

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

6:33 pm Selectmen's Meeting – February 19, 2013 - Tuesday

Selectmen present: Chairman George Cummings, Selectman Bruce Johnson and Selectman Roy Fanjoy.

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 Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting held February 4, 2013 as written; seconded by Selectman Fanjoy and approved.
- Selectman Fanjoy made a motion to accept the non-public session of February 4, 2013 as written; seconded by Selectman Johnson and approved. These minutes were not sealed.

Prior to consideration of the minutes of the 2/12/13 Public Hearing, Chairman Cummings, because of discussion at the Public Hearing relative to the Fire Department Equipment Expendable Fund having been used for the purchase of a Thermal Imaging Camera, he reviewed the establishment of this ETF after the meeting. After reviewing the original Warrant Article's wording at the 2010 Town Meeting and the subsequent minutes, he advised that the minutes stated "...for example a pump..." and not that that was the purpose of the Warrant Article. Selectman Johnson reminded Chairman Cummings that Selectman Fanjoy was not at the hearing so the approval of the minutes would be by Chairman Cummings and himself, inquiring as to whether Chairman Cummings would like more time to review these minutes. Chairman Cummings advised that he plans to call for a short recess at 7:00 pm so that he can attend a portion of the Zoning Board Hearing being held in the dining room and would further review the minutes at that time. The minutes were temporarily put on hold. Chairman Cummings requested that Mrs. Jones add the original Warrant Article and minutes for clarification, using an asterisk to set it off.

The Board continued by signing the following for Administrative Assistant Judith Jones:

- Selectman Fanjoy made a motion to accept the Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting work session held February 12, 2013 as written; seconded by Selectman Johnson and approved.
- Approved a Veteran's Exemption and a Total Disability Veteran's Exemption.
- Signed the proposed 2013 Town Warrant for posting by 2/25/13.

The Board signed an Intent to Cut for Ronald and Donna Frost – Map 6-79 for Financial Administrator Wendy Pinkham.

Police Chief Dupuis advised the Board of the following:

- There were 41 calls for service in the last two weeks with the highlights read.
- He requested a non-public session later this evening if time permits.

Fire Chief Colin Colby advised the Board of the following:

- There have been 22 calls to date. There were four chimney fires allowing them the opportunity to use the Thermal Imaging Cameras, which Chief Colby said was very helpful.

Selectman Fanjoy asked Chief Colby if he had any information regarding the stepping down of the Salisbury Fire Chief. Chief Colby stated that he had only heard rumblings, though Salisbury's Chief did not attend the last Capital Area meeting.

BOS Initials:

G. C. Cummings

B. G. Johnson

R. E. Fanjoy

Selectman Johnson inquired about the posted road signs on Clough and Sanborn Hill Road that indicated the road was a Dead End on one end and the other end has Road Closed. Chairman Cummings advised that the back side of the road towards Roby Road is closed seasonally only and would come down on the appropriate date set by Statute. It was noted that any discontinuation of any road requires a vote of the Town Meeting.

Road Agent Emmett Bean advised that tonight's reported storm had already slowed down and nearly finished. Otherwise, all was quiet.

Treasurer Mary Smith advised that everything is fine.

Selectman Johnson advised that the doorbell at the handicap door is now fixed. Chairman Cummings thanked him for taking care of that issue.

Chairman Cummings acknowledged the receipt of a letter from the Town of Salisbury whereby the Salisbury Board of Selectmen were requesting the number of calls that Webster responded to in Salisbury since January 1, 2012 and asked to be advised of what the detail rate was for Webster. Chief Dupuis again said that there have been very few responses from Webster to Salisbury. He also advised that Webster does not respond to requests for paperwork as those are referred to the State Police. Chairman Cummings, after meeting with Chief Dupuis, will respond to this letter later this week.

After reviewing the letter from Kevin Culpon regarding a Special Exception for a home business, Selectman Johnson made a motion to refer him to the Zoning Board of Adjustment; seconded by Selectman Fanjoy and approved.

6:52 pm Chairman Cummings called for a short recess. He corrected the time to 6:57 pm after the tape was shut off.

7:08 pm Chairman Cummings reconvened the meeting.

Referring to the business portion of the Town Meeting held on the following Saturday after elections in Webster, Chairman Cummings advised that he was under the impression that it would take a vote of Town Meeting to change this practice. He noted that most towns our size conduct their business meeting on the evening of the elections or on another evening of that week. After further review of the adoption of an alternative day for the business portion of the meeting from the day of elections, it was realized that it was up to the Board of Selectmen as the Statute says it can be at any other time set by the Board of Selectmen.

Greg Heyn of DRA requested a kick-off meeting with the Selectmen, Jeff Earles from Cross Country, and Mrs. Jones to discuss the 2013 Revaluation. The Board set 2/4/13 at 4:00 pm. Mrs. Jones will arrange the meeting and confirm with everyone. Selectman Johnson inquired of Mrs. Jones as to whether she had a preference of the RFP's e-mailed to him as he is working on that. Mrs. Jones will review those available. She advised that Mr. Heyn will also assist in this process.

Chairman Cummings advised that he had requested Bart Mayer, Town Counsel, to attend the Town Meeting on Saturday, March 16th. The Board unanimously agreed to have him present. Chairman Cummings will confirm this with Attorney Mayer.

Chairman Cummings discussed the possibility of the Warrant Article for the new cruiser failing. He wanted to discuss alternatives should this happen to include having only two cruisers and the possible effect on coverage.

At this time, Chairman Cummings read aloud the addition made to the Public Hearing minutes of 2/12/13 which was a direct quote from the 2010 Town Meeting Minutes regarding the Warrant Article to create a Fire Department Equipment Expendable Trust Fund. Selectman Johnson then made a motion to accept the February 12, 2013 Public Hearing Minutes as written; seconded by Chairman Cummings and approved. Selectman Fanjoy was not present at the hearing.

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The discussion returned to the current Warrant Article for a new cruiser and the implications should it fail. There was discussion on police coverage; on-call time; the trading of vehicles when the shifts changed; overtime; gas usage; etc. Chief Dupuis would like to leave the decision up to the Townspeople. Discussion continued regarding those recommendations made by Don Gross, past consultant, regarding taking home the cruiser in lieu of payment for on-call time; etc. The Board wanted to be prepared to answer questions at the Town Meeting. Selectman Fanjoy has a call into State Police to see if someone were available to attend the Town Meeting to explain what coverage they could provide if needed. Chief Dupuis noted that there are only three State Troopers on call from 11:00 pm to 7:00 am. Chairman Cummings requested Chief Dupuis help Selectman Fanjoy to help quantify the costs that could be incurred should this article fail.

Selectman Johnson is working with Selectman Fanjoy to provide video coverage to the downstairs if necessary. They are also working on the speakers.

Chairman Cummings noted that later this evening he wanted to talk about his attendance at the Legislative Hearings today; the West Wind Village ZBA Hearing being held tonight and a request from Sonny Hunt for a letter from the Board. He advised that the Board would be going into a non-public session shortly and upon return from that, will discuss these subjects.

He then opened up discussion to the public. Mrs. Smith wanted more information regarding the on-call time and overtime. Chief Dupuis explained that when an Officer goes out, not during regular hours, there is a mandatory four hours of overtime paid. Mrs. Smith questioned the mandatory pay. Chief Dupuis said that this policy was in place when he started with the Town. Examples were given of when an officer when earn this pay. Jon Pearson inquired as to whether the cruiser would be returned to the station at the end of an officer's shift. Chief Dupuis said it could be if the Town chooses. Discussion continued regarding on-call time currently not paid. Mrs. Pinkham advised that in the past it was considered a stipend. Sue Roberts asked how other Towns handled it. Chief Dupuis advised that each town handles on-call time differently. There was discussion on insurance for response in a privately owned vehicle (POV).

Mr. Bean inquired about his contract that has not yet been signed. Chairman Cummings advised that it was ready and could be signed at the next Selectmen's Meeting.

7:48 pm Selectman Fanjoy made a motion to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) regarding personnel issues with Chief Dupuis; seconded by Selectman Johnson. Roll call: Chairman Cummings – yes; Selectman Johnson – yes; and Selectman Fanjoy – yes. Mrs. Jones was not requested to attend.

8:12 pm Chairman Cummings reconvened the meeting advising that the Board voted unanimously to seal the minutes.

Chairman Cummings noted that the Special Exception granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment last year for the construction of a garage was in question as to whether the setbacks had been adhered to. He had been to the site, along with Tim Allen, to review the setbacks, which had become questionable by some parties. He and Mr. Allen were very close in their measurements though not precisely as there still is a question as to the location of the road.

Sonny Hunt had requested a letter of reference from the Board of Selectmen to be sent to the Towns of Tilton and Northfield Board of Selectmen relative to his "Kayak" events held in Webster. Chairman Cummings has drafted a letter and will sign it on behalf of the Board and forward a copy to the other Selectmen for their review.

Chairman Cummings attended two Legislative Hearings today in Concord. He did not have written testimony to read, but did speak, relative to the Attorney General seeking funds due from the State of MA for flood control reimbursement. Others spoke at the hearing providing history of this issue and possible solutions. He said that the Attorney General's Office

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