

Town of Tamworth
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2009

Selectmen Present: William Farnum, Thomas Abugelis and John Roberts.

Chairman Farnum opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Others present throughout the meeting included: Road Agent Bruce Robinson, Police Chief Dan Poirier, Sam Martin, Ruth Timchak, Joe Merrill, Dana Littlefield, Chris Robinson, Lucy Bellen, Anne Abear and other members of the community.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

The Board discussed the following with Police Chief Poirier:

1. December 2008 Stats: Chief Poirier presented stats for the month of December 2008 that were reviewed and discussed. Chief Poirier discussed the recent death of an infant that he responded to.
2. False Alarms: Chief Poirier discussed false alarms that have gone off at businesses in Tamworth, particularly Dunkin Donuts. Chief Poirier advised he has spoken to the management of this company with no avail. The Board recommended establishing a policy on false alarms in which the business will be charged a fee for multiple false alarms. Chief Poirier will view surrounding communities policies and will present a recommendation to the Board at a future meeting.
3. DARE Class: Chief Poirier advised the 2008 – 2009 DARE class has begun with grades 5 and 7.

The Board discussed the following with Road Agent Bruce Robinson:

1. New Garage: Mr. Farnum advised the lights are up, the heat is running, the door for the bathroom is on and the plumbing should be up and running for the open house scheduled for Saturday, January 10. The majority of the building is ready to go and the equipment can be parked in the building. Mr. Roberts discussed the pipe compressor installation. Mr. Robinson was requested to get a material list necessary to hire someone to install the compressor. Mr. Robinson discussed the automation of the lights and the Board advised they were on a mercury switch. The Board discussed the need for additional wood to be split for the new wood boiler. Chief Poirier and Mr. Farnum offered a wood splitter to the highway department.
2. Salt Purchases/Usage and Sand Use: The Board discussed the salt available in the building at this time. It was estimated that the building was ½ full – holding 85-90 ton. Mrs. Pearce advised 328 tons of salt has been delivered this year with 172 tons remaining from the 500 tons allotted. Thus far, no complaints have been received on the reduction of salt usage on Tamworth roadways. Mr. Robinson advised the sand is holding up well.
3. Truck Log Sheets: Mr. Farnum discussed the log sheets that are currently being used by the drivers of the trucks. The current sheets are not giving the Board accurate

- representation of truck usage, mileage, fuel, drivers, road repairs, and material used on individual roads. The sheets are to be completed by the individual drivers each day.
4. Driveway Permit: Mr. Farnum discussed a revised driveway permit as recommended by the ordinance review committee. Mr. Abugelis thought the new permit to be very stringent on businesses that want to put signs up advertising their business. The Board requested Mr. Robinson review the permit as presented and to discuss recommended changes at the next meeting.
 5. Extended Warranty for 6-Wheelers: The Board discussed an extended warranty offer from Liberty International for the 6-wheelers. Mrs. Pearce discussed the prices that were offered from Liberty. The Board and Mr. Robinson will review the proposed warranties available and will discuss them at the next meeting.
 6. Pricing/Time Sheets on hired trucks: Mr. Farnum discussed the current charges the Town is receiving on hired trucks utilized to maintain the roads. The Board requested Mr. Robinson review the charges and to consider changing the charges for those hired with a driver compare to those hired in which the Town provides a driver. Mr. Roberts requested a time sheets be completed for hired trucks to show the hours and dates used.

PINE TREE POWER UPDATE:

The Board met with Joe Merrill of Pine Tree Power to discuss the noise abatement process that they have been working on. Mr. Merrill advised a different cleaning method has been attempted in another facility in northern NH, which does not use horns. The Tamworth plant will test this new method on January 17. A lower frequency horn was installed on the stack on December 20 and the process of running the horn 24 hours a day was tried. Mr. Merrill advised he received a complaint from Chief Poirier and immediately reduced the running hours of the new horn to 7:00 am – 7:00 p.m. Mr. Merrill advised the plant would be closed for 9 days in May of 2009.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul D'Entremont, who live near the facility discussed a loud alarm that came from the facility about 3:30 a.m. on a December morning. Mr. Merrill could not verify the noise came from Pinetree Power without additional information. He recommended Mr. & Mrs. D'Entremont contact him with any questions or concerns. Mr. Merrill disbursed his number to the members of the meeting who wished to contact him directly.

Ms. Labrie of Sokosis Pines attended the meeting to advise that the horns have become tolerable over time as long as they are not sounding all night. Mr. Merrill reiterated his desire to have no impact on surrounding properties and discussed the proposed plan of placing an enclosure around the stack.

Mr. Abugelis discussed the Board's appreciation of open communication that has taken place between the Town and Pine Tree Power.

Mr. Merrill advised he plans to meet with the Board on January 22, 2009 to discuss the test scheduled for January 17.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. D'Entremont commented on the wonderful job done that the highway and police departments do for the community of Tamworth. He is very proud to be a Tamworth, NH resident and appreciated the opportunity to be able to come to the Board to discuss his concerns openly.
2. A member of the audience inquired if the Town had applied for any grants recently? The Board advised grants had been received for the purchase of Scott air packs, Car 54 police communication, landfill closure, a bio retention area for the Chocorua project and as funds become available the Town applies for funding from FEMA for disaster declarations.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Ricker's Junkyard: The Board was advised that a recent State hearing was held to discuss Ricker's auto dealership license and Town junkyard permit. This hearing was continued to March 31, 2009 to give time for Ricker's to come into compliance with the Town's junkyard requirements.
2. Angel Auto: A superior court hearing is scheduled for February 3, 2009.
3. School District Long Range Planning Committee: A memorandum was received from David Farley advising that the next meeting of the committee will be held on Thursday, January 15 at 5:30 p.m. The next budget meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 14. The budget is down \$204,000 of which \$170,000 is debt service.
4. Volunteer Sign Off Forms: The Board discussed forms that are recommended for use by Primex (Tamworth's Worker's Compensation carrier) for persons who volunteer to do work for the Town. *Mr. Farnum moved and Mr. Roberts supported to allow the police chief, road agent, fire chief, rescue captain, conservation commission chairman, parks and recreation director, administrative assistant and Select Board chairman to sign off on these volunteer forms as authorized signatures. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
5. Mr. Roberts discussed the Cleveland Hill Road culvert replacement project advising the Town wants to keep all of the granite slabs in and around this culvert. Mrs. Pearce was requested to contact Mr. Bergeron to let him know. Mr. Roberts also discuss wanting to keep the culvert pipe depending on it's condition when it is removed.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

The Board met with Dana Littlefield to discuss the emergency management director's role during an emergency situation and information that he will need to acquire promptly in the event of a disaster declaration. Mr. Littlefield discussed forms that he had previously sent to Mr. Farnum for his review. Mr. Farnum would check on those forms. Mr. Littlefield will be attending a meeting in the near future in Effingham to discuss emergency management preparedness. Mr. Littlefield discussed holding a joint training session to certify specific individuals who would be key persons in the event of an emergency disaster. The Board was in favor of this joint training and recommended Mr. Littlefield work on setting up the training. Mr. Littlefield will view the current forms being used by the highway department to determine if they would be adequate reports of a disaster declaration.

RESCUE TRANSPORT POLICY:

The Board met with Mr. Littlefield, Mr. Robinson, and Ms. Bellen of the Rescue Squad to discuss their proposed transport policy. After much discussion on the policy as revised and its intention, the Board advised they want the Tamworth Rescue Squad to be the primary first responder and not the primary transporter. The Board advised they understood specific situations could require the Rescue Squad to be a transporter. If the assessment of the patient shows the specific situation is a life/death situation or if Medstar is unavailable due their vehicle malfunction, the squad will transport. The Board approved the policy as presented with the understanding Tamworth Rescue is not the primary transporter for the Town of Tamworth.

SIGNATURE FILE:

The Board reviewed, signed, discussed and announced the following:

1. A sympathy card was signed for Mr. & Mrs. Farley who recently lost Mr. Farley's mother.
2. A thank you for two donations letter was signed for Forrest McDonald who donated \$10 to each of the fire and police departments.
3. *Mr. Abugelis moved and Mr. Roberts supported approval of the Selectmen's meeting minutes dated December 18, 2008. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
4. *Mr. Abugelis moved and Mr. Roberts supported approval of the Selectmen's meeting minutes dated December 29, 2008. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
5. *Mr. Roberts moved and Mr. Farnum supported to accept an agreement for a concrete slab to be built at the Transfer Station in the amount of \$5252.00 for Gray & Thompson Concrete. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed. The cost will be paid from a 2008 encumbrance and 2009 budget.*
6. The Board approved draw downs as presented by Grant Administrator Donna Lane for the Chocorua Community Project.
7. The Board approved an intent to cut for map 411 lot 030 property owned by Brian and Wendy Lovatt in which approximately 30 acres will be cut.
8. The Board approved an intent to cut for map 414 lot 038 property owned by Susan Colten in which approximately 2 acres will be cut.

NON – PUBLIC SESSION:

Mr. Roberts moved and Mr. Farnum supported to enter into a non-public session at 7:12 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal issues under the provisions of RSA 91 A: 3 II a, c, & e. Roberts, Yes, Farnum, Yes, Abugelis, Yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Roberts moved at 8:32 p.m. to adjourn the non-public session. Mr. Abugelis supported this motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

The Board conducted an employee evaluation on Administrative Assistant Cassandra Pearce, discussed the junkyard court case of Angel Auto and the hiring of Mr. Thomas England to shovel the Town Office and Library walkways. The Board further discussed a previous decision in which Mr. James Cote of the transfer station received an increase in pay to \$10.50. The decision was changed to: *Mr. Abugelis moved and Mr. Farnum supported to change the rate of pay for Mr. Cote to \$10.50 effective 11/7/08 and \$11.00 effective in the check of 1/8/09 (which is the end of his probation). This*

change is taking place due to agreement with Mr. Cote was advised when he was hired. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Roberts moved and Mr. Farnum supported to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne M. Abear

Approved by Tamworth Selectmen, 1/15/09

William Farnum

Tom Abugelis

John Roberts