fine schedule and reduction of the speed limit on Perry Road to 25mph. Parking along the road near fire stations is restricted. The Public Hearing closed at 6:10

The Selectmen's meeting commenced immediately following the close of the Public Hearing. The first item of business was to consider, by vote, the proposed changes to the Town ordinances. A motion was made to adopt the amended ordinances, seconded, and vote taken. Selectman Leighton – Aye, Selectman Sweet – Aye, Selectman Brown – Aye.

Minutes from the January 8, 2012 Selectmen's meeting were read and approved with one correction.

Correspondence was reviewed, discussed, and signed as necessary. Payment of bills and payroll was authorized.

AMI will be holding an open house at their new facility on Thursday, January 31st at 6:45. The Selectmen would especially like Town officials to attend. AMI has been very supportive to many organizations in Town.

The discussion about the salting and sanding of the Town roads continued from a previous meeting with the recommendation to the road agent from the Selectmen that there should be a lighter use of salt in the salt/sand mixture applied to the Town roads. A suggestion was also made to check the calibration of the mixer units. The Selectmen commended the road agent for his crew's work. Some funds requested in the capital improvements article will include maintenance for some dirt roads.

The Selectmen discussed briefly some details of the preparation of the Annual Report.

Work continued in reviewing the budgets of each department. It was suggested that the Planning Board consider raising its fees.

A line item of \$1000 will be added to building improvement and repairs for a recording/PA system. Some ideas for its use were briefly discussed.

The Selectmen discussed several matters with Paul Stover, Fire Chief. He explained the problems the fire department has been having with radio communication between members as they respond to calls. Paul answered questions about the repairs to the equipment and reported that all the

generators are installed; the generator at the Bow Lake Station needs an inspection. The generators along with the paving at Bow Lake Station came in \$14,000 under budget. The Selectmen requested that the department keep a mileage log for the ambulance. By updating the information on the Town's equipment, Paul is hoping the department will be able to get a better insurance rate.

A warrant article will put forth the creation of a position for a full time paramedic in the Fire Department. The Selectmen spoke with Paul with some of the details of the position as they see it, including duties, supervision, salary, and adjustments to the department's current budget to accommodate the position.

It was noted that Chief Young will be presenting an article at Town Meeting for an additional full time police officer to replace several part time positions.

The Selectmen briefly discussed the sale several lots the Town has taken and will begin the process of selling one of them by notifying its former owner.

The First Crown Point Road bridge funding has been approved by the NHDOT under the State Bridge Aid Program.

The Selectmen approved PJ Shiere to be beach manager for summer 2013.

February 5, 2013 will be the budget hearing. No work session is scheduled prior to that.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board a motion was made, seconded, and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:05.