

# SELECTMEN'S MEETING

December 19, 2012

Executive Board Attending: David Upton, Susan Hansel, Maury Collins, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others Attending: Dennis Dellagreca, Mike Halliday, Matt Lundsted, Sarah Halliday, Richie Pratt

The meeting was opened at 2:00 PM by Chair David Upton.

Before beginning, David asked everyone to pause for a moment of silence to remember those who were lost in the Connecticut School shooting.

The first topic of discussion was the Granite Lake Boat ramp. Mike Halliday and Matt Lundsted came before the Board to present various options for improvements to the existing boat ramp at Granite Lake along with suggestions and estimates which include erosion control.

A variety of options, from a low impact repair to a complete rebuild which would include comprehensive environmental considerations, was presented.

In all cases the DES would need to be involved.

The scope of the final project would determine how complex the plans need to be for DES processing and eventual permits.

Concerns over the catch basin in front of the Munsonville Fire Station were presented and several ideas for improving the water runoff were discussed.

Addressing just some of the issues may run a few thousand dollars each. A complete rebuild which also addresses the runoff area in front of the Fire Station may run as high as \$92,470.00 if the State requires more detailed engineering plans and studies.

David noted that exact ownership and responsibility still needs to be clearly determined.

He went on to say that budget issues may prohibit the most complete version of the project at this time.

Addressing areas of greatest concern may be all that can be done for now. This includes holes in the ramp, the edge of the ramp drop off, parking and signage.

Maury suggested addressing the area in front of the Fire Station to create a water quality improvement by better directing runoff. Such a project may cost between two and three thousand dollars.

Next, David opened a discussion regarding security for the Nelson School, Town office and Library.

The Board agreed to contact the Nelson School Board to offer any assistance in fulfilling any recommendations made by SAU 29 or the School Board to increase security.

A second outside security camera will be researched and installed at the Town Office Building. Edie reported that BK Alarm Systems will be coming on January 9, 2013 to update the Library's panic alarm system. Maury will contact Linda Cates to see if anything further should be considered.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Grant funds for the evaluation of the Town Buildings. Edie spoke to Rick Monahan to be sure that his bill arrives for payment before December 31, 2012.

There was a review of projects in process but not yet complete. Payments must be issued or encumbered by December 31, 2012 for these 2012 budget items. Some of these include the

sidewalk repair at the Library and Town Hall, Electrical box for outside at the Town Office, Computer and installation for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector, security camera for the Town office, repair of the floor at the Safety Building.

The Cemetery Budget submitted by Trisha Jones for 2013 was reviewed. The 2013 budget included an increase of \$1000.00. This will cover an increase in maintenance hours as well as Tax Liability and gasoline.

The Board approved this budget as submitted.

Maury made a motion to encumber up to \$8400.00 to pay for the repair of the three sidewalks at the Library and Town Hall.

Susan seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Maury made a motion to pay the bill for the new computer for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

Susan seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 2-0 (David recused himself from this vote)

Maury made a motion to pay up to \$300.00 for outside electrical service boxes at the Town Office Building.

David seconded the motion

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0

Maury made a motion to encumber up to \$1000.00 for an exterior Security camera for the Town Office.

David seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Maury made a motion to pay the Internet Technology Service Contract submitted by Allan Treadwell to begin on January 1, 2013 for the Town Office computers, the server, and the Town Clerk /Tax Collector computers.

Susan seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0

Maury opened discussion regarding reviewing the PSNH bills and possibly changing to Resident Power to save money. The Board agreed to research this change.

David reported on the progress to gather photos for the Town Report. Most departments have set up appointment or have already had their photos taken.

There was a brief review of proposed warrant articles. Language will be developed on each article and sent to the DRA for final checking before entry into the Town Warrant.

There was discussion of the need to review the bids for Assessing services. Edie reported on several issues that are currently causing problems and the need for abatements.

David reported that he spoke to LGC legal counsel regarding the Farmers' market. It was recommended that an agreement be developed outlining the responsibility of the Farmers' market and each vendor for their products which would hold harmless the Town of Nelson for any harm to come due to any product sold. The specific amount of product liability should also be included in the agreement.

David also asked LGC to review the Tree Cut Form. Although they could not do that and referred David to the Town's attorney, they did indicate that the trees in question must be dead, diseased or damaged in some way as to be a hazard.

David then discussed proposed articles to increase the income limits and asset limits for elderly exemption in the Town. This would help elderly who have very little income but do not meet the asset limits due to the land they may own beyond the two acres that are exempt.

Other articles include, return control of the Building Capital Reserves fund to the Town, appropriating \$20,000 to develop an Emergency Capital Reserve Fund with the Board of Selectmen as agents.

There was a great deal of discussion regarding using the Silver Lake Fund by distributing it to several of the articles to be presented. Some of the money would be considered for the Town Hall Renovation.

One suggestion included using some of the funds to reduce taxes in 2013. After a great deal of discussion this article was withdrawn from further discussion.

Work will continue on these articles and the DRA will be asked for their thoughts on these articles.

There was discussion regarding changing the position of auditor to an appointed position by presenting an article on the 2013 Town Warrant.

A full Town Audit will cost about \$10,000.00 and should be done at least every five years. This amount is negotiable if a multi-year contract is signed and a clean baseline has been established by such an audit. More research will follow on this proposal.

There was more discussion regarding the ownership of the Granite Lake Boat Ramp. Many questions remain unanswered.

David suggests following the recommendations of the Town's liability carrier by smoothing the ramp surface, extending the ramp into the water with slabs that the Highway Dept. could install, improve signage and define parking areas.

There was a very brief discussion regarding changing the fiscal year for the Town to match the State and School districts. This would run from July 1st through June 30<sup>th</sup> each year. More research and discussion will follow in the future.

Final review of the Tree Cutting Forms, as presented by David, met with unanimous approval.

Paperwork was then presented for review and signing.

David made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2012 Selectmen's meeting. Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

David made a motion to approve the manifest as presented.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0

David made a motion to approve an abatement of \$6865.69 as recommended by Cross Country for Flying Loon Farm for the 2012 tax year.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

The road painting cost was discussed. The cost ran over the original estimate by several hundred dollars. David is still hoping that private funding will cover the total cost. The Board had previously voted to contribute not more than \$750.00 toward the project. If the remaining cost is not covered by additional donations then a check will be issued for no more than \$750.00.

Richie Pratt came in to drop off paperwork and was asked to clarify the terms of the new portable radio for the Police Department.  
Richie explained that the Town need only pay for the programing of the radio (approx. \$180.00) but that the radio is free to the Town.

With nothing further, Maury made a motion to adjourn.

David seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM.

December 19, 2012

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David Upton, Chair

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Maury Collins

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Susan Hansel