Selectmen: Cheryl Lewis, Janice Mulherin, Mark Andrew
Administrative Assistant: Anne Dow

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of 01-02-12 were accepted as written.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Advisory Committee members Roger Daniels, Jan Stevens, Dave Coursey, Kevin Maes and Mike Lonigro met with the Board to discuss the proposed budget.

- The committee requested earlier notification next year so they have input earlier in the process
- Reviewed budget by department
- Suggested putting town report on the website to cut down on town report costs
- Discussion regarding 2012 purchase of backhoe; suggestion was made to keep the backhoe and replace the 2004 F-550 this year instead of the backhoe. Presently the long range plan indicates replacing the backhoe in 2012, the 2004 F-550 in 2013; the 2006 F-550 in 2015 and the International dump truck in 2016. The Board will take their suggestion under advisement and discuss further with the road agent.
- Check into options for financing equipment purchase
- Committee supported the overall budget

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: None

SELECTMEN’S ISSUES

Emergency Contracts

Groton expressed concern over the extra costs associated with the quarterly fire department billings; they were not aware that payroll taxes and administrative fees would be included in the charges for 2011. The Board reviewed the contracts. This will be clarified in the 2012 contract.

Ellsworth contacted the office regarding the quarterly fire department billings. They stated that dating back to 1998, an agreement was made between the two boards and the fire department that they would pay an annual flat rate and no additional charges for individual fire calls would be billed. The Board will look into this.

Fire Fighters’ Hourly Rate – Cheryl would like to see the rate be increased enough to cover for the payroll taxes that are now being taken out of their pay. The Board agreed to increase the hourly rate from $10.00 to $11.00 effective this year.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Trustee of Trust Funds – Board received a letter of resignation from Trustee Jim Turbyne effective March of this year. The Board stated that Jim was a valuable trustee and will be missed. There will now be two positions open for Trustees of the Trust Funds – a 3-year term and a 2-year term (to finish out Jim’s term)
Groton Perambulation – Groton has requested a perambulation of the town line for 2013.
LCHIP – The library has been moving forward with their plans to apply for monies from the LCHIP fund for a feasibility study of accessibility options at the library. The selectmen support their efforts. Anne will check with Planning Board and the Conservation Commission to see if they have any plans of applying for something similar.
Vacation – Anne will be away January 12 through January 18; Janet will be covering the office.
No Meeting on January 16th.

SIGNED: Checks; Intents to Cut – S. Piper; USFS – Gordon Coursey;

UPCOMING:

01/16  No Meeting
02/17  Pemi-Baker School District 2nd Budget Hearing – High School @ 5:30
01/23  Selectmen’s Meeting
01/25  First day to file for town office with Town Clerk
01/30  Selectmen’s Meeting
02/03  Last day to file for town office with Town Clerk (open until 5:00 p.m.)
02/06  Selectmen’s Meeting
02/07  Last day to submit petitioned warrant articles to Selectmen’s Office
02/07  Pemi-Baker School District Deliberative Session – High School @ 6:30
02/08  Russell School Deliberative Session – Russell School @ 6:30
02/13  Budget Hearing – Town Budget and Warrant – Russell School @ 7:00

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow
Administrative Assistant