

## SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

February 5, 2002

**PRESENT:** Bob Fay, Doug Foglio, Willis Lord, Nancy Brandt, Pam Witman, Denise Waterhouse, Pam L'Heureux, Jason L'Heureux, Paul Verrell, Sr., Bob Gobeil, Russ & Teresa Lowell, Larry Jacobsen, Dean Look, Mike Bennett, Dan Link, John Littlefield, Mark Sanders, Kevin Nelson, Mike DeAngelis, Ernie Roberge, Jr., Eric Herrle & Fred Bechard.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

### APPOINTMENTS

7:00 p.m. – John Littlefield spoke in response to Mr. Link's concerns of two weeks ago. Stated that they had a meeting on September 10, 2001 on a petition presented by the membership requesting that they go back to signing up for time on the rescue and it was done and has not changed since that time. Stated that Mr. Link was in that meeting. Mr. Link did go to the Samoset Resort last year with two others. Six actually earned the right to go but three chose not to attend. Stated that the Public Safety Committee did not recommend anything to the department on the issue of EMT's being forced to work as stated by Mr. Link. Regarding the paying of members by the hour as stated by Mr. Link, did talk to the Selectmen about paying them by the hour but they agreed that this is not a good time to start. Does feel that the members don't get enough compensation for the time spent and the work done. Have made some changes in EMS but only in an effort to make them more comfortable and in an effort to band them together as a group. Discussed the letter to Nancy from Attorney Cole which states that they are a municipal fire department. This does not change anything, they still can't make them do anything they don't want to do and it was just a general posting. He has never heard any of his officers say that if you don't show up we will throw you off the department, it has never been said. Paul Verrell questioned why the stories from Mr. Link and the Fire Chief are so different and also questioned if there will be retaliation against Mr. Link. Bob stated that they will go into Executive Session after this meeting and discuss these issues.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion by Doug that they accept the written Account Policy. Seconded by Willis. Vote 3-0-0.
2. Doug stated that he would like to add a paragraph to the Purchase Order policy. The paragraph should read "To allow the Assistant to write a year long policy for up to \$500 for emergency repairs to town equipment. Motion by Doug to accept the revised policy with the amendment and seconded by Willis. Vote 3-0-0.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Motion by Bob that the transfer stickers be \$5.00 for the first one and \$2.50 for each additional within a single family and that they go for a period of two years. Motion seconded by Willis. Vote 3-0-0. Reported that the stickers have been printed and they are running an ad for temporary help to hand those out at the town hall. Reported that they will be doing new signs for the recycling containers at the Transfer Station. Doug stated that they have to do something because RWS is going to stop taking our recycled materials or start charging because it is so contaminated. The next meeting of the Transfer Station Committee will be held on February 27<sup>th</sup> with RWS and several neighboring communities. Willis reported that at the March Town Meeting \$371,320 was appropriated and at the June Special Town Meeting \$86,700 was appropriated and have received \$22,971 in revenue for the operation of the transfer station for a total of \$480,827.79. So far in this fiscal year have spent \$314,371.20 plus payroll of \$13,881.02 for a total of \$328,252.23. Currently have a balance of \$152,569.56 with five months yet to go. Are talking approximately ½ million to operate the transfer station. Stated that Sanford charges \$5.00 per year for dump stickers and in Standish it is \$10.00 per

year. Thinks it's very reasonable to charge \$5.00 for a two year period. Willis also reported that there are a lot of times which we need to get rid of or will be in violation. Discussed prices for tire removal from Fritz. Bob complimented the members of the Transfer Station Committee for all their hard work. Will begin working on more long term issues regarding how we want to run this department into the future. Doug reported that the stump dump from August 2001 through January 30, 2002 generated \$17,341. Wanted to show that the stump dump is generating a fair amount of money. Reported that they are now going to collect for brush put into the burn pit. Willis stated that he does not believe that these amounts are correct, thinks we have taken in almost half that much just from D & E. Bob stated that they are trying to help defray the cost of operating the transfer station not make a profit. Requested that any illegal dumping be reported. Mike Bennett requested that the new rules be published for the public. Bob reported that Hollis has requested a 90 or 120 extension on their agreement with the Town of Waterboro for use of the transfer station so they can get their own facility open. Reported that the new stickers will be handed out at town hall for 30 days, whenever the office is open, and weekends it will be done at the transfer station by volunteers. Bob Gobeil stated that currently a lot of people have multiple stickers. It was stated by Bob that from now on if they have no sticker they do not dump.

## OTHER

1. Pam L'Heureux reported that she has mailed out all the 911 addresses and has handled a few calls with questions and concerns. Requested that the board approve the name D & E Way for the road off Sokokis Trail beside Dean Waterhouses home. Board approved. Requested that the private road off Jellerson Road currently named Heath Road be changed to Everett Lane. This was also approved. Explained that GPS gave out the numbers not her. Reported that she will be going to an EMA course next week in Mt. Weather, VA. Paul Verrell stated that she is doing a great job.
2. Motion by Doug to accept the bid from Saco River Tel. & Tel. On a new telephone system for the new building to sell and install the system and not to exceed \$16,000. Seconded by Bob. Vote 3-0-0.
3. Bob reported that the new addition is complete and will be holding an open house very soon and may be holding some meetings there once we get some new chairs.
4. Doug stated that they need to post and hold road layout hearings for the roads that want to be accepted at town meeting. Will try to schedule for when Doug returns in two weeks.
5. Willis discussed the rural roads initiative program which we participated in last year. There is a form which needs to be submitted and Bob will take care of it.
6. Ernie Roberge, Jr. issued a formal complaint regarding the false calls being placed to the fire department when he is burning with a permit and requests that the town find out who's making these calls. Bob stated that if the fire department receives a call they have to respond. Felt that as it is against the law to call in false alarms then it needs to be taken to law enforcement or we can turn it over to Sgt. Chauvette. Ernie to provide the back up data for us to turn it over to our contract deputy.
7. Superintendent of SAD #57, Fred Bechard, discussed the funding process with the state. Reported that the state should be allocating an additional 2.38% into the formula for schools this year. Over 100 schools will receive less money in the upcoming year. Does not know yet what the final figure will be. Bob stated that he thought funding was based on how rich a community is so why would South Portland fall into this category. Fred stated that valuation and student enrollment are the driving force in the funding. Discussed the possible increase to Waterboro. Fred stated that currently it is at 5.2% with no new teachers, no new programs and no new modular's. If you take into account the increased enrollment there will be more teachers. The final budget vote will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Last year the budget increased 7.4%

with Waterboro's share increasing by \$380,000. They are trying to keep it under that amount for this year. Willis questioned him on the increase he will be receiving this year. Fred explained that he has a 4 1/2 year contract which includes a 5% salary increase each year, \$1,000 longevity for each year served totaling \$11,000 this year, and a \$9,500 annuity. Will be increasing from \$82,000 by 5% this year. Discussed the rumor that some members of the school board tried to veto his contract and Fred stated that it did not happen. Discussed School Bus Lane and the possibility that the district may want to name that road themselves. Reported that our teachers rank in the 75% percentile within the state. The Board has worked very hard to raise standards and provide quality education. Also to gain the trust of those who pay the bill, the taxpayers. Have tried to answer questions honestly and when they don't have the answer to find out and report back. The board has worked very hard to hire and keep good teachers by researching the surrounding area. Requested to be notified of rumors so he can communicate the truth. Discussed the screening program for bus drivers. Stated that they do a background check, driving record check, fingerprinting and get to know the drivers personally. They do their best to hire only the best people. They do currently have a waiting list for drivers. Discussed the new middle school and as soon as they receive the green light from Augusta they will have a committee look into location. This committee will consist of Select people from all six towns, business people and board members. The new school can not be placed on the current campus. Stated that the middle school needs athletic fields. They currently share a number of different fields. Discussed ways to increase voter turnout and participation. Discussed televising the school board meetings. Doug suggested installing homing devices on each bus. Even if it was just because of bad weather, at least you would be able to locate a missing bus. Bob stated that at one of our Council Meetings we will be honoring kids from one of the schools and will keep Fred posted.

8. Doug reported that the Parks & Recreation Committee is looking for another member.

Motion by Willis and seconded by Bob to accept the minutes of 1/29/02 as written. Vote 3-0-0.

Doug reviewed the list of upcoming meetings.

Motion by Doug and seconded by Willis to go into Executive Session for a Personnel Issue. Vote 3-0-0.

## ADJOURNMENT

### SIGNED:

Warrant for Bills and Payroll

1. Minutes of 1/29/02

### APPROVED

Date: 2/12/02

Andrew C. Foley

Willis A. Lord