

SELECTMEN'S MEETING – February 1, 2010

Present: Richard Bielefield, John J. Strasser, Margo Connors
Jennifer Gaudette

Guests: Chief Wentworth, Sidney Regen, Don & Sandra Butson CAI,
Wayne Presby, MWA, Nick DeMayo

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

**2010 Budget Hearing is scheduled for February 8, 2010. 6:30 PM Crapo Building.
The Board will not meet on Monday, February 15, 2010 Presidents' Day**

CHIEF WENTWORTH met with the Selectmen to update them on general police department business. The Chief discussed the recent flooding on Streeter Pond Road and the procedures that were followed by all departments. The Chief is in the process of collecting prices for the replacement of the cruiser. Chief Wentworth was pleased with work recently completed by Sgt. Ball during a investigation.

The Selectmen signed the MS-5 as completed by North Country Financial Services.

The Selectmen approved the use of the Meetinghouse by the North Country Chamber Players on February 6 and 7, 2010.

The Selectmen approved the continuing use of the Crapo Building by the Pine Hill Singers on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30. The Selectmen approved the use of the Sugar Hill Meetinghouse by the Pine Hill Singers for a concert on Sunday June 6, 2010.

SID REGEN, Sugar Hill's representative to the North Country Council met with the board to present information on the Ride Share Program Grant the NCC is currently writing. This will expand the current area covered and there is no cost to the Town for supporting the grant application. MR. BIELEFIELD made a motion to support the NCC North Country Ride Share partnership agreement, seconded by MR. STRASSER. The motion passed unanimously and the papers were signed and returned to North Country Council.

MS. CONNORS discussed with the board the wind power, solar power, wood heating tax credit article that some area towns are considering. The board felt that the Town was not ready at this time to add the article to this years warrant.

DON & SANDRA BUTSON of Cartographic Associates met with the Board to answer additional questions the board had in regard to the mapping project being considered. Questions included the cost of the different software necessary for the project. The bid for the entire project is \$25,000 and can be split over two years. The difficulty of the ArcView software to manage was questioned and Mr. Butson explained that the Query software makes the program very easy to use. The cost of the annual support of the programs was also questioned. The timing of the project and the availability of the photography from the State was also discussed.

WAYNE PRESBY a member of the Board of Directors of the Mt. Washington Regional Airport met with the Selectmen to discuss an amendment to the current agreement that the directors

would like the Town to include in the Warrant. In addition the airport commission has requested a warrant article in the amount of \$422.25 (75 cents per resident) The Selectmen agreed to put both articles on the warrant and recommended that the airport commission have someone at Town Meeting to speak to the articles.

The Selectmen discussed the Elderly Exemption as adopted by the Town in 1997 and the need to update the financial requirements. MR. STRASSER made a motion to amend the amounts to read 20,000 single, 30,000 combined and 50,000 net assets, seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD. The motion passes unanimously and the changes will be presented in a warrant article for the Town to approve.

The Selectmen discussed the assessing bids from Purvis & Associates and Trumbull & Associates, Inc. for a 10 month contract this year. MR. BIELEFIELD made a motion to accept the bid from Trumbull, seconded by MR. STRASSER. The motion passed unanimously. It was noted that a letter would be sent to Purvis and Associates thanking Gary Fournier for his work with the town.

Mr. Bielefield updated the Board on the fact that an inspection was completed on the Crane Hill Bridge after the recent ice problems and found no structural problems.

MR. BIELEIFELD made a motion to place an article on the warrant requesting \$12,500 for phase one of the Cartographic mapping project, phase two would be in 2011 for the same amount, seconded by MS. CONNORS. The motion passes unanimously.

MR. STRASSER noted that the board would not be taking appointments next week as they prepare for the 6:30 PM budget hearing.

MR. DE MAYO asked how the change to the elderly exemption amounts would affect the tax rate. Since the board does not know how many additional people would qualify, they cannot answer the question. It was not believed that it would create that many new applicants. Mr. DeMayo inquired if the Veterans' credit had ever been looked at in regard to changing the credit. He was advised that previously with two Veterans on the board any request for change would have to come from an outside source.

MR. BIELEFIELD made a motion to accept the minutes of January 25, 2010, seconded by MR. STRASSER. The motion was approved unanimously.

MR. BIELEIFELD made a motion to enter non-public session at 7:20 to discuss welfare applications, seconded by MR. STRASSER.

MS. CONNORS made a motion to seal the nonpublic minutes and adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM, seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD. The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, February 1, 2010 at the Carolina Crapo Building at 5:30PM to be followed by the Budget Hearing at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer P. Gaudette
Administrative Assistant

