

## **ATTENDANCE**

Chairman Karen Falcone; Selectmen: Rene Archambault, Dianne Gilbert, Bob Jordan; James McGeough (arrived late); Town Administrator, Dean Shankle; Administrative Assistant: Judith Bielecki.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Falcone called the public session to order at 6:50 PM at the Epping Town Hall.

### **2. ADJOURN TO NON-PUBLIC 91:A:3 II. (b) personnel**

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to adjourn to Non-Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-0. Roll call vote was taken and carried unanimously. Selectman Archambault arrived late.**

### **3. RECONVENE AT 7:00 PM**

### **4. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

### **5. SEAL NON-PUBLIC MINUTES – July 26, 2010**

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to seal the Non-Public Minutes of July 26, 2010. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 4-0.**

### **6. MINUTES OF JULY 13, 2010**

Amended minutes from July 13, 2010 were submitted for approval. Selectman Archambault stated that the correction to the minutes was not included. Chairman Falcone advised that the correction was noted on the original submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the amended minutes of July 13, 2010. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.**

### **7. SIGNING OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST**

Accounts payable manifest in the amount of \$754,633.05 for week ending July 23, 2010 was presented for approval. \$500,000.00 was for the school and \$254,633.05 was the Town portion. Selectman Gilbert requested the check for Flynn & McGee for legal expenses be tabled until the decision from the court is reviewed by the Board. Selectman Archambault objected to the request to hold the check as it was for the restraining order. Chairman Falcone stated that this bill is pertaining to a lawsuit filed against the Town and me personally, and won't approve paying that bill. Selectman Archambault advised that this expense was approved in non-public and was for the restraining order. Chairman Falcone stated that that request would have to be voted on in public.

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the payment of \$2,500.00 to Flynn & McGee for legal expense. Seconded by Chairman Falcone. Motion did not carry 1-2. Selectman Gilbert and Chairman Falcone voted nay. Selectman Jordan abstained.**

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the accounts payable manifest in the amount of \$752,133.05 (\$754,633.05 minus \$2,500.00). Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 3-1. Selectman Archambault voted nay.**

**8. SIGNING OF PAYROLL MANIFEST**

Payroll manifest in the amount of \$83,023.52 for payroll period ending July 22, 2010 was presented for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the payroll manifest in the amount of \$83,023.52. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.**

**9. BUSINESS**

**9.1 HIRING REQUEST – Police Department**

Request to hire Mr. Russell S. Hero as a full-time Police Officer to replace Police Officer Tondreault was submitted for approval. Chief Dodge advised that Mr. Hero was a Police Officer in Orleans, Massachusetts and a background check and interviews with conducted by Detective Cote. He requested Mr. Hero be hired at a salary of \$17.17 per hour.

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve hiring Mr. Russell Hero as a full-time Police Officer at a salary of \$17.17 per hour. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.**

**9.2 SIGNING OF MS-5 FINANCE**

The MS-5 Report prepared by Finance and the Towns Auditor for the Department of Revenue Administration for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the MS-5 Report for the Department of Revenue Administration for 2009. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0. [Selectman McGeough joined the meeting.]**

**Mrs. Fogg, Finance**, stated that the revenue and expense budgets were submitted to the Board and asked if the Board had any questions. Selectman Gilbert advised that in review the Highway Budget seems to be close in some areas and asked if any revenues are planned from FEMA or other sources. Mrs. Fogg advised that FEMA only covers part of the repairs on Prescott Road. Selectman Jordan advised that he would contact the Public Works Supervisor in this regard.

### **9.3 BUDGET COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Request via e-mail from the Budget Committee was submitted to the Board for review. The Budget Committee is requesting a joint meeting with both the School Board and Selectmen on August 18, to discuss the upcoming budget and goals of the individual boards. Chief Dodge advised that he would be preparing a letter to the Budget Committee advising that currently two police cars are out of service and the line is overspent for repairs.

### **9.4 ABATEMENT REQUEST – NH Electric Cooperative**

Request to deny the abatement request from NH Electric Cooperative due to failure to submit documentation to the Town's Utility Appraiser, George Sansoucy, PE, LLC.

**Motion by Selectman McGeough to deny the abatement request for NH Electric Cooperative. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.**

### **9.5 ABATEMENT REQUEST – Hard Rock Development**

Abatement request for Hard Rock Development, LLC. for 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009 in the amount of \$597.76 was submitted for approval. Towns Assessor, Scott Marsh advised that this property was vacant land and smaller than listed and in fact not owned by Hard Rock Development. Selectman Gilbert advised that the burden of proof is the taxpayers and therefore one year only should be abated.

**Motion by Selectman McGeough to approve abatement request for Hard Rock Development in the amount of \$95.76. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

### **9.6 INTENT-TO-CUT – Burley**

Intent to Cut for property owned by Ms. Jane Burly, High Road, Map 004, Lot 010 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Intent-to-Cut for Ms. Jane Burley, High Road, Map 004, Lot 010. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

Intent to Cut for property owned by Ms. Jane Burly, High Road, Map 005, Lot 003 was submitted for approval.

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the Intent-to-Cut for Ms. Jane Burley, High Road, Map 005, Lot 003. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

### **9.7 RENTAL OF TOWN FACILITIES – Pearson Way Condo Association**

Request to rent the auditorium at the Town Hall to have a Pearson Way Condo Meeting on August 25, 2010 was submitted for approval by Kelly Crooks. Discussion followed regarding the use of the auditorium in the winter and whether an increase in the normal fee should be considered.

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the rental of town facilities for Pearson Way Condo Meeting at a fee of \$10.00 per hour. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **9.8 RENTAL OF TOWN FACILITIES – Girl Scouts**

Request to rent room at Watson Academy every other Thursday for the school year to host a Girl Scout Meeting.

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the rental of Watson Academy for the Girl Scouts. Seconded by Selectman McGeough. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **9.9 TAX COLLECTORS DEEDS – 2008 Tax Liens**

Tax Collector Deeds for five properties were submitted by the Tax Collector in regard to 2008 Tax Liens.

**Motion by Selectman Gilbert to approve the taking of five deeds as requested by the Tax Collector. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **10. CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS**

### **10.1 TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

**Town Administrator Shankle**

No issues.

### **10.2 INDIVIDUAL SELECTMEN'S REPORT**

**Selectman Gilbert**

**Selectman Gilbert** advised that upon review of the recent budget an amount of \$17,000.00 was listed in the CORE2 Project. She requested the funds be turned over to the General Fund to defray some of the monies owed the Town for the purchase of the land behind the Town Hall.

**Selectman Gilbert** advised that a resident had called her regarding a decision recently by the ZBA to change a decision from 2005. She stated that was a bad decision and recently some of the key documents that should have been in the files were not in the file. She added that to remove a document from a public file is a misdemeanor. Chairman Falcone stated that was the reason that she suggested the documents be scanned and an area set aside for the public to review files. Mr. Paul Spidle advised that he was on the Board as an alternate on the ZBA at that time. Town Administrator Shankle advised that any citizen who provides documents to a

board should maintain a copy in their possession.

### **Selectman Jordan**

**Selectman Jordan** advised that the Village on the Lamprey will be having it's meeting Wednesday, at 7:00 PM.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPOINTMENTS**

### **7:30 PM C. Goodspeed**

**Mr. Charlie Goodspeed** requested approval to sell by sealed bid the pumper truck located in West Epping. Deputy Chief Nickerson advised that the truck does not run, the tank leaks, and might only be wanted by a collector. He added that it may be more valuable as scrap.

**Motion by Selectman McGeough to place an ad to sell the pumper truck via a sealed bid. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Mr. Charlie Goodspeed** requested consideration of trading the new Ford Fusion recently purchased by the prior Fire Chief for a 4-wheel drive pickup to replace the current 1947 forestry truck. He stated that the Police Department has requested consideration to purchase this vehicle for the detectives as the car was purchased at a negotiated low price of \$14,000.00. Chief Dodge advised that the vehicle is needed by the force as currently the detectives are driving a 2000 Ford Taurus. He stated that the vehicle could be purchased by utilizing the details line in the revolving fund. Mrs. Fogg, Finance advised that in review with DRA today she was advised that it would not be considered a police cruiser as the wording on the warrant article. Discussion followed regarding the funding issue and wording of the warrant article. Selectman Gilbert asked that LGC be contacted for clarification.

**Mr. Charlie Goodspeed** advised that some changes to the emergency medical reimbursements is being implemented, namely paying on an hourly basis and not points. He requested establishing random drug testing for all part time department personnel. Town Administrator Shankle requested Finance review the current drug testing contract and advise the Board of a approximate cost.

**Mr. Charlie Goodspeed** advised that the Fire Wards would like to begin the process to recruit a Fire Chief. He advised that the ad would be prepared with a request to return the applications to the Selectmen's Office. He added that the candidate letters would then be opened and reviewed by the Fire Wards, Board of Selectman Rep., Fire Marshall, and the Fire Academy. He stated that the final candidates would then be presented to the Board for approval. Selectman McGeough asked for a copy of the advertisement be provided to the Board prior to placing the ad.

**Mr. Charlie Goodspeed** asked if the Board would consider appointing another representative as the Board of

Selectmen representative to the Fire Ward. Selectman McGeough requested that he be appointed as the Board of Selectmen Representative to the Fire Wards, to stop the character assassination.

**Motion by Selectman McGeough to appoint himself as the Selectman's Representative to the Fire Wards to replace Selectman Archambault. Seconded by Selectman Archambault. Motion carried 5-0.**

Selectman Jordan advised that several residents have contacted him via e-mail and in person. He stated that elected officials are hired to do a job, and have to put personal feelings aside, and do the job that you were elected to do for the Town. He added that whatever the situation outside those doors what is done at this desk should be for the good of the Town.

**8:00 PM J. Gramas**

**Mr. John Gramas** presented a plan to the Board in regard to reconstructing the recreation trail to allow expansion of his commercial real estate project. He advised that Board that this railroad bed is going to be incorporated in the retail project and is working with DREA NH, Mr. Chris Gamach in that regard. Selectman McGeough asked if the ski-mobile clubs have been notified. Mr. Gramas stated no they have not been contacted. Town Administrator Shankle advised that a public hearing should be scheduled to advise interested parties of this project. Selectman Jordan stated the site should be walked by the Selectmen to review the proposal. Chairman Falcone requested a public hearing be scheduled on August 9, 2010 at the Board Meeting.

Selectman Archambault and Selectman McGeough left the meeting at 8:30 PM.

**11. COMMENTS BY VISITORS**  
**None.**

**12. ADJOURN**

**Motion by Selectman Jordan to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Gilbert. Motion carried 3-0.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Judith Bielecki**  
**Administrative Assistant**

**JB/**

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**Karen Falcone, Chairman**

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**Rene Archambault, Vice-Chairman**

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**Dianne Gilbert, Selectman**

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**James McGeough, Selectman**

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**Bob Jordan, Selectman**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_