

TOWN OF WEBSTER
Office of Selectmen
945 Battle Street/Rte. 127
Webster, NH 03303

Webster Board of Selectmen's Meeting – February 22, 2010

7:03 P.M. Present: Chairman Thomas Mullins, Selectman David Klumb and Selectman George Hashem.

The Board signed the payroll and check manifests.

The Board signed the following for Administrative Assistant Judith Jones:

- Selectman Klumb made a motion to accept the minutes of February 8, 2010 as written; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved;
- Selectman Klumb made a motion to accept the non-public minutes of February 8, 2010 as written; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved;
- Selectman Klumb made a motion to accept the minutes of the Public Hearing held February 9, 2010 as written; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved;
- Approved a Veteran's Tax Credit and the Credit for a Service Connected Total and Permanent Disability;
- Purchase Order #5 for the Police Department to Rose's Garage for labor and installation of a fuel pump for the Crown Victoria in the amount \$535; and
- The 2010 proposed Warrant for posting.

Mrs. Jones provided a list for the Board's consideration of those appointed officials whose term expires on 3/31/10.

The Board signed the 2010 Proposed Budget and Revenues for posting and an Intent to Cut for James and Catherine Michaud for Map 6-25-2 for the Financial Administrator Wendy Pinkham.

Lieutenant Philip Mitchell presented the Police Department semi-monthly report. He advised that the Department was successful in Superior Court regarding a case of witness tampering and destruction of evidence.

Fire Chief Colin Colby reported that there were 21 calls in 2009 for the month of February and only 7 calls in 2010. He attended the Capital Area Compact Meeting last Thursday and advised that calls overall were done 9% from last year. Each town was given a list of 911 Street discrepancies with Webster receiving a list of five. He will meet with the Road Agent to resolve any issues. Chief Colby requested a purchase order to Ossipee Mountain Electronics for a new pager with a five-year maintenance contract in the amount of \$500, which was typed up and signed by the Board.

Road Agent Emmett Bean has screened 1,200 to 1,500 yards of sand this week. They have been thawing out culverts as needed. There has been an ongoing issue at 34 Call Road regarding snow being plowed into the roadway. The Police have been involved, checking on the issue and have been in contact with the owner. Lieutenant Mitchell advised that a ticket can be issued if the issue is not resolved and that the Department will be monitoring the problem. Mr. Bean noted that the Weight Limit on the roads may be posted early this year due to the weather. As it is up to Mr. Bean's discretion, he will advise Mrs. Jones when he would like this done. Lieutenant Mitchell inquired about waivers to the Weight Limit requirement. Mr. Bean advised that any waivers issued would be in writing.

Treasurer Mary Welch advised of a new process whereby the Board will be reviewing and signing off on the bank reconciliation each month as will the Department Heads.

Don Gross advised that Chief Robert Dupuis was on a previously planned vacation and Chief Dupuis had asked that Mr. Gross be available during his absence. Mr. Gross will also be at the Town Meeting. He reminded all that Chief Dupuis is not yet on Webster's payroll.

Robert Lake requested, for safety reasons that the Yield sign posted on Deer Meadow Road leading onto Corn Hill Road be changed so that the Yield sign would then be posted on Corn Hill Road. After much discussion involving the Police Department, Road Agent, the Board and citizen input the final decision was to post two Yield signs; one headed South on Clothespin Bridge Road towards Deer Meadow Road and one headed North on Corn Hill Road towards Deer Meadow Road. This would give Deer Meadow Road the right-of-way. Selectman Klumb made a motion to approve the recommended change; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved. There was concern that this could cause confusion. Selectman Klumb felt that the traffic pattern would be evident. Once the change is made, the Police will monitor the area. There was discussion on the current Stop signs at "Dingit's Corner" and a suggestion that they be removed. George Cummings gave a short history of the court case upholding the Zoning Board of Adjustment's refusal to allow building on Gerrish Road as it comes into a dangerous intersection at "Dingit's Corner", hence the reason for the Stop signs.

County Commissioner Liz Blanchard and Corrections Superintendent of Merrimack County Jail Ron White met with the Board to discuss the possibility of using the facilities inmates for the work release program. Mr. White developed this program when he took over as Superintendent of the newly built facility in 2005. It is for the purpose of accomplishing projects above and beyond the scope of the day to day operations of a community. It is not meant to take work from or compete with any other entity. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to meet with them and went on to explain the program. One officer takes a crew of not more than 10 "light weight" inmates, those that pose no risk to the community, with appropriate labor skills. The Town would have to supply any tools needed for the project. He advised that the inmates are respectful, hardworking, and diligent and take pride in what they accomplish. Supervision, meals, transportation and all insurance liability is covered by the County, with no possibility of future claims against the Town. Any outside claim i.e. a rock through a vehicle window would be submitted to the County. He advised that the Police Department would have all information regarding any project and the inmates should a work crew be in the Town. Odell Park in Franklin; a ski lift area; Allenstown clean-up around the Town owned buildings, etc are but a few of the projects accomplished. Mr. White responded to many questions from the audience. Chairman Mullins thanked Commissioner Blanchard and Mr. White for their presentation saying that the Board would take the offer under consideration and get back to them. Mr. White said he could provide a list of suggested projects to be considered.

Sonny Hunt discussed his plans for coordinating the 27th year of the canoe races, in affiliation with the American Canoe Association, and requested to camp in the Park from April 15th for early setup to the 18th. He will provide proof of insurance with the Town listed on the policy. Lieutenant Mitchell noted that the Police do not usually have anything to do with the races, advising that there have been no issues that he knew of in the past. He then recommended that Mr. Hunt speak with the Fire Chief regarding any camp fires in the grove. In prior years there had been some issue with the group using the entrance to the salt shed; therefore Mr. Hunt will work with the Road Agent. Chairman Mullins had reservation about setting a precedent as townspeople are not allowed to camp in the Park. Mr. Hunt noted that this kayak group has been camping there for over 20 years, noting also that the group has always provided porta-potties and been respectful of the area. Chairman Mullins noted that other than a sign denoting the park is not open after dark, there is no written policy regarding camping. Selectman Klumb recommended allowing camping for this event only as long as Mr. Hunt networks with all Department Heads involved, provides the Town with the Certificate of Insurance and leaves the area clean.

Lieutenant Mitchell advised that those responsible for dumping trash on Bashan Hollow Road were convicted and each made a restitution of \$372.

Mrs. Pinkham advised that the Town Reports should be available by Friday.

Jay Bowe publicly thanked Don Gross and Lieutenant Mitchell for all of their assistance in the past year.

The Board reviewed proposed changes to the Personnel Policy. After discussion Selectman Klumb made a motion to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a); seconded by Selectman Hashem. Roll call: Chairman Mullins – yes; Selectman Klumb – yes; and Selectman Hashem – yes. Mrs. Jones was requested to attend.

8:38 P.M. Chairman Mullins reconvened the meeting. He advised that the Board will gather information regarding the current Policy.

Kim Fortune inquired as to whether the Board would consider a “Candidates Open Forum Meeting” for all residents to better inform the public and to see how the candidates will represent the Town. She suggested discussion be on issues such as the dump; school, Currier & Ives By-way; and law enforcements. The Board thought it was a good idea. Chairman Mullins suggested that the meeting have structure. Barbara Corliss recommended the meeting have pre-arranged questions. There was a general discussion on the budget and the anticipated shortfall of revenue from the State revenues. Mrs. Fortune will proceed with the project.

8:51 P.M. Selectmen Hashem made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Selectman Klumb and approved.

Thomas S. Mullins-Chairman

David E. Klumb

George K. Hashem

BOS/jj