

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES
December 13, 2005 Budget Workshop

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Roger Hohenberger, Bruce Breton, Galen Stearns, Alan Carpenter and Margaret Crisler were present. David Sullivan, Town Administrator and Dana Call, Finance Director were also in attendance. Meeting commenced at 7:00 pm.

BUDGET WORKSHOP: Mrs. Crisler requested the Board reconsider including the \$70,000 data technician in the operating budget, as opposed to leaving as a separate warrant article. Mr. Hohenberger motioned to reconsider the Board's previous motion and Mr. Carpenter seconded. Passed 3-2 with Mr. Stearns and Mr. Breton opposed. After a lengthy discussion, Mrs. Crisler motioned to include \$70,000 in the operating budget to fund a data technician for the Assessing department and Mr. Carpenter seconded. Failed 2-3 with Mr. Hohenberger, Mr. Stearns and Mr. Breton opposed. Mrs. Crisler motioned to fund the \$70,000 separate warrant article from fund balance instead of taxation, as a result of the surplus funds from the Police Contracted Special Revenue fund that will be dissolved and deposited to fund balance. Mr. Hohenberger seconded. Passed 5-0.

Mr. Stearns motioned to remove \$25,000 from the Recreation budget and fund this amount from the same fund balance that will be generated as a result of surplus funds in the Police Contracted Details Special Revenue fund. This money will be put into a separate article for field maintenance expenditures, to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Stearns agreed to table his motion until later in the meeting.

The Board met with Al Turner, Planning Director, to discuss the 2006 Planning budget. After a lengthy discussion on conducting impact fee studies for Recreation, Public Safety, Highways, etc., Mr. Hohenberger motioned to reduce the Special Studies line item from \$20,000 to \$0, with the expectation that these studies will be conducted by staff. Mr. Breton seconded. Passed 3-2 with Mr. Carpenter and Mrs. Crisler opposed. Mr. Stearns motioned to increase overtime hours for the Assistant Planner to handle these studies, however, no second was received.

After lengthy discussion regarding the benefits of membership in the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC), Mr. Carpenter motioned to remove \$9,510 from the budget for the RPC dues and asked that staff investigate the feasibility of joining the Hillsborough Planning Commission instead; as well as replenish \$10,000 to the Special Studies Expense line item and have 2 studies performed by consultants. Mrs. Crisler seconded. Passed 4-1 with Mr. Stearns opposed.

Mr. Carpenter motioned to reduce the Training budget to \$2,500 and Mr. Hohenberger seconded. Passed 4-1 with Mrs. Crisler opposed. Mr. Carpenter motioned to reduce the Registry of Deeds budget by \$100 and

Mr. Stearns seconded. Passed 5-0. Mr. Carpenter motioned to reduce the Vehicle Equipment budget by \$300 and Mr. Stearns seconded. Passed 5-0.

After lengthy discussion as to the new economic development opportunities potentially coming to the Wall Street area of Town, Mr. Carpenter motioned to request staff draft a letter from the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen welcoming the applicant and offering assistance and the opportunity to meet directly with the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Breton seconded. Failed 2-3 with Mr. Stearns, Mr. Hohenberger and Mrs. Crisler opposed, based on the expectation that this potential development will go through the normal process and work with Planning and Development staff.

The Board then discussed with Mr. Sullivan the Health & Human Services budget as proposed, with no changes made. The Board held a brief discussion regarding potentially funding a mosquito control program but made no decision at this time, pending further information from the Health Officer.

The Board then discussed the remaining expected surplus in the Police Contracted Details Special Revenue fund and what, if any, should be designated from fund balance to fund certain items in the budget. Mr. Sullivan recommended that a portion of the surplus be deposited into the newly created Police Public Safety Details Revolving fund as seed money to help get that fund started. Mr. Stearns motioned to transfer up to \$40,000 to the new revolving fund and Mr. Breton seconded. Passed 5-0. Mr. Carpenter motioned to use \$11,530 of these funds for a Police safety trailer and remove those funds from the operating budget. Mr. Breton seconded. Passed 5-0. Mr. Stearns motioned to use \$25,000 of these funds for a separate warrant article for field maintenance expenditures, to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, and remove this amount from the Recreation budget. Mr. Breton seconded. Passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS: The Board agreed that their year-end meeting scheduled for December 29 will be held at 4:00 pm.

Eric DeLong, IT Director, presented the Board with several options to extend the existing contract with the Town's current phone service provider, Choice One, and take advantage of varying credits being offered. Mr. Carpenter motioned to extend the contract with Choice One for one year and Mr. Breton seconded. Passed 5-0.

The Board then discussed several petitions to amend zoning ordinances which have been received. Mr. Stearns motioned to accept the petition to amend the zoning classification on Tax Map Lot 11-C-800, to be changed from Professional Business and Technology to Business Commercial A. Mrs. Crisler seconded. Passed 5-0. Mr. Stearns motioned to accept the petition to amend the zoning classification on Tax Map Lot 3-B-600 from Neighborhood Business to Rural. Mrs. Crisler

seconded. Passed 5-0. Mr. Stearns motioned to accept the petition to amend the zoning classification on Tax Map Lot 3-B-601 from Neighborhood Business to Rural. Mrs. Crisler seconded. Passed 5-0. Mrs. Crisler motioned to accept the petition to amend the zoning classification on Tax Map Lot 17-J-70 from Commercial B to Residential A. Mr. Stearns seconded. Passed 5-0. All these petitions will be submitted to the Planning Board for consideration and review as part of their zoning amendment process.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: Mr. Carpenter motioned to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 93-3:A IIa. Mr. Breton seconded. Roll call vote, all members “yes”. The topic of discussion was personnel. Mr. Sullivan updated the Board on municipal union contract negotiations and the tentative agreement that has been reached, subject to ratification by the remainder of the union. Mr. Stearns motioned to ratify the tentative agreement reached with the municipal union and Mr. Breton seconded. Passed 5-0.

Mr. Sullivan then updated the Board on the situation with the Deputy Town Clerk, indicating that Mr. Boylan intends to provide the Board with a letter of resignation. Mr. Stearns motioned to accept Mr. Boylan’s resignation and pay gross wages of \$4,000 as severance. Mrs. Crisler seconded. Passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 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.