

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Minutes of February 8, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice-Chairman Joel Desilets called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Selectmen Ross McLeod and Roger Hohenberger were present, and Chairman Al Letizio joined the meeting via conference call for the Warrant Article discussion. Selectman Bruce Breton was excused.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mr. McLeod reminded everyone that tomorrow was Primary Day and encouraged all to get out to vote.

Chief McPherson announced that the Town's 50/50 grant to replace the radio on Jenny's Hill was approved. He then requested that the Board waive the bid process to allow a sole source vendor, 2-Way Communication our Motorola service provider, to provide the equipment. Mr. McLeod motioned and Mr. Hohenberger seconded to waive the bid process and to proceed with 2-Way Communications. Motion passed 3-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING – AMENDMENTS TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FEES:** Mr. Desilets opened the public hearing, dispensing with reading all the proposed fees, but rather referencing them as those posted and shown on the notice.

Ms. Scott briefly presented the fees to be amended and confirmed that no comments had been received.

There being no public input offered, Mr. McLeod motioned and Mr. Hohenberger seconded to approve the amended fees as posted. Motion passed 3-0.

**SELECTMEN RECOMMENDATIONS TO WARRANT ARTICLES:** Mr. Letizio joined the meeting via conference call. Mr. Sullivan explained that with the completion of the Deliberative Session meeting the Board, at its option, could reconsider any recommendation votes on the various warrant articles; calling special attention to those that were amended at the meeting.

Mr. McLeod motioned and Mr. Letizio seconded to reconsider the Board's recommendation on Article 11 to raise \$50,000 for updating the Town's Master Plan. Motion to reconsider passed 4-0.

Mr. McLeod motioned and Mr. Letizio seconded to recommend Article 11 as amended by the Deliberative Session; the amendment being to add the words "this article is part of the Capital Improvement Program".

Mr. Hohenberger noted that, while he was pleased to see the amendment as it now more accurately reflects what happened during the CIP process, he still does not support the funding as he feels the Planning Board could do the work.

Vote on the motion was 2-2 with Mr. Hohenberger and Mr. Desilets were opposed. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to place the words "recommended by the Board of Selectmen 2-2" on the Warrant article.

Mr. Letizio ended the conference call connection at 7:18 PM.

**DONATION FROM LIBERTY UTILITIES:** Mr. Sullivan provided clarification on why the Liberty Utilities' donation of \$1500 towards a "Welcome to Windham" sign had been on the last agenda. He explained that it was scheduled in error as he, while completing year end processing work, had not recalled that the Board had already accepted the donation in October 2015. He further advised that the sign has already been made and paid for with the donation.

The Board, now understanding the circumstances, took no further action as none was required.

**TAX ABATEMENT RECOMMENDATION:** The Board considered a series of tax abatement recommendations submitted by MRI, the town's consultant. Following a brief discussion the Board handled the following two (2) recommendations; and asked that MRI come to the next meeting to discuss the remaining ones submitted for consideration.

8 Weston Rd – Mr. Hohenberger motioned and Mr. McLeod seconded to approve the recommendation to reduce the assessed valuation from \$561,000 to \$520,500, based on new field measurements and interior inspection. Total tax abatement of \$543. Motion passed 3-0.

137 Kendall Pond Road – Mr. McLeod motioned and Mr. Hohenberger seconded to approve the abatement of full value based on the property being owned and used by the Town for the full tax year (Campbell Farm). Motion passed 3-0.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mr. Sullivan presented a request from Donna Mignault for a refund of \$137.70 representing the deposit paid for use of the Searles Building which she has since had to cancel. Mr. McLeod motioned and Mr. Hohenberger seconded to waive the Searles refund process and grant the requested refund. Motion passed 3-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. McLeod discussed a complaint filed with the Community Development Department wherein the name of the complainant was released by staff, which is not in keeping with the Town's policy on these matters. Mr. Sullivan advised that he was made aware of the issue and will discuss same with staff to see what happened and to ensure that the process is known and followed.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Hohenberger motioned and Mr. McLeod seconded to approve the following sets of Selectmen's Minutes as written: November 16<sup>th</sup>; December 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>; January 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>; and February 1<sup>st</sup>. Motioned passed 3-0.

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION:** Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mr. McLeod seconded to enter into a nonpublic session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II c and e. Roll call vote - all "yes". The topics of discussion were reputations and legal.

The Board, Mr. Sullivan, and Mr. Popovici-Muller were in attendance.

Legal Matters – Mr. Sullivan updated the Board on an on-going tax abatement case. No decisions were made.

Reputations – Mr. Sullivan presented a request from a property owner, who had their property taken by the Town via tax deed, to repurchase the property under the "as justice may require" provisions of relevant State Statutes. Mr. McLeod moved and Mr. Desilets seconded to deny the request to re-convey under the noted provision. Motion passed 2-1 with Mr. Hohenberger opposed.

Mr. McLeod motioned and Mr. Hohenberger seconded to adjourn the meeting. Passed 3-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Sullivan, Town Administrator

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