



noting that with the push towards alternative fuels for cars, i.e. electric, etc. there would be less revenue from the gas tax, asking what then might happen. Mr. Parker will research this issue and get back to the Board, noting that it was not a big issue yet but may be later. Ms. Foley noted that Senator Ayotte was recently appointed to four committees: armed services, commerce, small business and aging. Her office is located in a temporary space in Manchester. They will be at the Public Library in Concord this Thursday for the public and every week or two thereafter. She also offered to meet in the AA's office tonight, for at least an hour, with anyone with comments or concerns that she could share with the Senator. Chief Dupuis discussed an organization known as the RISK network that helps law enforcement agencies throughout the country. The past budget was 43 million and he understood that it is now 11 million. He felt that it needs to be increased as the RISK network is one of the biggest partners in gathering of intelligence and with training. Mrs. Pinkham addressed a proposed piece of legislation that would allow the auto dealers to register vehicles, thereby taking that source of revenue from the local level. She advised that this is a huge part of our revenue stream locally. If passed, it would also require the towns to provide the banking information to the dealers in order for them to pass on whatever payment would be due to the municipalities. Regarding the registrations out of town, concerns were raised about the validity of residency, etc. Mrs. Ham inquired as to whether someone would be willing to testify against the passage of this. Mrs. Pinkham was sure that the Town Clerk would be willing. Mr. Richardson said that he would look into this and get back to the Board, advising that folks need to be aware when the bill is being considered so they can express their feelings. Selectman Cummings inquired as to whether there was any number available regarding the deficit. Mrs. Ham stated that it was a lot. She said that she was working with the revenue projections for the next two years. Statistics received indicated that the growth rate for NH would be between 2.6% to 5%, noting that other people were more pessimistic than she. She advised that the revenue projections, upon which the budget will be built, were less than that, noting that the preference is to look at the low instead of the high. More information would be available in March or April. Martin Bourque indicated that there was interest expressed in rolling back the budget to 2008 at the federal level, asking Mr. Parker and Ms. Foley if they had any opinion on that. Both indicated that they would look into that, with Mr. Howard saying that the big battle was with the deficit or debt ceiling. Mr. Bourque inquired as to whether there was any such interest at the State level or any rolling back to some prior budget level that would be less than the current one. Mr. Richardson said that the Governor has requested a 5% reduction, while noting some costs were fixed. Chief Dupuis addressed the NH Retirement System, noting after reviewing some of the legislative bills, if passed, recent hires will not receive the benefits they might have expected when hired. He referred to the recommendation of adding five years before retirement eligibility to new hires, having no affect on those with more than 10 years of service, only those with less than 10 years of service. He agreed that changes are needed but would like to see the responsibility spread out to all and sensible changes made, further saying he felt that the change should affect those hired from the day of passage of new legislation. Mr. Richardson agreed that the overwhelming sentiment was to make drastic changes that may not be liked. Chief Dupuis thought there may be serious repercussions and that might be costly to all. Tom Mullins felt that this issue was more about people keeping their promises and word. Mr. Richardson felt that that would be the case for those that had been in the system for more than 10 years. Further comments were made by Selectman Hashem, Ms. Hamm and Chief Dupuis. Mrs. Bowe asked all the representatives as to who will be brave enough to "face down the unions." Mr. Richardson was unsure exactly what Ms. Bowe was referring to but advised that the evergreen clause will soon be repealed. There was a short discussion on unions in general with Mr. Richardson acknowledging that the unions would not be abolished. Chairman Klumb advised that all union rules were federal. Chairman Klumb thanked the guests for coming. Mrs. Ham advised that she was glad to come and wanted to stay in touch with Mr. Richardson suggesting that they meet with the Board again in May when they would have more information.

Chairman Klumb reminded folks that the Public Hearing for the proposed 2011 Warrant and Budget is set for 2/8/11 at 7:00 P.M.

The Board agreed to allow colored pictures in the Town Report as long as it was done at no cost to the Town.

The Board agreed to have Mary Smith ask the Planning and Zoning Board to make recommendations for the appointment of those positions that expire on 3/31/11.

The Board was advised that the Impact Fee Funds that were not paid are now paid; the \$30 electrical inspection fee was collected; all paperwork regarding the "Order of Notice" has been returned to the Franklin District Court; and the letter regarding potential zoning violations regarding an apartment has been sent with a request for the owner to schedule a meeting with the Board no later than 2/22/11.

Selectman Hashem made a motion to accept the minutes of January 10, 2011 as amended; seconded by Selectman Cummings and approved. There was discussion on how to distinguish the original from the amended with a solution to be researched. Both sets of minutes are kept for the permanent records.

The Board reviewed the minutes of January 24, 2011. Selectman Hashem referred to page 3, second paragraph from the bottom of the

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D. E. Klumb

G. K. Hashem

G. C. Cummings

minutes as prepared beginning with “After much discussion...” saying that he felt it did not do justice to what he said and proposed to amend it or read into tonight's minutes a statement. He proposed that that paragraph be replaced with the following:

“In reference to Selectman's Cummings comments made at the Planning Board Meeting, Selectman Hashem stated that Selectman Cummings' accused the Planning Board of not diligently addressing the petitioned warrant articles. Selectman Hashem called this inappropriate. Selectman Hashem stated that such comments create the impression that the Planning Board was being biased, and casting aspersions upon members of other boards from a sitting Selectman could be used against the Town in any lawsuit. These comments are unprofessional coming from a Selectman.”

“Selectman Hashem also stated that Selectman Cummings' challenge to the Planning Board was an attempt to micromanage the affairs of an independent Town board. Selectman Hashem went on to say the actions of Selectman Cummings' was an attempt to pressure or make the Planning Board decide an issue as he wanted them to decide and as such was disrespectful to the Planning Board in their independence.”

He thought that this condensed what he said on the tape and welcomed examination of the tape, showing his copy of the highlighted transcript from that meeting to Selectman Cummings, saying he thought he captured it 100%. He stated that that was the amendment he wanted to make. If that did not pass then he made a motion to replace the existing paragraph with that just read and if not then he requested that what he read be in tonight's minutes and provided a copy for the record. Selectman Cummings noted he too had some concerns, but was willing to not make further comments, but based on the above presentation, noted he would listen to the tape and take issues with a few things as well. Selectman Hashem provided a copy of the transcript to Selectman Cummings. Selectman Cummings noted that this was the same kind of thing that had been going on over the past year with the Planning Board.

Selectman Hashem noted he had a motion to amend the minutes, noting there was no second.

Selectman Cummings made a motion to table the minutes. He advised that he had a prepared a statement at the last meeting, but decided that it was not necessary to elevate the issue to that level, saying he would be prepared at the next meeting. He noted that he was willing to let what went on at the Planning Board session go by because, at the least, there was no time for consideration of the two petition warrant article amendments. He felt that one of them filled the gap that the Board said that they don't want additions to any site, noting that one of the petition articles would address that, whereas it is not addressed at all currently. He felt that the other article was an improvement over that which has existed for over 20 years in terms of clarifying the storage of RV's through the winter. Selectman Hashem noted that his comments had nothing to do with the validity of the petition articles. It was the behavior and accusations indicating that that would expose the Town to risk. He noted that as a Selectman, he thought one should be careful of what comments are made and should be on the lookout for the best interest of the Town. Selectman Cummings referenced when the new owners of the campground came to introduce themselves to the Board, asking how things could be worked out with the Town, he indicated that they were treated rudely. At this time, Chairman Klumb seconded the motion to table the minutes and the motion was approved.

Chairman Klumb asked those present for comments. Mr. Mullins shared the good news regarding the well installed for residents near the landfill, saying that the well is producing a good quantity of water and all that is left to do is to connect the homes. This project came in at a cost as low as possible. Mr. Mullins then referred to Attorney Mayer's second letter in reference to the campground, inquiring of the Board if anything “obviated” Attorney Mayer's considerations or issued covered in the earlier letter. Selectman Cummings again said that the earlier letter was not addressed to the Board but was a copy to the Board from our Attorney to the campground's Attorney, noting that this would mean that one member of the Planning Board, the Selectman member of the PB, had a copy. Mr. Mullins noted that Attorney Mayer in the earlier letter to Attorney Glavey raised objections and copied this to the Board. His question was whether or not anything in the second letter “obviated” those objections. Chairman Klumb and Selectman Hashem said that it did not. Selectman Cummings again recommended that the Board go and talk to Attorney Mayer about this. Chairman Klumb advised that the PB approved the campground's plans, noting there were no more issues regarding the campground before the PB other than a Certificate of Occupancy. Mr. Mullins advised of a communication that the campground is refusing to sign the letter of approval from the PB with the conditions. Chairman Klumb noted that the campground had approval for what they asked for. Mr. Mullins said it was contingent upon them signing off, which they have declined. Chairman Klumb said that they then had nothing and no further action was needed until the campground owners comes back to the Town.

8:04 P.M. Selectman Hashem made a motion to go into a non-public session, pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a), with Road Agent Bean and Ms. Roberts; seconded by Selectman Cummings. Roll Call: Chairman Klumb – yes; Selectman Hashem – yes; and Selectman Cummings – yes.

8:15 P.M. Chairman Klumb reconvened the meeting advising that the Board had a discussion regarding personnel issues and voted to seal the minutes.

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Barbara Corliss stated that the Landfill Committee talked about the two warrant articles that were on the Hopkinton Warrant, one was to get rid of the pay-as-you-throw program and two was to suspend that program until Webster joined. Chairman Klumb indicated that waiting for Webster would effectively be the same as getting rid of the program. She inquired as to whether the Town had ever sent a Thank-you note to Steve Clough, Superintendent of the Public Works in Hopkinton, especially thanking him for fixing and saving so much money in regards to the well. All Board members agreed that he indeed did a great job and Mr. Mullins indicated that he came well under the initial budget, but would have more information after the next Landfill Meeting to be held here at the Town Hall. Mrs. Jones inquired as to whether meetings were posted. Mr. Mullins noted that they were posted in Hopkinton. Discussion followed on this issue and the meetings will be posted going forward.

Martin Bourque raised the issue about combining emergency services as had been discussed two years ago at the Town Meeting, which didn't happen. He realized three things lately: one – Salisbury has shown interest; two – Boscawen has shown interest and three - nation-wide it has become popular. He understood the reluctance to give up local control, but if there was the possibility of getting equivalent service for less money or the same service for less money or better service for the same money then it would behoove the Town to explore this. Chairman Klumb and Selectman Hashem indicated that they had not heard of any interest from Boscawen. Chief Dupuis advised that he was told by a third party that a Webster Selectman had called her at home and advised that it was in the minutes of their meeting. Dave Collins noted that Boscawen was short staffed at this time. Chairman Klumb said that if it was in Webster's best interest to combine services then it should be done. Mr. Bourque said he assumed that that meant financially. Chairman Klumb advised that it could also be coverage. Mr. Bourque indicated that he thought the idea had been viewed in Webster negatively indicating that he did not think that was fair.

Mr. Bourque advised that in the past he went the PB meetings, but stopped over a year ago because of contention regarding the minutes and had concerns that this was now becoming the case with this Board. He advised that it embarrassed him to see adults squabble over items that do not move the Town forward, saying that if those in the position of responsibility could not get together and resolve their issues, then the Town could go nowhere. He suggested that the Committees squabbling had best get together to resolve their issues and move forward.

Mr. Bean addressed the earlier comment on combined services, advising that a committee had been formed after Dave Batchelder brought it up at the Town Meeting They held at least three meetings, with letters sent and phone calls made, noting that there was no response. Mrs. Jones reminded him that Salisbury had responded. Sue Roberts felt that some of the negativity was because of the School and the losing of control. Several comments were made. No other action was taken at this time.

8:25 P.M. Selectman Hashem made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Selectman Cummings and approved.

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David E. Klumb, Chairman

George K. Hashem

George C. Cummings

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