

# SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 31, 2012

Board Members in attendance- Margaret Schillemat, Chair, Warren Hammack, Winston (Bud) French, and Administrative Assistant Edie Drinkwater

Others on the Agenda or present- David Voymas, Rick Lothrup, Kelly French, Terri Upton, Chief Pratt and Patricia Maneses

At 7:02 PM the meeting was called to order by Chair, Margaret Schillemat.

David Voymas came before the board representing two committees. First the Agricultural Committee and second the Planning Board.

David presented a schedule of proposed Farmer's Market events that Nelson will co-sponsor with Harrisville. Bud suggested that all Nelson dates be posted to the Town Hall Calendar in case of rain the event can still go on. One date falls on a Folklore Society event for the evening so David was given a time to end the Farmers Market to allow enough time for the Folklore Society to set up. Bob Jones will be informed of the schedule.

David was then informed that the Planning Board meetings can be held in the Town Office as a Selectman will always be present. The Board uses maps and files which must remain in the Town Office and this is what lead to the request to hold meeting there.

The next issue involved land owned by Mr. Keith Suttentfield. Mr. Suttentfield spoke with Edie Drinkwater, Administrative Assistant earlier this day. He requested a letter from the Selectmen indicating that his property was considered a buildable lot. Edie told him she would add this matter to tonight's agenda. David Voymas (Planning Board Chair) came into the office right after the phone call. Edie pulled all information and asked David to review the file in preparation for the Selectmen's review. After a thorough review of the information all concluded this was a legal sub-division when it was created in 1978 and "grandfathered" making it exempt from certain zoning regulations. The board agreed to notify Mr. Suttentfield by letter that the property was potentially a buildable lot.

Next to come before the board was Rick Lothrup. Rick had completed a safety inspection of the Town Hall and came in to review his findings. There were many safety violations noted including flammable items stored next to the furnace, unsafe egress due to doors not working easily, items blocking electric panel and general electrical issues. Rick recommends leaving the doors open during any assembly. Rick is scheduled to review the Town Office building on Wed. or Thurs. of this week.

After Rick left Patricia Maneses entered at the board's request. Margaret indicated the selectmen would like to speak to her in Non-Public session. She agreed. Margaret made a motion to go into non-public session to discuss personnel issues in accordance with RSA91-A: 3 II (a&c) Warren seconded and a unanimous vote preceded the non-public session at 8:30 PM. The board returned to public session at 8:42 PM. Upon returning Margaret reviewed the non-public session as follows. The topic was personnel issues, RSA 91-A: 3 II (a&c). Due to the sensitivity of the discussion prior to closing the non-public session Margaret made a motion to seal the minutes for the session, Warren seconded the motion followed by a unanimous vote to seal. Margaret, Yea, Warren, Yea, Bud, Yea. The non-public session was then closed in a like manner and again with a unanimous vote Margaret, Yea, Warren, Yea, Bud, Yea.

Terri Upton was then asked to come in and was given the keys to the upstairs and told of the policy and procedures covering the upstairs use. The selectmen are responsible for the Town buildings and all its contents and expect Terri and anyone using the building to abide by the policies and procedures set up to ensure safety and security for all. Terri was told that 2 people must go up whenever anything is needed.

Terri asked about Bert Wingerson's access. Margaret said it should be during business hours. Margaret also indicated that no animals would be allowed in the building except service animals.

Warren noted that a key to the archivist's room was needed for the selectmen.

Terri indicated that the Municipal Records Committee has always wanted a selectman to be part of the committee. Terri said that Mike Blaudschun was on the mailing list to receive all committee information. Terri said that Mike never contacted her to make arrangements to meet at a time when he could attend.

Margaret replied that Mike said he did try to arrange with the committee to meet when he was available to no avail.

Margaret expressed the board's confusion as to why Terri refused to discuss the issues and to be a part of the solution. Instead she declined to go into non-public session where she would have had a better understanding of all the sensitivities involved. Terri firmly said she would decline all over again.

Warren told Terri about the Department of Labor review and the Safety violations noted throughout the building and especially upstairs.

Terri told everyone that David Birchenough has fixed the window upstairs that was sealed closed.

Warren said I cannot pretend not to know of the dangers, not just because it is the law but also because "that is who I am".

Margaret then moved to inform Terri of the board's decision to keep the Town Hall free of any assembly on the night before an election. Margaret felt that they didn't consider by listening to Tom Buttrick's request that was a reversal of the board's intention but simply a revisit.

In the final analysis the board felt the risk to the election process was too high to grant Tom's request to use the Town Hall on nights prior to Federal Elections.

Margaret suggested that Tom be called into the next meeting to receive the board's findings.

Kelly French came in with several matters to discuss. She told the board about several conversations she had with residents who are concerned about the lack of details coming from the Selectmen about the Non-Public sessions. She requested a release of as much information as possible without causing harm.

Warren told her that both the town attorney and Attorney General advised against talking about the sessions in public. The selectmen have a responsibility to protect both the Town and the reputation of individuals.

The board discussed this issue a bit longer and decided to release as much information as possible while still meeting their responsibility.

The board then discussed the Nelson School open house on Saturday February 4, 2012 and all indicated to Kelly they would attend.

The final request from Kelly concerned how Nelson could arrange for people to renew their car registrations on line. The board agreed to investigate this with the Town Clerk.

Warren then asked if there had been any word from the Department of Labor following the request for an extension to complete some of the larger corrections that need to be made. A progress report had been sent to the Department and the board is hoping they will grant an extension until July.

All paperwork was completed and Margaret made a motion to adjourn at 10:28 PM. Bud seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

January 31, 2012

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Margaret Schillemat

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Warren Hammack

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Winston O. French