

**TOWN OF EAST KINGSTON, NH
SELECTMEN'S PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2008**

**7:00PM Fire Chief Sam Richard
7:15PM Ronald Dawson**

ATTENDING: Selectmen Robert A. Caron, Richard S. Poelaert & David R. Pendell, Jr.

OTHERS ATTENDING: Fire Chief Sam Richard & Ronald Dawson.

MINUTES: The Board reviewed the Selectmen's Public Meeting minutes dated 11/24/08. Mr. Pendell **MOTIONED** to approve and sign the Selectmen's Public Meeting minutes as written. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

REGISTER: The Board reviewed the check register. Mr. Pendell **MOTIONED** to approve and sign the check register dated 11/25/08-12/03/08 in the amount of \$738,400.15, as presented. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

SMITH: The Board acknowledged the passing of Larry Smith, our current Conservation Commission Chairman and Town Moderator on Friday, November 28, 2008. The memorial service will be held on Sat. Dec. 13th at the Kingston Congregational Church at 2:00PM.

The Board acknowledged flowers have been sent for the memorial service, and his passing will be mentioned in the Town Report.

It was further acknowledged that Dennis Quintal has been named Chairman of the Conservation Commission, to fill the position, and the Supervisors of the Checklist will appoint someone to fill the vacancy of Moderator until Town Meeting 2009, in accordance with RSA 669:62.

SUPPLEMENTAL TAX WARRANT: The Board acknowledged two homes built prior to the 4/1 deadline that were not reflected in the tax warrant.

Mr. Poelaert **MOTIONED** to approve and sign a supplemental tax warrant for \$4,432 for 180 North Road, MBL #16-03-11 & \$3,922 for 8 Winslow Drive, MBL #01-01-01. Mr. Pendell seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

ABATEMENTS: It was acknowledged the tax warrant did not reflect four Veteran's credits that were eligible for the 2008 exemption. Mr. Pendell **MOTIONED** to approve the in-house abatements of \$500 each for: MBL #4-2-2014, 4-2-2025, 16-02-04-34 & 08-02-19-24. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

TAX COLLECTOR: The Board acknowledged receipt of the notification the Tax Collector sent the tax bills out on 11/25/08 in accordance with RSA 76:13.

TC/TC: The Board acknowledged receipt of two Requests for Disbursement of Funds for overpayment of property taxes. Mr. Pendell **MOTIONED** to approve and sign: Stephen & Ann Kucker, \$385.00 + Joshua & Lianne Olson, \$174.00. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT: The Board acknowledged receipt of the lot line adjustment deed between the Monahan heirs and the Union Cemetery as approved by the Planning Board for the Board of Selectmen's signature.

Mr. Pendell **MOTIONED** to approve and sign the documentation as presented confirming the lot line adjustment. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

It was noted the document would be recorded at the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds.

TAX RATE ACCEPTANCE: The Board acknowledged the Tax Collector's request for confirmation of the tax rate. Mr. Pendell **MOTIONED** to approve and sign the rate at \$22.88, as approved by DRA. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION: The Board reviewed two letters of appreciation addressed to the Elementary School for the recent food drive for the Town's food pantry, and the wreaths donated by the Eaton/McDonalds for the Town Hall and Town Offices Building. They are carrying on the tradition of the former owners of the property, Mr. & Mrs. Nupp of 35 North Road.

Mr. Poelaert **MOTIONED** to approve and sign the two letters as presented. Mr. Pendell seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

BOND: The Board acknowledged receipt of the final documentation papers for the \$950,000 bond to cover the costs of two conservation easements. Mr. Poelaert **MOTIONED** to sign all the final documentation as presented. Mr. Pendell seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

LUCT: The Board discussed changing the amount of the Land Use Change Tax from 50% to the Conservation Commission fund to a lesser percentage. It was noted it was on the warrant last year at 10% and failed.

Mr. Pendell **MOTIONED** to add a Warrant Article for the 2009 warrant changing it from 50% to 10%. Chairman Caron seconded. Motion carried 2-1.

APPOINTMENTS: The Board reviewed appointments for 1/1/2009 – 12/31/2009, based on the Chair's recommendation of each group. (See attached list).

The Board members reviewed the full list of appointments. Mr. Pendell **MOTIONED** to approve and sign all appointments except two, as noted. Mr. Caron seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Caron **MOTIONED** to approve and sign the appointments for Mr. Ray Donald as Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 2-1.

TOWN REPORT: Chairman Caron submitted his draft of the Selectmen's Report for the Town Report to the Board for their review.

POUND SCHOOL: Mr. Pendell reported trouble with the Pound School door lock. The Adm. Asst. reported the custodian had looked at it and fixed it after the last Planning Board meeting. Mr. Pendell suggested looking into all the locks at the Town owned buildings.

The Fire Chief offered to look at the lock and possibly add graphite if needed.

CONTRACTS: Chairman Caron presented "draft" copies of contracts for the Board members to review for discussion at their next meeting (12/22).

At 7:00PM, Mr. David Pendell left the meeting to attend another commitment.

NONPUBLIC SESSION: Chairman Caron **MOTIONED** to go into a nonpublic session at 7:00PM under RSA 91-A-3, II: para. (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee. The Board was polled and the results of the poll were: Robert A. Caron – Yes, & Richard S. Poelaert – Yes.

The Board was polled and determined the divulgence of the information would render the proposed action ineffective and the information will be withheld from the public during the public meeting Minutes of December 8, 2008. The results of the poll were: Robert A. Caron – Yes, & Richard S. Poelaert – Yes.

Chairman Caron **MOTIONED** to adjourn this Selectmen's Non public meeting at 7:05PM. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

FIRE DEPT.: Fire Chief Richard informed the Board he passed his EMT-I test recently. He stated it was a hard program and he will have his national license within a couple of weeks.

Mr. Poelaert inquired to the Chief, now that he has his EMT-I, how long would it take to reach paramedic status? Fire Chief Richard responded approximately 1-1 ½ years.

Mr. Poelaert encouraged Fire Chief Richard to shoot for that goal. He expressed how he thinks it would benefit himself as well as the Town. Fire Chief Richard agreed.

It was also noted Todd Burnim will be taking training for paramedic in 2009 through New England Health Solutions. The course may be completed by 2/2010.

The Board members agreed and understand the road to reaching paramedic status is a long hard one.

Fire Chief Richard responded he appreciates that the Board of Selectmen have the confidence in him to reach this goal.

It was further noted Michele and Sarah will be CPR instructors, and Matt Gallant, Ed Warren and Keith Bertogli are currently taking their final exam for EMT-B at the UNH program.

In response to an inquiry from Mr. Poelaert, about the Christmas Eve Santa event hosted annually by the EKFA, Fire Chief Richard reported the recent EKFA meeting was a positive one with approval of the Association to use the forestry vehicles for towing the two Santa's around Town, along with two trailers for them to ride on for safety. The Fire Dept. vehicle will lead them as well as a police cruiser. EOC Director, Mark Cook, has offered the use of the generators, and the only stipulation the Fire Chief made was all vehicles must be driven by fire dept. employees, for liability purposes. He thinks the event is all set and ready to go.

Fire Chief Richard explained the remaining amount of the fire department budget and asked the Board of Selectmen to approve the expenditure of needed Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA's), and a thermal imaging camera with the remaining 2008 funds.

Discussion ensued. Fire Chief Richard stated the SCBA's will be approximately \$4,500 each and that he has been offered a new thermal imaging camera for \$9,700 with a 2-year warranty. It was noted the request is for five SCBA's.

Chairman Caron **MOTIONED** to authorize the Fire Chief to expend up to \$35,000 for the acquisition of five SCBA's and one new thermal imaging camera from the 2008 budget. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Fire Chief Richard thanked the Board and left the meeting at 7:35PM.

NONPUBLIC SESSION: Chairman Caron **MOTIONED** to go into a nonpublic session at 7:35PM under RSA 91-A-3, II: para (c.) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. The Board was polled and the results of the poll were: Robert A. Caron – Yes, & Richard S. Poelaert – Yes.

The Board was polled and determined the divulgence of the information would render the proposed action ineffective and the information will be withheld from the public during the public meeting Minutes of December 8, 2008. The results of the poll were: Robert A. Caron – Yes, & Richard S. Poelaert – Yes.

Chairman Caron **MOTIONED** to adjourn this Selectmen's Non public meeting at 7:40PM. Mr. Poelaert seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

BUDGET: The Adm. Asst. presented the budget expenditures to date. Of the \$2,448,400 approved for 2008, there is approximately \$300,000 remaining for the month of December to cover costs of payroll, utilities, the TAN Note, and snow plowing, etc.

CORBETT: The Board acknowledged receipt of a letter regarding the donation of a parcel. The Board acknowledged due to the statute restraints, the proper process cannot be accomplished for this year's vote.

It was further noted after three years of unpaid property taxes, the Town processes a tax deed at minimal cost to the Town.

PUBLIC HEARING: It was noted, as a formality, a public hearing will be held on 12/22 for the acquisition of two conservation easements.

LEWANDOWSKI: The Board acknowledged a letter from H. Lewandowski requesting information published in the Town Report.

PLANNING BOARD: It was noted the Planning Board will be meeting on 12/11 & 12/18.

LEGAL: The Board acknowledged receipt of correspondence from town counsel. No action required.

ELDERLY HOUSING: It was noted a warrant article will be placed on the warrant asking the voters to authorize the Planning Board to amend the conditions of approval from private trash pick up to Town trash pick up, at a cost to the taxpayers, for the existing elderly housing developments. It was noted it will be the Planning Board's responsibility to amend the current ordinance to this change for future developments, if they determine the change is warranted.

WARRANT ARTICLES: The Board reviewed the "draft" of the warrant to date.

BUDGET HEARING: The Office has received a request from the School District to conduct their budget hearing at 6:30PM on 1/5/09, prior to the scheduled 7:00PM public hearing on the Town budget at the Selectmen's Office. The Board members agreed to conduct the budget hearings jointly.

MAGIC SALT: The Road Agent has asked to meet with the Board on 1/20/09 to discuss “Magic Salt.”

CASH FLOW: The Adm. Asst. informed the Board, due to the tax rate being set late by DRA this year, the tax bills have gone out late, therefore, the cash flow has been very tight and the school district payments have been held past their due dates (with SAU 16 knowledge). The payments will be mailed upon money being received. The County Tax Bill and the TAN note are also due by year end.

Mr. Poelaert **MOTIONED** to adjourn this Selectmen’s Public Meeting at 8:30PM. Chairman Caron seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah G. Gallant
Administrative Assistant

Robert A. Caron

Richard S. Poelaert

David R. Pendell, Jr.