

## TOWN OF NELSON CAUCUS MEETING

January 26, 2010

Present: Michael Blaudschun, Chairman; Margaret Schillemat & Samuel Bouchie, Selectmen.

Others Present who gave their names as they asked questions: Gordon Perry, Linda Cates, Tom Buttrick, Charlie Lang, Judi Lang, Karen Hersey, Pamela White, John Bunce, Karen Tolman, Val VanMier, Maury Collins, Barry Tolman, Michael DeMartelly, Dennis Dellagrecca and Tom Murray.

The Caucus meeting was opened by Michael Blaudschun at 7:10pm. Seconded by Margaret Schillemat.

Mike thanked Samuel Bouchie for stepping in and helping with the selectmen duties after Jane Kirk gave her notice as of January 7, 2010. Jane has been a selectman in Nelson for 12 years.

### **Discussion of the Warrant Articles began:**

**Article 1:** Choosing of Town Officers for the year ensuing.

**Article 2:** The sum of \$286,600, to be raised by taxes for the expenses of the town.

**Article 3:** The Library appropriation of \$30,150 with \$19,570 to be raised by taxes and \$10,580 income from library funds \$10,580.

**Article 4:** Social Services appropriation of \$3,478 total. Home Health Care \$550; Monadnock Family Services \$828; Keene Community Kitchen \$1500; Southwestern Community Services \$600.

**Article 5:** Town Building Capital Reserve Fund \$10,000. The selectmen would like to think of the possible use of this fund for the Town Hall floor. It is not in good shape and they do not want to see the building lost. They will be getting a committee together to work on this project.

**Article 6:** To raise the sum of \$5,000 to repair the pillars and reset and repair the monuments in section 1 of the Nelson cemetery.

**Article 7:** To raise \$7,985 for an audit. This is recommended by the Department of Revenue Services and should be done every 3 years or so. This should not fall on the same year as the Town Wide Assessment. The town auditor will still be elected and do the audit on years that we do not need a DRA audit.

**Article 8:** The Milfoil request for \$2000 for Milfoil Prevention had no discussion.

**Article 9:** Hazardous Waste for \$680.40 was also accepted with no discussion.

**Article 10:** Ambulance services for the ensuing year. A small discussion on the increase in the amount of \$2455. ensued but there was no other service to go to at this time.

**Article 11:** The Fire Department came with a warrant article that has a small decrease for their expenses in the next year.

**Article 12:** The article for \$500 to fight forest fires at no expense to the town was readily accepted.

**Article 13:** Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The same as last year. No discussion.

**Article 14:** Emergency Department \$1500. The same as last year. No discussion

**Article 15:** The Police Department warrant article was also lower this year than last year. There was little discussion on this article.

**Article 16:** This article is for the purpose of patrols performed by the Nelson Police Dept. for the State of NH. It's for the sum of \$4000. No amount to be raised by taxation.

**Article 17:** To see if the town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a long term agreement for the lease/purchase of a 2010 Ford Expedition in the amount of \$28861.02. Payments will be (\$9620.34) payable in three year annual payments. There was a lot of discussion on this article as some townspeople felt it was unnecessary. Others felt that it was necessary to look at the wear on a cruiser in a four year period. Some townspeople wanted the cruiser to stay in town and not go home with the officer. However, it is policy for officers on call to have a cruiser with them to answer calls as they come to them. It makes for quicker response time.

**Article 18:** To appropriate the sum of \$215,000. for the maintenance of the highways and bridges for the ensuing year. \$38,753. coming from the Highway Block Grant and \$176,247 to be raised by taxes. There was little discussion on this article.

**Article 19:** This article is to appropriate \$20,000. for the Road Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. No discussion.

**Article 20:** Discontinuation of the Salt Barn Capital reserve Fund. No discussion.

**Article 21:** Dues to belong to the Southwest Regional Planning Commission. No Discussion.

**Article 22:** Discontinue the Fire Equipment, Expendable Trust Fund form 1979. No Fund balance. DRA requested this be done.

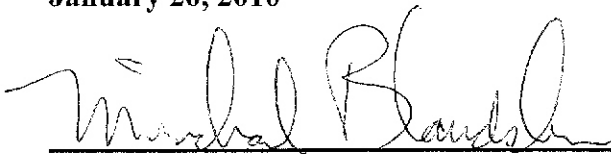
**Article 23:** To see if the town will raise \$3,840. To be added to the amount appropriated for the salary of the Town Clerk/tax Collector in Article 2. This is to restore the original amount appropriated in 2006.

There was a lot of discussion on the article 24 to see if the selectmen were going to do a conservation easement. The selectmen have not decided what they will or won't do yet if the landowner does not buy the land back for taxes. Some thought the conservation easement would be unfair to the owner and the selectmen are looking into this.

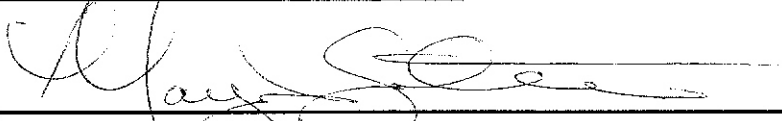
The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM by Mike Blandschun. Seconded by Margaret Schillemat.  
Meeting Adjourned.

**Articles 24, 25, 26 & 27:** Will be discussed at the March 9, 2010 Town Meeting.

January 26, 2010



Michael Blandschun, Chairperson



Margaret Schillemat



Samuel Bouchie