

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES
November 18, 2004 Budget Workshop

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Alan Carpenter, Chris Doyle, Roger Hohenberger and Bruce Breton were present. Galen Stearns arrived late. David Sullivan, Town Administrator, Dana Call, Finance Director, Police Chief Bruce Moeckel and Police Captain Pat Yatsevich were also in attendance. Meeting commenced at 7:00 pm.

BUDGET WORKSHOP: The Board of Selectmen met to discuss the 2005 budget for the Dispatch and Police departments. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding filling the second 9-5 dispatch seat which is currently vacant due to the recent retirement of a dispatcher. The Board listened to members of both the Dispatch and Police departments speaking in favor of continuing to budget for this position. The Selectmen moved to include the existing dispatch position in the 2005 budget (3-2 vote, Hohenberger and Doyle opposed). The discussion then moved to the Fire dispatch contract with Derry and expected increases in this fee over the next three years. Other budget line items were then discussed with minor changes made.

Discussion then moved to the Police department budget with a discussion of the proposed new patrolman position and the assignment of that position to traffic enforcement. The Selectmen moved to include the new patrolman in the 2005 budget (5-0 vote), however, it was noted that all new personnel will be voted on in separate warrant articles. Also, the Chairman requested that a draft warrant article describing the new position be presented to the Selectmen for review and that staff communicate with the AFSCME Local 3657 to ensure the union supports the proposed new assignment and determine any implications to the police union contract. Discussion continued as to the tasks of the School Resource Officer, particularly during the summer months, as well as potential for reimbursement from the School District for overtime hours relating to school trips and functions.

Other line items were discussed and a reduction was made to the Property Maintenance budget line, as well as a request was made to go through the formal bid process for Radio/Communication Maintenance.

Discussion then turned to the Trails & Recreation program and the amount of overtime needed to patrol the ATV trails. The Selectmen reduced the overtime budget by \$4,470 to \$11,190 in order to budget for the same amount of overtime that was actually spent in 2004. The Selectmen also reduced the budget by \$4,250 and elected not to purchase a second ATV for the program.

Selectmen Bruce Breton then requested that \$7,500 be added to the Police budget to purchase three Taser guns for the department as well as provide training to the Officers. The Police Chief, Captain and members of the Police department spoke to the Selectmen regarding the issue and

the Selectmen voted 4-1 (Stearns opposed) to include the money for the Tasers in the 2005 budget.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Call
Finance Director

NOTE: These minutes are prepared in draft form and have not been submitted to the Board for approval.