

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

7:03 P.M. Selectmen's Meeting – June 27, 2011

Present: Selectman Chairman George Cummings, Selectman George Hashem and Selectman Bruce Johnson.

The Board signed the payroll and check manifests.

The Board signed the following for Therese Larson filling in for Administrative Assistant Judith Jones:

- Selectman Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes of June 13, 2011 as written; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved;
- Selectman Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes of June 22, 2011 Work Session as written; seconded by Selectman Chairman Cummings and approved; Selectman Hashem abstained as he was not present at the June 22, 2011 session.
- Six Tax Abatements from 2010, all of which were granted;
- "Board of Selectmen Meetings and Audio Retention Policy" which was adopted at the June 13, 2011 Selectmen's meeting; and
- One Sick Leave slip for Mrs. Jones.

The Board signed the following for Financial Administrator Wendy Pinkham:

- Intent to Cut for Timothy Courser – Map 4-79;
- Annual License to Operate a Motor Vehicle Junkyard – annual renewal for Webster Recycling;
- Re-sign Purchase Order for \$300,000.00 E-1 Greenwood Fire Truck which was originally made out to the wrong company. This Purchase Order is made out to the right company; and
- Letter to authorize Treasurer to withdraw funds from Impact fees from the Municipal Office line.

Police Chief Dupuis advised of the following:

- He submitted a vacation slip for himself in October. He pointed out that the Vacation Policy for the Chief states that he should have means for being able to be contacted in the event of an emergency. He did not think that would be possible as he is going to be on a ship. Mary Smith said her experience when she was on a cruise was that she could be contacted via the internet. Chairman Cummings made a point of making sure someone is in charge during his absence.
- Statistic Report for the last two weeks as he did not have them at the prior meeting of June 13, 2011. The police department had 56 calls for service: 2 simple assaults; criminal mischief; criminal trespass; making a false report to law enforcement; speeding; dog licenses; 5 arrests in the last month; and 12 motor vehicle stops.
- Chief Dupuis has been working on an ordinance for disorderly conduct and disorderly actions as a result of his conversations with the Board at the last meeting regarding motor bikes being run at 1500 Battle Street. Chief stated he observed a truck at the property in the morning. It looked like it was being loaded with a dirt bike. Chief has contacted about five towns that have the ordinance so he can develop one for Webster. Chairman Cummings inquired if noise level would be one of the "key ingredients" of the ordinance. Chief answered in the affirmative.
- Chief Dupuis has been looking for prices for ammunition. He has checked with surrounding towns in the area, and the cheapest ammunition has been through the State Bid parameters. However, he found a company in Massachusetts, which is a little bit less than the State Bid. It is \$266.00 per thousand which is \$48.00 per thousand cheaper compared to the State Bid of \$314.00 per thousand. Chief Dupuis stated that price is for "training ammunition". For "duty ammunition", the State Bid is \$420.00 per thousand compared to \$390.00 per thousand from the company in Massachusetts which is a savings of \$30.00 per thousand. Chairman Cummings asked if shipping costs would wipe out the savings. Chief said the company would deliver the ammunition. For .223 ammunition the cost would be \$247.00 for a case of 500. Selectman Hashem inquired as to the how much field ammunition is used. Chief Dupuis stated that police officers are required to qualify once a year, firing as many rounds as needed in order to qualify. Chief also pointed out, one must practice in order to pass. He continued the discussion stating one must qualify two times consecutively.
- Chief Dupuis stated that so far this year, the Police Department has turned in approximately \$3,500.00 to the Town.

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- The Police Department is renewing the contract with The Army Corps. of Engineers for the next two months for under \$700.00 per month for their services.

Fire Chief Colin Colby advised of the following:

- Chief Colby attended the New Hampshire Fire Wardens' Meeting last week in Hooksett. There was a demonstration by J.B.I. Helicopter Services dropping water buckets into a larger one on the ground. Chief Colby stated it was very interesting and a very precise operation.
- At the Capital Area Compact Meeting they had a Fire Ranger attend to go over the billing policy for various towns for the brush fire rates as well as the State rates for charges by the hour for command power and equipment used. If a helicopter were to be requested to come to Webster, the Town would be charged an initial fee of \$1,032.00 plus \$1,550.00 per hour.
- Calls in the Capital Area are down 3% from last year. Webster has 80 calls to date.
- On July 11, 2011 Webster, Boscawen and Salisbury are planning to have a three town training session – location yet to be determined.
- Chief Colby is attempting to contact Ron O'Keefe from the Local Government Center to give a presentation to the Webster Fire Department similar to the one that was given in Warner regarding liability issues and situations. For example: Fire Department members responding to a scene in their own vehicles. Chief said that Emmett Bean, the Town's Road Agent, had attended the Warner presentation and said it was interesting and recommended it to Chief Colby.
- Selectman Johnson presented Chief Colby with a very large Thank You card from ALL of the children at the Webster Elementary School who participated in the annual hosing off the children on their Field Day before the end of school for the summer. Chief Colby said all the children had smiles and thoroughly enjoyed their time being sprayed. The Chief said the firefighters running the truck had as much fun, if not more, than the children.

Selectman Johnson asked Chairman Cummings if the Board was going to address at this meeting or the next one, a June 24, 2011 follow-up letter from Emmett Bean, Road Agent, which had been e-mailed to the Selectmen earlier in the day regarding his previous letter of May 2, 2011. These letters concern the guardrail cables on the banks of the Blackwater River near the Town's Highway shed. Mr. Bean's letter also addressed his concerns regarding sand from the Town's sand pile that is running down the bank toward the river. Chairman Cummings stated next meeting it would be addressed. Chairman Cummings wants to have a conversation with Dave Klumb. Chairman Cummings gave some background information regarding the situation. It started with Dot Proulx raising some concerns the weekend of the canoe races that there was highway guardrail cable that was lodged in the river bank behind the salt shed apparently when it was built. Before removal, the Town may need permits from D.E.S. (Department of Environmental Services) in order to touch the cable or move it. Dave Klumb had also visited the area recently with a friend who is in the soil and water business. Chairman Cummings said the Town will need to do something. He stated that structural repairs are also needed to be made to the salt shed. It may be time to look at the entire area and the salt shed for future repairs and do everything all at one time. Chairman Cummings stated that because the situation will not be easy to resolve, the Town will follow Emmett's recommendation to call on D.E.S. to come out for a site visit. This discussion will be continued until the next Selectmen's meeting of July 11, 2011.

Chairman Cummings continued the meeting addressing a letter from Mr. Ernest Guimond of E. Guimond Construction, LLC and property owner of 396 Deer Meadow Road in Webster which is part of the Pillsbury Lake District. Mr. Guimond expressed concerns about a culvert that was installed without his permission and the bill he received for the installation. Chairman Cummings said a response would be sent to Mr. Guimond explaining this is something the Town is not involved in. This is between Mr. Guimond and Pillsbury Lake District. Mrs. Jones will send him a letter of regret from the Town.

Mr. Tom Mullins addressed the Board regarding the Azmy Settlement Agreement with the Town. Chairman Cummings stated that it is still a "work in progress". After the first inspection of the property, Chairman Cummings said there had been significant progress. Mr. Mullins asked Chairman Cummings if he had any doubts that there were violations in place. Chairman Cummings answered that he had no doubts at all. Mr. Mullins referenced R.S.A. 676:17 about the Town recovering its costs and attorney's fees. Mr. Mullins stated that after reading the settlement it appeared that the Town absorbed those fees and he asked why? Chairman Cummings stated the parties had arrived at a settlement, avoiding court. Mr. Mullins had thought because there were violations, the Town could have recovered their costs. Mr. Mullins pointed out there were no fines issued; no recovery of attorney's fees and in addition, the property became a farm. Chairman Cummings stated that the property probably had always been a farm. Chairman Cummings referred Mr.

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Mullins to read the copy of the settlement. Chairman Cummings reiterated that there was evidence of substantial progress, more than he would have expected a year ago. There seems to be a genuine effort on the part of the owner. Now, we just have to wait and see if it works out.

Selectman Johnson discussed his attendance at the Boscawen Selectmen's Meeting on June 15th. Also in attendance was Salisbury Selectman, Ken Ross-Raymond, regarding shared services between the towns. The goal is to have cost savings to the towns that are involved. Step one is for each community to create a list of vendors to find the ones in common. Selectman Johnson asked Mrs. Pinkham, Financial Administrator, if she had heard from the Town of Boscawen regarding their list. She responded that she hadn't heard anything yet. Selectman Johnson said the idea is to start small such as with office supplies and move on to more costlier items and also, to start small with the Towns of Andover, Boscawen, Salisbury and Webster with the hopes of adding more towns if all works out well. The next step is for the Towns to meet on July 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in Salisbury. Mrs. Pinkham will also be in attendance to help out.

Chairman Cummings introduced the Salisbury Selectmen in attendance; Ken Ross-Raymond, Pete Ballou and Karen Sheldon. Ms. Margaret Warren, Administrative Assistant for the Town of Salisbury was also in attendance. Mr. Ross-Raymond stated they had met with the Town of Andover which resulted in a showing of a lot of interest and great ideas regarding shared services. He stated the consensus was to start small with something manageable such as office supplies and go on from there.

Chairman Cummings stated that he and Selectman Johnson had attended the Hopkinton Selectmen's meeting on June 20th, along with Barbara Corliss and two or three other members of the Webster Refuse Disposal Committee and at least half of the committee members from Hopkinton. The purpose of that meeting was to go over and tentatively approve a rework of the ordinance for the Transfer Station. Chairman Cummings stated some of the highlights were that the ordinance addresses posting of the property and off hour's access. The draft of the ordinance is very readable and usable after all the work that Barbara Corliss and the Committee had put into it. Selectman Johnson asked if the consensus of the Hopkinton Selectmen was that the goal would be to recycle where we can in order to lower the cost of the facility, first; and then, reuse, second? Chairman Cummings responded in the affirmative. He stated that reuse is the highest form of cost avoidance in the long run. The priority right now is balancing on recycling so that anything of value that comes in gets recycled to offset costs. Selectman Johnson stated that there were two issues that Hopkinton's Town Counsel was going to follow-up: 1) users not holding the Towns responsible and, 2) about the deeds. Selectman Johnson also inquired as to the need for a hearing. Chairman Cummings responded that we will need to have a hearing which will be posted at a regular meeting and the ordinance draft would be provided in advance. Chairman Cummings said he would check into when it needed to be posted in order for people to come and look at it and make comments. Chairman Cummings thought that both Selectboards of Hopkinton and Webster would probably do the hearings within a week of each other. Selectman Johnson stated that it seemed that Hopkinton was very close to being ready except for the two legal issues stated above. Chairman Cummings will have Mrs. Jones get in touch with Hopkinton to find out the status and to schedule a hearing, post it and finalize it.

Chairman Cummings discussed the work session on June 22nd to address the Town Hall roof and building repairs. Selectman Johnson was also in attendance. Mr. Butch Thornton was unable to make it from Rhode Island. Chairman Cummings stated that there were still a few things to "nail down", in particular, insurance requirements for the contractors. The Town will require all contractors to have Workers Compensation insurance even though it is not legally required. Selectman Hashem stated that Butch Thornton had brought up the installation of a cupola on the connector. He also had a conversation with an outside party about cupolas. He was told cupolas were sold premade for a couple of hundred dollars. Having a cupola installed on the connector between the Library/Church and the Grange Hall would increase ventilation. Discussion ensued regarding problems with current construction of the connector, i.e., lack of or no insulation, inadequate ventilation and ice dams in the winter. Chairman Cummings stated he could look right up to the roof behind the stage area of the Grange Hall. Chairman Cummings stated that Butch Thornton had originally suggested separating the insulation and ventilation from the roofing, i.e. to have two separate bids. His reasoning was to have specialists in the fields for both areas rather than one general contractor, which may end up not being the best deal cost wise. Chairman Cummings stated that one more work session is needed in order to pull everything together. Selectman Johnson presented samples of roofing shingles he had borrowed from R.P. Johnson. Shingles only come in 30 year or 50 year. 50 year shingles are heavier. Neither shingle is guaranteed. Selectman Johnson stated that his conversation with Ron Frost resulted in finding out that fiberglass shingles are much better quality than asphalt. Jaye Bove, audience member, asked if the roof was going to be patched or completely stripped and redone. The Selectmen said it was going to be stripped and redone. Chairman Cummings added that repairing the roofing over the entrances to the building were not considered before, but will have to be included in the specifications. Selectman Johnson pointed out that the new

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roof would save the Town money on heating costs. Selectman Johnson suggested setting a date for the next work session. Chairman Cummings stated that Mondays are good for Butch Thornton. After a brief discussion, it was decided to hold the next work session at 5:00 p.m. on July 11th just prior to the Selectmen's meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The next item on the agenda was the travel trailer set up at 1213 Battle Street, owned by Paul Silberman. It appears the camper may be in use. The Town of Webster's Travel Trailer ordinance requires residents to get a 90-day permit from the Board of Selectmen. Mrs. Jones will send a letter to Mr. Silberman explaining the regulations and include an application for a permit.

Selectman Hashem moved on to the next subject on the agenda, the Town Ordinance Banning firearms in a public building. Per R.S.A. 159:26, the Town Ordinance is not legal. However, Chief Dupuis stated that the N.H. Legislature is still working on new legislation that would allow citizens to use firearms in self defense anywhere they have a legal right to be. It was decided to not reverse the Town Ordinance until such time as the new legislation is finalized. Selectman Hashem said to leave this matter on the agenda for the next Selectmen's Meeting on July 11, 2011.

Chairman Cummings stated that Senator Andy Sanborn will be attending the next Selectmen's Meeting on July 11, 2011 to answer any questions the public may have. It was pointed out by audience member Jaye Bowe that Senator Sanborn could also address the self-defense statute discussed above.

Chairman Cummings turned the meeting over to the public for any comments or questions. Mr. Don Koberski asked the Board if they were aware that Webster Recycling has closed and a new business has taken over. He brought up concerns about heavy trucks traveling on Deer Meadow Road. The new company will be handling motor vehicles involved in accidents and doing recycling. Chief Dupuis stated he understood that there are going to be wreckers bringing vehicles from New Hampshire and Vermont for storage for insurance purposes. The wreckers would be frequently coming and going through that area. Vehicles would be held no longer than 60 days. Discussion ensued regarding the status of the property being a junkyard. The Junkyard Permit transfers to the new owners.

8:25 p.m. Selectman Hashem made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Selectman Johnson and approved.

George C. Cummings, Chairman

George K. Hashem

Bruce G. Johnson

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