

TOWN OF THORNTON

December 19, 2006

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

5:30 The meeting was called to order.

Board members present: Arthur Gross, Ralph Perron and Lee Freeman

Also present: Administrator Andrew (TA) Dave Lewis, Ron Jansen, Jim Demeritt, Gloria Kimball, Road Agent (RA) Tom Dubey, Sally Kriebel, John Carpenter, Fire Chief David Tobine

5:30 It was moved to enter non-public session relative to a personnel issue. Selectmen Gross, Perron and Freeman were present. 5:45 Road Agent Dubey was requested to join the non-public session. 5:50 The Board returned to public session. It was moved to seal the minutes of the non-public session. PASSED (x3)

5:50 Review of 2006 highway budget to date. Road Agent Dubey stated he is requesting the Board's approval of purchases totaling \$35,424 which will leave \$40,243 to be turned back to town less payroll expense for the next two weeks. The mild winter last year and thus far this year is the cause for the remaining funds.

Diaphragm Pump, \$1509. Selectman Freeman stated he does not want to own a trash pump and the town would need to use it 23 times at \$65/day rental fee to pay for it. Selectman Perron supported the purchase request. Selectman Gross voted against the purchase at this time. DENIED (x2). There has not been enough historical usage to justify the cost.

2-stage air cleaner, \$2735, for handling welding fumes primarily in the winter months when the doors can't be left open. The Board requested additional information and pricing to be presented 12/28. The RA stated he had looked at a unit that would be mounted through the wall and the one recommended by Fire Chief Tobine. The one he has recommended appears to be sufficient for winter closed door operations. Ron Jansen inquired why the Board would not approve a not to exceed amount? The RA will check with Farina Metal Fabricators about what they use and their recommendation.

Air jacks to keep brake pressure up in the trucks estimated at \$50/truck. The Board authorized purchase of parts within the \$1000 purchase limit. PASSED (x3)

Grader tires, 6 @ \$473.29 plus \$40 mounting/each. Jim Demeritt recommended that the RA get a price from Kirk's in Plymouth. Kirks will service the tires also.

Backhoe tires, 4 @\$447.95 plus \$40 mounting/each.

The Board moved to purchase tires for the grader and backhoe with a not to exceed \$5,000 amount. PASSED (x3)

C-container for storage \$2,600 including delivery. Transfer Station Manager, Dave Hilliard has purchased them in the past and has offered his assistance if requested. The Highway Department will support the container to keep the interior dry. Selectman Freeman supported the request. Selectman Perron inquired how much the addition of a

sloped roof would cost? A motion was made to purchase a container for \$2600 and authorize up to \$2000 more for roofing materials purchased by 12/31/06. APPROVED (x3)

Wood chipper- 9” hydraulic chipper, \$23,200. The RA stated that chipped materials are neater and break down more quickly. Ron Jansen concurred. Currently brush is being thrown over the bank. Selectman Freeman inquired how many times a year we have needed to use a chipper? It would need to be used 38 times before it paid for itself. The RA responded that the work was contracted twice this year, but if the department had their own, chipping would be done more frequently.

NOT APPROVED (x3)

Supplies – Selectman Freeman inquired how many culverts are in stock? The RA referred to the inventory that had been requested by Selectman Freeman and continued that the stock would be used up next year if all of the paving projects can be accomplished. The RA stated that 15” smooth bore plastic is equivalent to 18A” corrugated metal. The RA requested approval to purchase 12 additional lengths of 15”culvet. \$1,600 APPROVED (x3)

Review of inventory. The Board continued review of inventory. The TA is comfortable with the current inventory.

Overhead doors. Selectman Perron inquired if they are working okay? The RA responded he would like to get doors with better insulation. Selectman Perron requested the RA get a price for door replacement for next Thursday.

Selectman Freeman suggested the RA contact Sanel’s field representative Mike Morin. He may be able to give the Town some better pricing and current location of state pumps.

2007 Highway Budget proposal – The Board discussed encumbering ’06 budget monies toward a direct purchase order especially for paving. Selectman Freeman stated he would like to keep the Road Maintenance line equal to the Highway Block Grant. The RA is proposing all hot top application for 2007. He noted that the cold surfacing has held up well but is actually more expensive right now. The Board discussed how much of the roads repair and paving is not for paving? Selectman Perron suggested the Board encumber the maximum amount possible on the 28th.

Jim Demerit inquired if it would be more cost effective for the Town to have its own fuel tank. NO due to liability and utilizing the state’s bid pricing.

Selectman Freeman stated the Board should look at starting a paving capital reserve budget. Ron Jansen stated it doesn’t appear we are keeping up with the miles that should be paved annually; we are falling behind.

7:00 Old Town House. Gloria Kimball and Sally Kriebel stated that Sally is submitting an application to get the Historical Society on a registry for Land Conservation Heritage Improvement Plans (LCHIP) for this next year. Sally has met with Amy Dixson in Concord and she is very pleased with the progress that has been made in line with the consultant’s recommendations.

Sally Kriebel stated she contacted contractors Peter Robson and Jim Sanborn for ballpark amounts to use on the application.

Component #1, remove/document	\$6,000
Component #2, stumpage, trees	\$1,000
Component #3, estimate	\$40,000
Component #4, new roof	\$15,000
10% for factor	\$5,000
Total	\$68,000 ½ LCHIP \$34,000

Sally asked if the monies would come from the capital reserve account? Once awarded how long will the funds be available to spend?

Selectman Freeman stated he wanted larger amounts to be deposited in the capital reserve accounts with the assumption that the school addition will pass in another year.

The Board thanked Sally & Gloria for all the research and work they have done to date.

The Board opened the responses to the Request for Proposal advertised for the Old Town House roof.

Corriveau Builders	\$6,000
Alexander Pope construction	\$4,500 +\$225 strapping no additional charges in memory of father Ed Pope.
JKS Construction	\$5,800

The Board requested the TA contact each for 2 References within 2 weeks.

7:18 Chief Tobine – Selectman Perron noted that there is a cluster fly problem in the Thornton firehouse. He noted that his employer has invested in cluster busters at \$18/window. They are environmentally friendly, full of crushed eggshells, and are supposed to break the fly's cycle. Selectman Perron proposed the Town purchase them for each window in the firehouse. APPROVED (x3)

Road names.

Pointe Road has been deleted and the house has been numbered on Northpointe Road. Blake Mt. Road and Blake Drive. It was moved to delete Blake Drive. The single house will be renumbered off Night Road.

Mt. River East and Mt. River Ave. Mt. River Ave has less units. Selectman Freeman requested one more notification be given to the property owners on Mt. River Ave. It was moved that they will have 60 days from notice to have a name approved by the Fire Chief or the Selectmen will rename the road to Quarter Horse Road.

Chief Tobine noted that many 911 numbers are still not posted on buildings. He continued that Campton Selectmen have authorized a violation card that the police can give out informing the property owner that the number needs to be posted or they may be subject to a \$250 fine. The TA is to request Police Chief Joyce contact Police Chief Warn for a sample of the card.

Notch Spur, Notch View, and Notchway are three more similar names. Notch Spur & Notchway residents are to have an alternate name approved by Fire Chief Tobine within 60 days of notice or the Board of Selectmen and Chief Tobine will rename the road(s).

Snowood Condo, Snowood Village, and Snowood Drive are three more similar names. Snowood Condo Road and Snowood Village Road residents are to have alternate names approved by Fire Chief Tobine with the same stipulations as above.

Ambulance alternatives – Chief Tobine is working on a budget as instructed and researching ambulance pricing. A ballpark pricing from Stewarts Ambulance is \$129,000 to cover Campton and Thornton with 2 ambulances and 24/7 coverage. Campton/Thornton would need to house the ambulance and provide sleeping quarters. The Chief noted that this would provide for basic life support. The Campton-Thornton Fire Department is providing advanced life support within its own department.

The Chief continued it is going to cost money up front to purchase an ambulance, but contracted service through Plymouth will be \$96,000 for the two towns in '08. Plymouth's Fire Chief Thibeault attended a Campton Selectmen's and said that it is time that the member towns supported the total costs of the ambulance service, and that it hasn't been totally supported in the past. Holderness and Ashland are talking of putting together a service. Rumney is looking to go with Wentworth/Warren. We are the only two towns that do not have an ambulance. An outside agency has told Plymouth that they need 8 additional employees for the coverage that they have.

Chief Tobine stated that Linwood would be a long way away. The service would probably work with one town but probably would not cover Campton. The Chief stated they are already too busy with Loon and they are looking at 900 additional housing units. He continued a combined service would be easier to deal with as far as protocols. Selectman Freeman stated the Board wants to have answers for March as far as having researched all of the alternatives. Chief Tobine stated that we need to look at time frames for service to the residents.

The Board requested confirmation that Plymouth would begin billing every patient 1/1/07.
YES

Selectman Freeman stated that it was poor advance notice for Plymouth to basically notify towns with the agreement and billing.

Chief Tobine noted that the new fire department substation building is already full with equipment that exists that has been overcrowding the other buildings.

Selectman Perron inquired if it is too soon to notice any cost savings on the Thornton firehouse from having changed the furnace and adding insulation. The Chief responded that it is but he is budgeting \$1,000 more for fuel.

Selectman Perron inquired if Chief Tobine has done a final inspection and approved the furnace in the Police Department. Fire Chief Tobine stated Police Chief Joyce has not yet contacted him. Selectman Perron requested Chief Tobine set up the inspection. He continued that the Board would like a letter stating that installation is satisfactory or what will need to be done before it will be approved.

8:04 Town offices will close at noon on Friday 12/22/06. PASSED

Mill Brook Road Survey. The Board has been notified that Burd Engineering Services has gone out of business. A letter was hand delivered on today's date indicating what was outstanding and proposing a solution to completing the project. The TA is to contact counsel re alternatives to make sure the project is finished.

Municipal Building painting. Selectman Freeman suggested the Grafton County House of Corrections might have people available for labor. The Board discussed hiring someone to do a survey of the building to set specifications for a request for proposal. They asked the TA to contact Peter Robson to evaluate the building and set specifications of what will need to be placed on RFP for painting the building. PASSED (x3)

Minutes of 12/5/06 Selectmen's Meeting were approved as amended. (x3)

8:23 It was moved to enter non-public session for purpose of a land issue. PASSED (x3) Present were the Board of Selectmen and TA.

8:47 The Board returned to public session. It was moved to seal the minutes on the non-public session. PASSED (x3)

Overtime was calculated for an individual who had vacation time. Vacation is not to be calculated as hours worked for purposes of overtime per the personnel plan. The TA will notify the department head and employee. Adjustment will be made.

Selectman Gross noted that he had been called because the Transfer Station had closed prior to the posted hours when the Manager was not there. The TA will notify the manager that he should speak with his staff.

The Board will require the Department head to initial all time sheets in future. PASSED (x3) The TA will notify department heads.

Selectman Gross stated that the Holiday party was very pleasant and all that attended seemed to have enjoyed it. He thanked Selectman Perron for organizing the Holiday Gathering at Frannies.

APPROVALS:

Building Permits:

15 1 40

W&K Bryer

interior finish/electrical

9:05 It was moved to adjourn. PASSED (x3)

**The next scheduled Selectmen's Meeting
Will be
Thursday December 28, 2006
5:30 PM at the Municipal Building**