

Town of Tamworth
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
November 19, 2009
Tamworth Town Office

Members present John Roberts and Tom Abugelis

Other present Jim Bowles, David Bowles, Police Chief Dan Poirier, Road Agent Bruce Robinson, Pat Farley, David Farley, Sam Martin, David Haskell, Administrative Assistant Cassandra Pearce, Anne Abear, Nancy Russell, and other members of the community.

Chairman Abugelis called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and reviewed the agenda for the attendees.

Department Heads

Police Chief Poirier discussed the recent burglaries that have taken place up and down from Tamworth to Wakefield. The burglaries have now taken a turn and are including homes in the surrounding communities. Chief Poirier advised a search warrant had been issued for a home in Tamworth and during that search numerous items that have been stolen have been recovered. He gave credit to Ossipee and Madison police departments. The investigation continues.

Highway Mr. Robinson advised he met with an engineering firm to discuss the bridge on old Route 25. That engineering firm felt the bridge was adequate for now and not work was necessary at this time. If the bridge was to be replaced, he recommended it be replaced with a bridge similar to the Cleveland Hill bridge. Mr. Robinson advised the review did not cost the Town. Mr. Robinson advised he also checked the bridge on Brown Hill Road to see if the rust was an issue, it appears to be fine.

Mr. Robinson discussed the logging operation on Turkey Street advising that no driveway permit has been pulled for the parcels. He anticipated that the owner would be filing a permit with the Town Office the following day. Mr. Robinson advised he requested the owner to close off one of the driveways that is being used. John Roberts recommended reviewing the subdivision plan for these lots to determine if a driveway location was indicated on that plan.

Mr. Robinson advised that the highway department is all set with the salt at this time.

Public Comment Mr. Haskell thanked both the police and fire departments for their support on Veteran's Day.

Non-public *John Roberts moved and Tom Abugelis supported to enter into a non-public session at 4:10 p.m. per RSA 91 A:3 II c. Vote was Roberts, Yes, Abugelis, Yes. Motion passed.*

Chief Poirier announced the conditional job offer that has been given to Sergeant Shawn Varney from another police department.

The Board further discussed the plan to fill the position if Sergeant Varney does in fact chose to take the offer. The Board further discussed pay increases for employees for the 2010 budget year.

John Roberts moved and Tom Abugelis supported to adjourn the non-public session at 4:38 p.m. Vote was unanimous.

Porter Office Machine

Mark Porter of Porter Office Machine met with the Board, presenting a proposal for a new/refurbished copier for the Town Office. The proposals were for a new copier at the cost of \$3,899 or a used copier at the cost of \$2,260. The Board advised they would review the proposals submitted by Mr. Porter and if they felt a new machine was warranted, they would review the 2009 budget to see if it would be feasible to purchase a machine this year or if they would consider putting a machine in the next year's budget. The current machine in the Town Office is 12 years old.

The Board thanked Mr. Porter for their donation to the Police Department of a copier.

Mr. Roberts requested a demo machine be brought to the office for the personnel to try.

Weapon's Personnel Policy

Chairman Abugelis discussed the current personnel policy regarding the employees carrying weapons advising he met with Chief Poirier to discuss the policy. He advised the Town had received an opinion letter from the Town Counsel and as Chair is tabling this discussion to the next meeting due to the absence of Mr. Farnum. Chairman Abugelis and Mr. Roberts advised the policy has been reviewed thoroughly along with the documentation from the attorney. Mr. Roberts does not want this item to drag on any further, but is willing to wait for the full Board's presence to make a decision. Mr. Jim Bowles requested copies of the information that was supplied to the Board. The Board advised him that typically the information provided by legal counsel is not released to the public. Mr. Bowles advised he also sought legal counsel regarding this topic. Mr. Haskell inquired as to when the Board decided to submit this policy to legal counsel for review as he could not locate the decision in the Board's past meeting minutes.

Cook's Memorial Library 2010 Budget

The Board met with Trustees of the Cook Library to discuss the 2010 budget request of \$115,625. Individual line items were reviewed. The Board discussed in great detail the plowing of the library (the Town highway department will do this plowing when it plows the Town Office), salary increase requests for the library personnel, and security services. Mr. Roberts requested a copy of the personnel of the library and what their current salary is compared to what their salary is proposed for the 2010 year.

The community was invited to a holiday party scheduled for December 16, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. to be held at the Cook Library.

Planning Board Budget 2010 Budget

The 2010 budget of the planning board was proposed at \$35,070.

Mr. David Little discussed the request for updates from individual departments of the Town for the capital improvement plan. The Board requested Mrs. Pearce to send a memorandum to the departments that have not responded according to the listing given by Mr. Little.

Selectmen Updates/
Other Matters

1. Chairman Abugelis advised his next meeting with the Brett School Superintendent was scheduled for December 2.
2. Raffle RSA Requirement – Chairman Abugelis discussed RSA 287, which requires the Selectmen to issue raffle-drawing permits. *Mr. Abugelis moved and Mr. Roberts supported to require raffle permits in accordance to RSA 287-a be issued to anyone who would be holding a raffle in Tamworth. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.* There is no fee for this permit.

Non-public

Tom Abugelis moved and John Roberts supported to enter into a non-public session at 6:11 p.m. per RSA 91 A:3 II c. Vote was Roberts, Yes, Abugelis, Yes. Motion passed.

The Board met with Ms. Susan Ticehurst to discuss the personnel policy regarding drug and alcohol testing. No decisions were made during this session.

John Roberts moved and Tom Abugelis supported to adjourn the non-public session at 6:30 p.m. Vote was unanimous.

Administrative Matters

1. Audit proposals – *Chairman Abugelis moved and Mr. Roberts supported to retain the services of The Mercier Group as the Town's auditor for the next three years. Vote was unanimous.* The Board received one other proposal from Melanson Heath & Company, PC.
2. Revaluation of property – Mrs. Pearce advised the possibility of a tri town assessor at this time is not feasible for Tamworth or other local communities due to contracts that other communities are obligated to. The Board requested a contract be requested from CNP for pick ups only for the 2010 year. The Board is not interested in continuing the revaluation process for the coming year and will not be seeking moneys from the Town for a revaluation.
3. Bio Retention project completion for Chocorua Village – to be discussed at the next meeting.
4. TCNA 2008 financial information – The Board reviewed the items presented from the TCNA and requested copies of the information be placed in each of their boxes for their review.
5. Selectmen's CIP Updated - The Board requested the same as the prior request of providing an additional 864 sq feet to the Town Office for the TCNA. The Board discussed the possibility of turning the conference room into offices.
6. Tamworth Pines – The Board approved and signed a contract with CMA Engineering to conduct a feasibility study for Tamworth Pines Cooperative.
7. Energy Commission – The Board signed several appointments for newly formed Energy Commission.
8. 11/5/09 Minutes – Chairman Abugelis moved and Mr. Roberts supported to accept the minutes of 11/5/09 as written. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed. Mrs. Pearce reviewed an email from Mr. Jim Bowles advising that Firewards is one word and should begin with uppercase and the appointing authority for the Fire Chief is the Firewards and they are responsible for doing the employee evaluation. The evaluation is mentioned in the contract and thinks it gets done in January.

Non-public

Tom Abugelis moved and John Roberts supported to enter into a non-public session 7:03 p.m. per RSA 91 A:3 II c. Vote was Roberts, Yes, Abugelis, Yes. Motion passed.

The Board discussed a legal issue pertaining to property that was taken by tax deed in the past. No decisions were made during this session.

John Roberts moved and Tom Abugelis supported to adjourn the non-public session at 7:09 p.m. Vote was unanimous.

Other Matters The Board discussed the usual Christmas event that is held for employees and decided this year they would give employees a \$25 gift card for Hannaford.

Adjournment *Mr. Roberts moved and Chairman Abugelis supported to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Vote was unanimous.*

Respectfully submitted,
Anne M. Abear

Approved by Board of Selectmen: 12/3/09

Tom Abugelis

John Roberts

William Farnum