

Selectmen Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2013

Present: Selectmen George Lawrence and Benjamin Cargill

6:34pm Selectman Lawrence opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Selectman Lawrence held a moment of silence in memory of Rhonda Traffie who had served the Souhegan Valley Ambulance Service. He said she will be missed at SVAS and a number of other areas where she worked. David Cotzin made some comments about the funeral and thought it was very impressive.

Windfarm Takeover by Site Evaluation Committee- Selectman Lawrence said they were to discuss if New Ipswich should join with the Town of Temple. (to contest the state taking over the wind farm on Kidder Mountain). Ed Dekker said the state takes over projects over 30 megawatts. Projects between 15 and 30 are optional for the state to take over. Selectman Lawrence said Temple wants to go to the state and contest. Ed said he opposes the state taking jurisdiction from local boards. Selectman Lawrence referred to a letter from Attorney Kenyon asking if New Ipswich wanted to object to the state taking jurisdiction. Selectman Lawrence said local regulations become null and void (if the state takes jurisdiction) but Ed said the SEC can be asked to apply our rules. Ed thought we should meet with Temple ASAP. He wanted Selectman Lawrence to call and make an appointment with Temple. Selectman Lawrence said the point he wanted to make was that there was a lot of effort put into the votes (for the wind turbine regulations) and he thought the boards shouldn't tell the state to go ahead and disregard the votes of the people. Selectman Lawrence said he will set up a time to meet with Temple and Ed said to contact him or Joanne.

Impact Fee Article – Chairman of the Planning Board Edward Dekker said the Planning Board discussed and recommended both of the petition zoning articles. A majority of the Planning Board voted in favor of eliminating impact fees, but Ed's personal feeling was the same amount of money is going to be spent, but the money will have to come from somewhere else. He said some of the members of the Planning Board thought that if someone split off land for their child they shouldn't have to pay an impact fee (as opposed to a developer building).

Selectman Lawrence said people on a state road feel they should not have to pay for the road portion. Ed said the article does not deal with any amount already assessed. Selectman Lawrence said if someone came in the day before the voting and got a building permit they would have to pay. (even if the article passed and impact fees were eliminated).

Building Permit Article – Ed wondered why the length limits on the storage structure and the green houses were different.

Building #2 Article – Selectman Lawrence said there was a petition article submitted for \$46,000. to demolish Building #2. Building Permit Officer Jim Shultz said we have to be careful because the water etc. for the other buildings goes through Building #2. Selectman Lawrence said there is a lot to consider because of donated items, rooftops etc.

Selectman Conlin Letter – Selectman Lawrence read a letter from Selectman Conlin who was not attending the meeting, in favor of meeting with Temple on the wind turbine project.

Review Warrant Articles - The selectmen reviewed the warrant articles. The wording for the ambulance article was changed from Souhegan Valley Ambulance to licensed ambulance service. Selectman Cargill wanted to separate the capital reserve items by department, but thought he could do it later.

James Cooper Nomination – Jim Hicks said SVAS had a meeting last night and he took over as the chairman for Claudeen Revard. Jim Cooper was taking over Jim Hick's position and wanted the board to accept him. Selectman Lawrence made a motion to have Jim Cooper be the representative from SVAS to the town. 2nd Selectman Cargill. Motion passed 2-0.

Code Red – Jim Hicks asked about the status of Code Red. He said Selectman Lawrence was to talk to Selectman Conlin and find money in the budget to fund Code Red which is approximately \$4000. Selectman Lawrence thinks Code Red was taken out of the budget. Jim Hicks is to check back with Selectman Lawrence. Selectman Lawrence thanked Jim Cooper for volunteering.

Encumber Funds – Selectman Lawrence said we cannot encumber funds for the state audit fine because it is past the end of the year, but we can take out of the legal line item.

Town Administrator Job – Selectman Cargill thought there should be a special meeting to discuss the Town Administrator position. They thought they could start looking at the applications Tuesday night. Selectman Lawrence said some people thought there was going to be a committee (to do the hiring).

Police Force – Selectman Lawrence said he is getting good feedback from the public. He feels the new chief is doing well. He felt there was a lot done in the last three months with the department and the new communications tower.

Other Business – Selectman Lawrence showed a letter of invitation for a Legislative Breakfast at Monadnock Community Hospital. Selectman Cargill is planning to go with the other selectmen.

7:54pm Selectman Cargill made a motion to adjourn. 2nd Selectman Lawrence. Motion passed 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Somero
Accounting Clerk

George Lawrence – Chairman

Michael Conlin

Benjamin Cargill