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

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

MINUTES: The minutes of 01-30-12 were accepted as written.

APPOINTMENTS
7:15 Advisory Committee members (Roger Daniels, Jan Stevens) were present at the Board’s invitation to review the final draft of the budget and warrant. Changes since they last met with the Board were:

- Highway Purchase – decision was made to replace the 2004 Ford F-550 this year with another one of the same size, rather than with a larger truck per Road Agent’s recommendation. He said the 550 meets the highway department’s needs with its versatility and all-wheel drive.
- The Board agreed on a 3% increase for the hourly and salaried employees. Regarding health insurance, they agreed to increase the employees’ share from 5% to 6% and working towards 10% over the next few years.

The Advisory Committee said they were pleased with the budget and had no other recommendations.

7:45 Road Agent Frank Simpson met with the Board to go over information on the proposed truck purchase. Frank reported on information he had received from several places. It was agreed to put $100,000 in the warrant article as a target figure. The amount can be amended up or down at town meeting if necessary.

Groton Wind/Permitting – Frank received a call today from a representative of Southern Tier Express, the company responsible for the permitting for Groton Wind. The company has requested written permission from the Board to use Groton Hollow Road and School Street for the transporting of the turbines, etc. later this year. At 8:00 p.m., before the Board discussed the issue, Selectperson Cheryl Lewis recused herself.

The use of School Street has never been discussed in previous talks with Groton Wind, and the Road Agent and Board members, Janice Mulherin and Mark Andrew, agreed that School Street would not be an option. The Board recommended that a copy of the road agreement between the town and Groton Wind be forwarded to them asking them to review it. If they have any questions on it, they can contact either the Selectmen’s Office or Groton Wind.

8:10 – Ms. Lewis joined the Board again.

SELECTMEN’S ISSUES

Comp/Vacation Time – The Board reviewed the summary of comp and vacation time carried over from 2011. The Board agreed that some changes should be made to the personnel policies regarding this time. The Board will be updating these policies over the next few months.
PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – None

ADMINISTRATIVE

Hearing on SB #340 – Junkyard setbacks – hearing scheduled for 10:15 February 14th in Concord. Janice Rumney, the ability to issue a junkyard license to those businesses that are located less than 1,000 feet from Route 25.

New England Salem/Hunter School – Two gentlemen who work in the maintenance department for NE Salem and the Hunter School came to the Selectmen’s office requesting permission to take their garbage to the transfer station (previously they have had a dumpster at the school). They said they have gotten some resistance from the Transfer Station employees about doing so. After talking with the Transfer Station Superintendent, Sonny Ouellette, Anne reported that businesses are not supposed to be using the Transfer Station for disposal of their trash. The Board would like to see the policy on this matter. Presently the schools are tax exempt and do not pay anything towards town services. No decisions were made.

Transfer Station Inspection – An inspector from DES conducted an inspection of the facility last week; a written report will follow. Sonny is working on getting the requested information. We were made aware that employees working at the transfer station need to be certified. The paperwork will be sent in to register the employees for a workshop to have them certified.

SIGNED: Checks

UPCOMING: 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
02/14 SB340 – Hearing in Concord – Junkyard Setbacks
02/14 Legislative Update with Bernie Waugh @ 7:00 Planning Bd/Selectboard
02/20 President’s Day – Office closed – no selectmen’s meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow
Administrative Assistant