

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2014
1:00 PM

PRESENT: George Lawrence, Chairman, Woody Meiszner, Joanne Meshna

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Condolences were expressed to Selectmen Doyle in the loss of her stepfather.

Deputy Treasurer: Selectman Lawrence announced that Louise Del Papa has been appointed as the Deputy Treasurer.

Flags: Lance dePlante questioned why the flags that are displayed on poles running down Turnpike Road were removed before Veterans' Day. He understood they were to fly from Memorial Day through Veterans' Day. Peter Goewey, Director of Public Works, responded he was told by the town administrator to put them up before Labor Day and take them down after Labor Day. There was no money to replace the flags and they were getting worn. Selectmen agreed to put the flags up for Memorial Day and take them down after Veterans' Day.

Statement on missing money: Selectman Lawrence read the following statement: "In February 2014, the Selectmen were notified that \$5,000.00 was missing from the Town Office. The New Ipswich police were notified and the investigation referred to the State Police. The State Police have not identified the individual(s) responsible. We will continue to work closely with the investigators." Selectman Meiszner added internal controls have been reviewed and some changes made.

Police: Selectman Lawrence summarized the status of the building where the Police Department is located. The building will be going up for sale in the spring. The Town was sent a letter asking if there was any interest in purchasing the building. An article will be put on the 2015 warrant. Chief Carpenter suggested the Selectmen hold a public hearing on the issue so townspeople understand all the ramifications and added that some kind of contingency plans needs to be developed.

Tax rate: The tax rate for 2014 is \$27.72. The town rate is up from \$4.20 to \$6.00 and the school rate is up from \$14.96 to \$18.15. There was a decline in assessed value. Last year the Selectmen used approximately \$500,000 from the fund balance to offset the taxes and this year used \$80,000.

Supervisors of the Checklist: A letter from Geraldine Nelson, Chair of the Supervisors of the Checklist, was received by the Board in which she announced the appointment of Barbara Graham to fill the term of Maria Somero who resigned her position in August of 2014. Barbara will remain in office from October 25, 2014 through the March 10, 2015 town election.

Xfinity: A letter from Xfinity announced changes to the installation rates which will be effective January 1, 2015.

Smithville Cemetery: A public meeting will be held on Monday, November 17, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. with Mark Stevens from the State Dam Bureau regarding Smithville Cemetery.

High Range Road and Cascade Road: The Board received a letter from Attorney John Griffin requesting the process of accepting these roads as town roads. The roads have their top coat of pavement and have wintered over. Selectman Lawrence will contact Attorney Griffin asking for clarification to include a map of the proposal and the length of the roads to be considered.

Private road agreement: Selectman Lawrence made a motion to approve the private road agreement for Andy Krook, lot 10/6024, 59 Jacqueline Drive. Selectman Meizner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Director Goewey: Gravel trucks are coming from Hubbard Pond Road and using upper and lower Ashby Road to Mason Road. He will be posting those road.

Minutes: Selectman Meiszner made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2014 meeting. Selectman Lawrence seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Chief Carpenter: The Chief will be buying two new sets of tries for two cruisers out of this year's budget.

Worker Compensation Program: A letter was received from Laurie Pearson at Primex noting there is a credit balance in the amount of \$13,576.64 on the 2014 Workers Compensation Program.

David Cotzin: Mr. Cotzin encouraged the Selectmen to fill the empty position of Town Administrator as soon as possible.

At 2:10 p.m. Selectman Lawrence made a motion to enter into a non public session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Selectman Meiszner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

At 2:25 p.m. Selectman Meiszner made a motion to return to public session. Selectman Lawrence seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Selectman Lawrence announced that the minutes of the non public session had been sealed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Meshna, Land Use Manager

November 12, 2014 Board of Selectmen minutes approved by:

George H. Lawrence, Chairman

Woody Meiszner

Rebecca M. Doyle