

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
January 27, 2009

Selectmen in attendance: Judith L. Churchard, Robert W. Frizzell, Jason A. Cole

The meeting was opened at 6:28 pm.

Selectperson Churchard made a motion to accept the minutes of the 1/20/09 meeting as written; Selectman Frizzell seconded and all were in favor.

Discussion:

- Selectperson Churchard announced that an offer of \$120,000.00 was made on the old Town Office today. According to realtor, Jeremy Bradshaw the person making the offer has asked to remain anonymous for now and hasn't said what kind of a business he/she plans to use the building for. The Selectmen agreed to have Jeremy write up the offer and present it to them.
- Selectperson Churchard handed out job descriptions to all office employees for their review and to make changes, comments, etc.
- The Selectmen will meet Tuesday nights at 5:30 pm with the office staff to work on the general government budget.
- Selectman Cole will speak to Town attorney, Alan Shepard in regard to whether the Rescue Department can be a corporation and also part of the Town of Lebanon.
- Selectman Cole mentioned an email he received from Glen Stadig in regard to the Selectmen holding a presentation to supply residents with information on upcoming topics for the year. This email was received by all the Selectmen and Selectperson Churchard said they should meet with Glen separately to discuss this idea.

Christine Torno – Excise Tax Collector: Came before the Selectmen in regard to several issues:

- In-house Payroll - Christine and Cindy Arroyo, Treasurer, went to Acton to see how it works. This software will be purchased from TRIO and will be a huge cost savings compared to what it costs to outsource. The purchase price will not be any more than \$3,234.00, which includes the initial cost plus set-up and training. The yearly cost thereafter will be only \$350.00 in addition to what we pay TRIO now. By going with this system and doing payroll in-house there will be a cost savings of approximately \$7,000.00.

Chris asked the Selectmen to make a decision so she can begin the process of putting the system in place. Selectperson Churchard made a motion to purchase the TRIO payroll program in order to switch from the current Advantage Payroll provided there is no contract with Advantage; Selectman Cole seconded and all were in favor.

- Animal Control – A deputy officer is needed and the Selectmen agreed. Christine said she doesn't mind filling in occasionally, but she does not expect to be left with the job on weekends. Last Friday, she came back from Sanford to take care of a pit bull at the elementary school because the ACO was "unavailable". Christine said she would talk to the ACO and be willing to help out provided they come to an agreement that works for both. The Selectmen will also speak to Mary Kinney, ACO next week.
- The Rabies Clinic at the Lebanon Fire Station on 1/26 went well. There were a total of 54 dogs and 25 people registered their dogs.

- Rapid Renewal is averaging 10-12 registrations per month. A letter was received from the State of Maine saying that Inland Fisheries and MOSES may do Rapid Renewal at some time in the future but no date has been set. The new Town website has a link to Rapid Renewal.

Laura Bragg – Town Clerk: Came before the Selectmen with several issues:

- Laura found a book which contains Executive Session minutes. She called MMA and they said the minutes are considered confidential and not for public knowledge. Laura has put the book in the vault and marked it “Confidential”.
- The date for the Public Hearing for the town vote in June needs to be picked and the Selectmen need to decide who they want for moderator. Laura suggested the Public Hearing date be around the second week in May. Selectperson Churchard also stated that the Selectmen need to talk about what will be going on the ballot.
- Asked about Department Head meetings and when the next one will be? Selectperson Churchard said they may wait until March to start these meetings again as budgets are the main focus right now.
- Asked if any budgets will be ready for the Budget Committee meeting next week? So far, the Selectmen have received them from Road Commissioner and 911 Coordinator. All other departments will be notified and reminded budgets are due to Selectmen by 2/1/09.
- Laura talked to Nancy Nason, Art Teacher at the elementary school and asked for Town Report cover entries by 3/1/09.
- A suggestion to help cut the general government budget is to have all organizations using portable toilets (Little League, Soccer, etc.) pay for their own. Possibly they will be able to get the same rate the town gets and this question will be asked of Blow Bros. Also a letter will need to be sent to the various organizations informing them of this decision. The Selectmen agreed this was a good idea.
- Asked the Selectmen if Christine Torno could get authorization to put information on the Town website. The Selectmen said yes. Steve Endsley is going to instruct Selectman Cole to put Rescue information on the website and Christine was invited to attend.
- Fire Chief Skip Wood issued Standard Operating Guidelines for use of the UHF radios for town employees. Some training will be required to teach employees how to use the radios and this will be set up with Chief Wood. Laura also said everyone needs to read the SOG.

Bog Road: Several residents of Bog Road came before the Selectmen in regard to the issue of plowing and maintaining the road to the end of the orchard. Jason Cyr spoke asking the Selectmen to reverse the decision to stop plowing at the beginning of the orchard and continue to the end of it. This is based on documents he received from some of his neighbors. The residents were extremely upset because of a letter written by the Selectmen on 1-6-09 informing them that Bog Rd. had been discontinued in 1938 and would no longer be plowed beyond .35 miles. Much discussion ensued.

Selectperson Churchard explained that the town voted to discontinue the road in 1938 and the vote by Selectmen in 1991 to extend the maintenance to the end of the orchard was erroneous. It is not legal for the town to expend taxpayer money on discontinued and/or private roads. Road Commissioner, Ray Davis explained that any private/discontinued road can be brought up to specifications then voted in as a town road on a referendum.

The Selectmen decided that the road will continue to be plowed, pending a final opinion from the Town attorney and all documentation is found. The Selectmen will call the School Dept. and ask if the bus will continue up the road until the issue is settled. Selectperson Churchard told the residents the ultimate decision is not theirs, but a legal one. Jason Cyr asked if a letter would be sent to the residents informing them of the decision; Selectperson Churchard replied yes.

Selectman Cole made a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session at 7:50 pm. The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 7:59 pm.

Selectperson Churchard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm; Selectman Frizzell seconded and all were in favor.