

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

7:00 P.M. Selectmen's Meeting – August 9, 2010

Present: Chairman David Klumb; Selectman George Hashem and Selectman George Cummings.

The Board signed the payroll and check manifests.

Chairman Klumb congratulated Officer Richard LaValley on his successful completion of the Police Academy and welcomed him back to Webster as a full-time employee. Officer LaValley received an award for the most motivated. There was a nice round of applause for Officer LaValley.

The Board signed the following for Administrative Assistant Judith Jones:

- Selectman Cummings made a motion to accept the Selectmen's Minutes of July 26, 2010 as written; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved;
- A letter to the Tax Collector regarding RSA 80:52-a whereby the Board is authorizing the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes; and
- A medical leave slip for Mrs. Jones.
- The Board was advised that there will be a warrant for the collection of four Land Use Change Taxes as soon as all the paperwork has been received.

The Board signed the following for Financial Administrator Wendy Pinkham:

- A Forest Fire Reimbursement request for a forest fire on July 31, 2010 for Webster;
- A Forest Fire Reimbursement request for a forest fire on July 2, 2010 for Salisbury;
- A Medical Leave Slip for Mrs. Pinkham; and
- The Board authorized her to accept a credit regarding the LGC Workers Compensation balance remaining after the annual payroll audit.

Selectman Cummings made a motion to withdraw \$1,182.22 from the Forest Fire Expendable Trust Fund to reimburse expenses to Salisbury for the forest fire bill of July 2, 2010; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved by the Board of Selectmen and Fire Chief Colin Colby.

Police Chief Dupuis advised of the following:

- He thanked Chairman Klumb and Selectman Hashem for attending Officer LaValley's graduation. Selectman Cummings was away and could not attend;
- He presented a letter to the Board authorizing Officer LaValley's hourly pay to increase from \$18.27 to \$19.23 per his contract after completion of the Academy;
- Discussed his work schedule advising that there were funds enough in the budget for him to continue working a 28 hour week, which he has been doing while Officer LaValley was at the Academy. The Board had no objection as long as it fit into the budget. Chief Dupuis advised that he may make adjustments to the schedule;
- He provided the Police Department's semi-monthly activity report;
- He is working with the DEA regarding the collection of prescription medications, a State-wide effort, that have expired or are no longer used. Ellen Cilley asked for more clarification. Chief Dupuis advised that the Police Department would collect the prescription drugs and give them to the DEA for proper disposal, noting that there will be instructions which will be shared with residents when available; and
- Advised that he will not be at the next meeting.

Fire Chief Colin Colby advised of the following:

- No burn permits will be issued until there has been a substantial rainfall;
- Department calls to date total 109; and
- The Department has been very busy since the last meeting and he expressed thanks to all for their effort and support.

Road Agent Emmett Bean started to grade the roads but found them too dry to be effectively graded. Pearson Hill has been graveled and had the first 2" coat of tar applied. The final coat should be applied tomorrow. Once that has set, he will do the shoulder work. He then thanked Officer and Mrs. LaValley for his accomplishment and her for her support.

Chairman Klumb advised that the Board met in Hopkinton to discuss changes to the "Rules & Regulations – Refuse Disposal Ordinance". Hopkinton is moving forward with their "Pay as You Throw" green bag program. The changes to the ordinance are minor for Webster. One change will be the necessity to display the "dump sticker" on the windshield. The Town Clerk will be advised of this as well as a notice put in the Grapevine in order to get the word out to the public. There was discussion on the stickers and how best to display them. There will be a rate increase for loads over 400 pounds. The haulers will be charged as usual, thereby keeping Webster free of any increase due to the recent changes made by Hopkinton. Questions were asked about recycling and it was explained that what can be recycled will actually be expanded. Mrs. Jones advised that the Webster Website Landfill information is directly linked to Hopkinton for the latest information. Chairman Klumb advised that the Board will need to take a formal vote on the changes to the ordinance on August 23rd. Martin Bourque recommended that verbiage be in any contract to preclude Webster from incurring added expenses related to the changes made in Hopkinton. Discussion ensued with no further decisions made.

Martin Bender, after talking to the Board regarding lights recently, attended an energy workshop, noting that Towns use a lot of electricity asking what the Town pays monthly. He thanked Mrs. Pinkham for advising him of the workshop and asked her what it costs the Town monthly for electricity. She advised that the Town Hall runs an average of \$400 and the Public Safety Building \$450 to \$500, plus several outdoor lights, the Veteran's Memorial, the Soccer Field and the Salt Shed. He advised that there is a simple audit that a town can do itself and could make some simple changes to the type of lights used that could cut costs. He has also asked to be on a list requesting that Unitil do an audit for the Town, though he did not know of any associated costs or when it would be done. He learned at the workshop that the Town should have an Energy Committee and recommended the Board appoint same, noting that many towns have one. The Board had no objection and it was suggested that it consist of three to five members. He is willing to serve on the committee, noted that Dee Blake expressed interest as did Chief Dupuis, Selectman Cummings and Mr. Bean. The Board agreed to appoint the above five members to the committee. Mr. Bender will contact the members to set up a meeting. Town Clerk Michele St. Jacques will be asked to make up appointment sheets.

The Board reviewed a request from the First Congregational Church of Webster for \$100 to fund a guest pastor at "Old Home Sunday" and denied the request. Mrs. Jones will send a letter advising of the decision.

Two bids were received for repairs of the emergency lights at the Town Hall. Selectman Hashem made a motion to accept the lowest bid of \$740 from Yestremski Electrical Services, Inc.; seconded by Selectman Cummings and approved.

Mrs. Jones requested and the Board had no objection to closing the office at noon on Friday, August 13, 2010.

Two bids have been received for the Town's auditing needs with one expected from our current auditor.

Chairman Klumb noted an e-mail received regarding the adoption of an ordinance requiring proof of citizenship regarding the rental of any property in Webster. He felt that it would be unenforceable. No further action was taken.

The Board received an e-mail from Jeff and Cathy Evans requesting the use of the Town Hall on Sunday mornings as they are considering establishing a Baptist Church in Webster. After discussion of the feasibility, costs and conflicts of scheduling, the Board requested that Mrs. Jones contact Mr. and Mrs. Evans and request that they put together a formal proposal for their review.

Chairman Klumb discussed the junk yard on Deer Meadow Road. This property has now transferred from son to father. Chief Dupuis spoke with the son earlier who said he would clean up the area, but he has been unable to contact the father. Mrs. Jones was requested to send a letter regarding a notice of violation.

Chairman Klumb will call the Town Attorney in the morning to discuss pending legal issues.

Jaye Bowe read a prepared letter titled "Hail to the Chief" thanking Chief Dupuis for all his creativity and efforts running the Department and the Board for bringing him on board.

Joan Doucette inquired about the use of the Town Hall as an emergency shelter, asking where one does go during an emergency situation. The Board noted that there has been discussion about the facilities and that the official emergency shelter is the Public Safety Building and Adam Pouliot is the Emergency Management Director. Selectman Cummings said that we need to be pro active during emergencies. It was suggested that notice of shelters and availability could be put on Channel 9 news, the website, and signs could be posted. A sign, with the verbiage designed by Chief Dupuis and Mr. Pouliot, could be posted at each Town building. Fire Chief Colby advised that he had recently sent an article to the Grapevine requesting anyone with medical or other urgent needs during an emergency situation to notify him, saying he had little response.

8:10 P.M. Selectman Hashem made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Selectman Cummings and approved.

David E. Klumb, Chairman

George K. Hashem

George C. Cummings

BOS/jj