

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

7:04 P.M. Selectmen's Meeting – October 3, 2011 – as amended 10/31/11: changed Pg. 3, Paragraph 8, Paul Silberman's term from 2014 to 2012.

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

The Board signed the payroll and check manifests.

The Board signed the following for Administrative Assistant Judith Jones:

- Selectman Johnson made a motion to accept the Selectmen's Minutes of September 19, 2011 as written; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved.
- A sick leave slip and a vacation leave slip for Mrs. Jones;
- Deeds transferring Map 10-4-143 & 10-4-144 from the Town to the Pillsbury Lake District per Selectmen's vote on 9/19/11.
- Match Agreement and Partnership Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Webster and the Central NH Regional Planning Commission for the 2012 Webster Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. This document still requires the signature of Emergency Management Director Adam Pouliot. There is a mandatory "in-kind match" of \$1,670 needed from the Town in the form of staff and volunteer participation. This will be tracked using a time-sheet form provided by Central NH Regional Planning Commission, who will also be assisting in the update.

Chairman Cummings suggested that each Board member take a section of the Hazard Mitigation Plan and review it prior to the next meeting. Hopefully committee members could be appointed to work on the update at the next Selectmen's Meeting. The Board reviewed the document and there was some discussion on apparent updates needed.

The Board signed the following for Financial Administrator Wendy Pinkham:

- Two Intents to Cut: Steve R. Royce – Map 3-58 and David Batchelder – Map 3-80.
- Purchase Order #29 for the Public Safety Building to RT Lake, Inc. for pumping the septic in the amount of \$330.

Police Chief Robert Dupuis advised the Board of the following:

- He received a notice from the US Government that there are firearms and other items available at no cost. He noted that Boscawen received a generator and a Humvee. Some items are new or nearly new and are at Fort Devans in MA, where they can be viewed. Should the Board approve, Chief Dupuis volunteered to go to view what is available; advising that he may be able to get a list from "John" at the White Farm in Concord. He was particularly interested in an M-16 to replace the one that he transferred to the Town for \$1. Chief Dupuis indicated that they had many large items, i.e. fire trucks, dump trucks, etc.
- He advised that the Legislature appears to be trying to down shift costs to the communities again, noting that in the past Police Standards and Training's Police Academy was supported by the penalty assessment. As the State has used money from this fund, or approximately 8.5 million, for other purposes since around 1990, it has now been suggested that each student attending the academy would cost \$7,800. He listed some of the expenditures incurred at the academy through bonding due to the fact that some of the money was used for other purposes. He advised that many seasoned officers have donated hours of free training time over the years. Noting that Senator Andy Sanborn was in attendance tonight, Chief Dupuis would like the Board to go on record as supporting that there be no change in the way the academy operates regarding how it is funded and operates. Senator Sanborn indicated that he would be happy to look into the matter and get back to the Town with a full report even though he is not on the committee. Chief Dupuis expressed some of his concerns, i.e. background checks, etc. should the training be turned over to the State.

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G. C. Cummings

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G. K. Hashem

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B. G. Johnson

- He has 10 applications for the open police position. A written test will be administered, costing each applicant \$30. There will then be a PT test administered by an Officer in Andover qualified to do so. There will be an oral review board to interview those that passed the other tests, which he guesses will be three or four applicants. He asked a Selectman to set on this board as well as a local citizen. Selectman Hashem volunteered with Chairman Cummings offering to be the back-up. Chief Dupuis will not be on the board, but will be listening to the “interviews”, which will consist of questions that will be scored. There will be a preliminary meeting of the board prior to the interviews. Chief Dupuis will advise of the date after his return from vacation.
- He presented his semi-monthly report, which he recently realized had not been accurately counted in the number of calls, further explaining how he should have been counting. There were 26 calls for service in this time period.

Fire Chief Colin Colby advised of the following:

- It has been fairly quite at the Department other than a few medical calls.
- An open house is planned at the Department on Halloween Evening.
- There will be a tri-town training session using a roof simulator trying to set fires. No date has been set yet, but will involve the towns of Webster, Boscawen and Salisbury.
- Chief Colby has reviewed some options regarding dispatch due to the pending increase. He advised that he spoke with Compact Chief Dick Wright who urged towns not to do anything at this time as they have some upcoming meetings to address the ever increasing costs.
- Chief Colby thanked Emmett Bean for hanging the new hand carved wooden sign created by Pooch Baker of Warner. He advised that this sign took 32 hours to hand carve and looks very impressive. Mr. Baker is a retired industrial arts teacher.

Road Agent Emmett Bean advised of the following.

- Little Hill Road is ready for paving but has been delayed due to the rain and the fact that the paving company is behind schedule.
- Many of the dirt roads have been graded and he has changed culverts on Winnepocket Road and Call Road.
- He is ready to haul winter sand that has been screened.
- He is working on plows, etc. getting ready for winter.
- Selectman Johnson asked that Mr. Bean confirm the announced change in the State regarding the plowing of roads. Mr. Bean advised that Channel 9 news announced that all State roads would be plowed as in the past due to the number of concerns raised over less plowing as had been planned.

Senator Andy Sanborn, accompanied by his wife Lori Sanborn – House Representative, made his quarterly visit to give updates, answer questions, and advise of upcoming events. He provided a printed outline of where the State is regarding the job market in New Hampshire, further advising that he felt that there has been a positive movement in the job market. The Legislature is in its off season, though committee meetings are happening every day. The House has passed the time frame to introduce new legislation for the next session and the Senate is just entering their time frame, which is about a ten-day window. He advised that if there were things that are important to the Town he would be happy to discuss them. He touched on many subjects such as looking into privatizing the prison system; internal state government consolidation; school issues; road issues including the repair or replacing of bridges and culverts and how to make it easier to accomplish this through the Department of Environmental Services; allow active Military members access to State Parks and such, perhaps to include their families, at a discount; the plowing issue discussed earlier; conservation issues related to the preservation of historical artifacts by the public sector and any barriers regarding permits and fees that may be needed to accomplish such an undertaking; making sure that the many agencies in place are more helpful as opposed to ready to impose fines; Workers Comp fee schedules due to concerns over potential increases; LGC issues regarding possible overpayment by communities; and the upcoming State Primary, which may be moved to as early as December; voter registration ID relative to verification; and advised that looking to the future he may promote a bill that would allow ATV type vehicles to run on Class V roads with special plates.

BOS Initials:

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Selectman Johnson inquired of Senator Sanborn about the new legislation that allows registrations of new vehicles to be done through the dealer as opposed to the local Town Clerk's Office and whether the towns would in fact lose revenue. Senator Sanborn guaranteed that there would be no cost to or loss of revenue to the communities; repeating conversation from his last visit that it will not only enhance the process but be more accurate. Selectman Johnson inquired about the reduction of the "Flood Control" funds from \$32 thousand more or less in past years to \$8 thousand more or less this year. Chairman Cummings had input from the recent budget workshop sponsored by LGC. He advised that the state of MA originally had agreed to pay the NH communities an amount commonly known as Payment in Lieu of Taxes or Flood Control Reimbursement. He advised that MA has not paid for years, though the State has made up the difference in the past, until this year. He noted that even if MA does pay, he understands that the State will keep any revenue to help balance the budget. Senator Sanborn inquired as to which agency the funds come from. Mrs. Pinkham will get the information to Senator Sanborn for his review of the issue. Mrs. Jones advised that she was told to talk to Linda Kennedy from the Department of Revenue in order to obtain more information on the reduction or source of funding. Chief Dupuis indicated that when the Town of Hill inquired about this subject, they were told that land was not as valuable.

Senator Sanborn implored the Town not to accept any offer from the State to replace all road signs strongly advising to "please reconsider it". He advised that a grant was received by Henniker to replace all signs with high definition signs. This resulted in the exchange of many signs that were not appropriate and the final number of signs and the cost was phenomenal.

There were further questions of Senator Sanborn: Mr. Bean re: running for Governor; Barbara Corliss and Jaye Bowe re: privatization of the prison system; discussion on the new Federal Prison in Berlin; Chief Dupuis re: the vacant County jail; Terry Cox re: jobs; and Selectman Hashem re: tax issues and business taxes. Senator Sanborn was then thanked for attending this evening's meeting.

A short recess was taken.

The Board discussed the Website Policy and website postings. Mrs. Jones noted that the current policy showed no adoption date, had no Board signatures and was not in the computer system, though there was some reference to it at one Board meeting. Chairman Cummings recommended checking with other Towns to see what they have. Selectman Johnson volunteered to take the current policy and make recommendations for amendments to be considered, which he will do. Chairman Cummings requested that he e-mail the policy to the Board when ready. Mason Donovan had written the Board a letter asking to post links to the local businesses in Webster to the Town's website. Selectman Hashem expressed concern regarding advertising local businesses. Mrs. Jones suggested a link directly to [www.websternh.com](http://www.websternh.com) which is a website created by Peter Kimball. This website contains numerous items regarding Webster including business links. The only decision made was to advise Mr. Mason that the Board is working on the Policy.

The Board agreed to have the Joint Loss Management Committee review the "Program", which has been in place since 1996, and make recommendations for the Board's consideration.

Selectman Hashem made a motion to approve the Office Staff to attend the Annual Local Government Conference in Manchester on Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> and to close the office for that day; seconded by Selectman Johnson and approved.

The Board approved the following appointments:

- Selectman Hashem made a motion to appoint Sue Rauth, Planning Board alternate, as a full member to replace Cliff Broker until 2013; seconded by Selectman Johnson and approved. This leaves a vacancy for an alternate until 2014.
- Chairman Cummings made a motion to appoint Paul Silberman as a Zoning Board of Adjustment alternate until 2012 seconded by Selectman Johnson and approved. It was also agreed to add the date of appointment to all members for easy reference.
- Selectman Johnson made a motion to appoint John Clark and Paul Silberman to the "Currier & Ives Byway Committee"; seconded by Chairman Cummings. The vote was two in favor and one abstained. Selectman Hashem expressed reservations about the committee. These appointments would not have an expiration date.

Selectman Johnson recommended that the Board start the Selectmen's Meetings at 6:30 PM, at which time the Board could go through the manifests and Department heads and begin other business at 7:00 PM. After discussion, no decision was made.

BOS Initials:

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G. C. Cummings

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