

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
OCTOBER 28, 2014  
10:00 AM

PRESENT: Woody Meiszner, Becky Doyle, Joanne Meshna

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Town Office. Selectman Meiszner announced that Selectman Lawrence was ill and would not be attending the meeting.

Tax rate setting: Selectman Meiszner explained that the assessing update and lowering of property values as well as the spending of \$500,000 from the fund balance last year to offset the tax rate made it difficult to keep the town's tax rate down this year. There is currently \$870,000 in fund balance which is 7.5% of the Town's total budget and the State recommends retaining 8%. Using \$50,000 from fund balance would make the town's tax rate \$6.077, using \$75,000 the town's tax rate would be \$6.01 and using \$100,000 the town's tax rate would be \$5.943. The Selectmen agreed to try to keep the town's tax rate below \$6.00. Selectman Doyle made a motion to use \$75,000-\$80,000 from the fund balance to reduce the tax burden for the taxpayers and using whatever amount would keep the rate below \$6.00. Selectman Meiszner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 21, 2014 meeting were reviewed with a typo noted on page two. Selectman Doyle made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Selectman Meiszner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

TAN: The paperwork for the TAN is being collected today for signature. It will be a 90 day note with Savings Bank of Walpole at 1.5%. Selectman Doyle made a motion to sign the 90 day TAN with Savings Bank of Walpole at 1.5%. Selectman Meiszner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Primex Workman's Compensation: A letter from Primex offers the Town the option of participating in the Contribution Assurance Program for the next two years. Calendar year 2016 from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016 would have a maximum 10% increase over January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 contribution and calendar year 2017 from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 would have a maximum of 10% increase over January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016 contribution. Selectman Meiszner questioned if there were any other options available. There was no action taken.

NH Interlocal Trust: Alternative health plans were reviewed by managers and Selectman Doyle and HMO MD1310 was chosen with a savings of 3.22%. The major change from the current plan is an increase in the family plan deductible from \$1,000 to \$1,500. There are other minor changes including a \$100 copay for the emergency room compared to \$50 and the numbers of visits to physical therapy reduced from 40 to 25. Selectman Doyle made a motion to accept the recommendation of the managers to offer NH Interlocal Trust health insurance plan MD1310. Selectman Meiszner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Cafeteria Plan: Selectman Doyle explained that the Town will be offering employees a Cafeteria Plan which allows for health care contributions to be paid with pre-tax dollars. Selectman Doyle made a motion to implement the 125 plan at the same time as the new health care plan is offered. Selectman Meiszner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Villi Poni Farm: A letter was received by the Board thanking them for allowing the Villi Poni Farm (Newfoundland Pony Sanctuary and Education Center) to participate in the autumn festival.

County of Hillsborough: The Board received notification from David Fredette, Treasurer of the County of Hillsborough, that the town's portion of the county tax is \$440,870 and is to be paid by December 17, 2014.

Private road agreements: The Board approved two private road agreements for San-Ken Homes, Inc. on Old Beaver Road, lots 5B/18-13 and 5B/18-4.

Chief Carpenter: Chief Carpenter reminded the Board of Dr. Giaimo's letter stating his intent to sell the building where the Police Department is now housed in April. An article would need to be placed on the 2015 warrant if the Selectmen were interested in buying the building, and the Board needs to discuss the matter and decide if they want a warrant article. The discussion will be scheduled for the Selectmen's meeting on November 12.

Highway Department: Director Goewey noted that paving should be completed by the end of the week. Small washouts from the last storm have been fixed; gravel roads are in need of grading.

1473 Turnpike Road: Selectman Doyle noted that there is a full dumpster on the property. The Board will check with Selectman Lawrence on the status of the house.

Dave Cotzin: Mr. Cotzin inquired about the search for a Town Administrator. The search is ongoing. The Board is re-reviewing resumes received for the position and may re-advertise in January. Mr. Cotzin inquired about the auditor hired by the Town. Selectman Doyle explained the Town contracted with Carol Coppola and Associates to help straighten out some accounting issues and correct a number of errors. Mr. Cotzin also inquired about a \$10,000 grant awarded the Town several years ago and what happened to it. With regard to the safe Lucy Lemons said at one time there was a folder in her office with the safe information.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joanne Meshna, Land Use Manager

October 28, 2014 Board of Selectmen minutes approved by:

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George H. Lawrence, Chairman

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Rebecca M. Doyle

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Woody Meiszner