

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the October 10, 2000 Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Chairman E. Lorraine Madison at 7:34 p.m.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**, led by Selectman Stewart

3. **ATTENDANCE**

Selectmen: E. Lorraine Madison, Shawn N. Jasper, Ann Seabury & Terry Stewart. Rhona Charbonneau was absent.

Staff/Others: Paul D. Sharon, Town Administrator; Recorded by Selectman Seabury

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

A. **Len Lathrop, HLN -- Use of Selectmen's Meeting Room for Public Service Program** – Mr. Lathrop said the Hudson-Litchfield News was seeking authorization to host a State Senatorial debate on Thursday, November 2, starting at 7:00-7:30 p.m., with a programming time of 1-1½ hours, using the Selectmen's meeting room. Cable Committee Chairman Coleman Kelly supports the idea to broadcast the debate between incumbent Senator Gary Francoeur and the Democratic challenger, Len Foy. Any costs associated with the broadcast will be paid by HLN. If a debate format can be agreed upon, a statement from both candidates would open the session. Questions from area print media would last about a half hour, and then questions would be taken from people who had signed up to participate. He thanked the Board for their consideration. Chairman Madison said the Board would take this up under Other Business.

B. **Jean Serino, Robinson Road -- Intersection of Route 102/Robinson Road and the Animal Shelter** – Ms. Serino said Howard Dilworth told her there was a public hearing on this intersection. Although she found out there wasn't, she wanted to speak to the issue anyway, saying it is a terrible intersection. Several years ago, she was almost killed there, and almost killed a family of four. When making a left turn out of Robinson Road, it is hard to see traffic coming down the hill, which is traveling fast and can't slow down easily. The yellow light doesn't slow traffic. Now that Propane Gas is in that area, it is horrible. She is terrified and warns her guests to avoid that dangerous intersection. Several years ago, she called the Police Department about her concerns. They told her to call DOT, which she did. She also obtained the history of accidents at that intersection. She didn't pursue it, nor did she hear from anyone. She is glad people are starting to squawk about it again because someone is going to get badly hurt.

She was opposed to using animal shelter money for a dog pound. People voted for a shelter, which is very different from a pound. A pound is very limited, with no adoptions or volunteers. If the Town doesn't build an animal shelter, the money should go to the Humane Society and the animals sent over there. The Chief is a good guy, but he's wrong in this matter.

Chairman Madison clarified that the intersection at 102/Robinson Road was on the agenda. Anyone who wanted to speak on that issue needs to do it at this time.

C. **Judy Netto -- 102/Robinson Road Intersection** Ms. Netto said there was a car counter on 102, but none on Robinson or West Road. In the past month, there have been four accidents, two within 12 hours, with someone transported to the hospital each time. Mr. Sharon said the devices were probably checking speeds.

2. **CORRESPONDENCE**

A. From: Southern NH Radio Control Club

Re: Donation to the Recreation Department

Refer to: New Business

B. From: Kevin Burns, Road Agent

Re: Groundwater Wells on Rt. 111 by Cumberland Farms

Refer to: New Business

C. From: Vicki Beike

Re: Request to waive Fee for use of Lion's Hall for Santa's Visit

Refer to: New Business

D. From: Richard Gendron, Chief of Police

Re: Authorization to solicit bids to construct an Animal Facility

Refer to: New Business

E. From: Janice and Allen Conti

Re: Parking at the Meadows

Refer to: New Business

F. From: Jim Michaud, Town Assessor

Re: Various Assessing Items

Refer to: New Business

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to receive the Correspondence, with appropriate referral carried unanimously.

3. **NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS** (The tape did not record during this segment.)

A. **Building Board of Appeals** (Two Members, Terms to expire 12/31/01)

Jeffrey Emanuelson

Tammy McNulty (was not present)

B. **Cable Committee** (One Member, Term to expire 12/31/02)

Denise Babcock

2. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Intersection of West Road/Robinson Road and Route 102** (Deferred from September 19.)

Selectman Jasper said he had questioned what transpired several years ago and asked Mr. Sharon if he was able to piece together why this intersection was never a priority. He didn't recall the Board having any role in that decision. Mr. Sharon said on March 27, after '98 Town Meeting and shortly after acquiring the water company, a call from Hiram Morel of NH DOT was referred to him by the Town Engineer. He asked for the Town's feelings about a regurgitated Route 102/West Road project, with significant hill work and signalization. He didn't remember what the estimated costs were. A few days after the April 1 staff meeting, he called Mr. Morel and indicated that because of several approved projects already in the pipeline that were waiting for funding, staff felt that this intersection was of lesser priority.

Selectman Jasper didn't know what their options were at this point. There are approved projects that haven't gone forward, but they need to look at projects where people are at risk, and this intersection ranks high. Since this was last discussed, there have been four accidents. The injuries were minor, but they had the potential of being very serious. One accident involved a tractor trailer that collided with a van, with a young baby at the point of impact. The window shattered all over the child, but luckily it was a glancing blow. At the previous accident, a 14-day old baby slept through the whole incident. However, substantial damage was done to both vehicles. They should see if there is anything they can do to move this project up, which should rank higher than sidewalks. People are injured at this intersection on a regular basis. Perhaps they've got their priorities wrong at this time.

Chairman Madison asked if the sidewalk project had matching funds. Mr. Sharon said the sidewalk project has fallen by the wayside. They are still waiting for funding for Highland to McDonald's. All of these are projects that were brought to the Board, then given to NRPC to put on the TIP. There has been considerable development in that area and the McDuffy Oil operation adds to the mix. Speed studies are being conducted. If the Board decides to move forward, DOT and Highway Safety should scope out a project.

Selectman Seabury said the background material says that there was a preliminary design done and that it cost between \$15,000-\$35,000. Mr. Sharon said that may have been a conversation about corridor funds. Selectman

Seabury said if they were going to do something like this, it would have to go before the voters in March. Chairman Madison said that is true, but they weren't at that point yet.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to direct Town staff to move forward as rapidly as possible to work with NH DOT to develop cost estimates and proposals for a solution to the problem at the intersection.

Chairman Madison asked if there were any DOT considerations. Selectman Jasper said until he read the material from Lenny Smith, he didn't know that that intersection met at least three of their standards for a traffic light. It appeared they were willing to share the project with the Town, so hopefully, they still are. Any concerns will come up at that time, and the Board should be informed of it. Selectman Seabury said they could put in a temporary light, like at Executive Drive. Chairman Madison said there's no question this is a dangerous intersection. She'd like NH DOT involved and see if there are funds available.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Unicorn Park (Brought up under Remarks on September 19 by Selectman Seabury)

Chairman Madison recognized Town Administrator Sharon, who said they failed to get in, up until now, the performance surety, the maintenance bonds and the off-street improvement bonds. They finally got those in by working with Mike Gospodarek, who has recommended acceptance. With Planning Board approval tomorrow night, they have been told the Town expects to close on the property within seven days. Selectman Seabury said if not, the deal should be cancelled. They've had a free ride for two years.

Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Jasper, that if the Town does not close on the property within seven days of Planning Board approval, the Purchase and Sales agreement should be terminated carried unanimously.

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. \$300 Donation to the Recreation Department by the Southern NH Radio Control Club in appreciation for being allowed to use the old Landfill Site

Motion to accept with thanks by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, carried unanimously.

B. Groundwater Wells on Rt. 111 by Cumberland Farms

Chairman Madison recognized Town Administrator Sharon, who said they were requested to approve groundwater monitoring wells within the right of way some time ago and it was the Road Agent's feeling, as well as the rest of staff, it would be better if they would place those on private property because it would create less disruption to traffic on Route 111. A letter was received from the party installing the wells that they have been unable to locate them any other place and asked that two wells be put in the right of way. Selectman Jasper said the Town Engineer, in his memo dated October 3, 2000 raised some important points that should be addressed simultaneously by Cumberland Farms and an independent professional for the Town. This isn't something they need to get a proposal on, noting that Mike mentions GZA. He thinks they should see what they propose to do to take care of the concerns and then have GZA look at it. At the same time, have them make recommendations how these types of problems could be avoided. They might have other concerns, as well. Chairman Madison said she'd also like to see the people who are involved in this to eventually pick up the bill. Mr. Sharon said it would be no cost to the Town. Selectman Seabury asked why they were monitoring Cumberland Farms. Mr. Sharon said to ensure the gas tanks are in order. Selectman Seabury thought they were new tanks. Selectman Jasper said they are, and they should have alarm systems. There must be new regulations, or some other concern. Selectman Seabury said there are gas stations all over Town, and they've never come to the Board. Selectman Jasper said if they had enough land of their own, they could do it within their own site, or with the cooperation of neighbors, and wouldn't have to come to the Town. For what this is going to cost, they should work out something with their neighbors.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to refer Mike Gospodarek's letter to Cumberland Farms for their response and if they hire GZA at Cumberland Farms' expense, to review his letter and make appropriate comments.

Chairman Madison said after they receive comments, it can come back to the Board for final determination. Selectman Jasper said since this is being done at the expense of Cumberland Farms, they need to have dialogue with them first. Before the Board commits to anything, they have to agree to it. They may want to try a little harder with the neighbors.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Request to waive Fee for use of Lion's Hall for Santa's Visit on November 24

This is an annual event and waiving the fee is something the Board has done in the past.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to approve the request carried unanimously.

D. Authorization to solicit bids to construct an Animal Facility

Chairman Madison recognized Chief Gendron, informing him that Jean Serino spoke earlier on her opposition to using animal shelter funds to construct a pound. Chief Gendron said last year, Capt. Mello and Animal Control Officer Jana McMillan were directed by the Board to obtain numbers on what it would cost to build an animal facility on Constitution Drive, across from the Police station. They met with three contractors, who were reluctant to do pre-work, not knowing if they would get the job. He was asking for authorization to draft an RFP for a generic 2,000 sq. ft. facility with 10 kennels, an office, a reception area and a bathroom. He also requested they be allowed to work with Bill Oleksak.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to authorize the Chief to complete an RFP to construct a 2,000 sq. ft. animal control facility on Constitution Drive.

Selectman Seabury said to make sure there is a bathroom in the facility. She knew some of the Selectmen wanted to scale things back, but they couldn't have someone run from one facility to another to use the bathroom. Chief Gendron said they spoke with two builders, one whose specialty was building stables and animal shelters, and in order to meet Code, they would have to include a bathroom. 'Wet stations' are a sink, and a toilet another, or a shower. It cost \$1,200-\$1,500 per wet station. He learned a lot about this type of construction and it can probably be constructed with existing funds. There are a lot of built-in cost savings. Only the office space is air conditioned. If the building is constructed properly, it will air condition itself. They can come up with a plan and then the Board can decide if it is what they want.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

A. Parking at the Meadows

Chairman Madison said at a previous meeting the Board voted to not allow parking. If anyone wanted to bring it up, a motion would have to be made by the prevailing side. There was no response.

B. Community Church Land Request

Chairman Madison recognized Town Administrator Sharon who said in laying out the right of way on Central Street, (originally, and then as it was laid out years later by NH DOT when they did the improvement at the bridge), there developed a disparity between the Town property at the corner of Ferry and Central and the Community Church property, directly across the street. (Maps in the packet showed the disparity.) The area, amounting to 900 sq. ft., would allow the church to develop their parking. *It's not land of particular use or value and recommended to proceed to sign a Quit Claim Deed to the Community Church. Selectman Jasper so moved, seconded by Selectman Stewart. Motion carried unanimously.*

C. Proulx/Pulley, 133 Robinson Road, Map 38, Lot 9, Boundary Problem

Chairman Madison recognized Town Administrator Sharon, who said this was rather complex. The properties were developed with 150' frontage on Robinson Road. The last two lots in that subdivision, 9 and 10, essentially closed in all of the back land and were subsequently tax deeded by the Town. There is a right of way between the lots which gave access to the back land. Subsequent surveys indicated that these properties just do not close in terms of metes and bounds and do not close on the northerly 40'. There are two ways that that 40' can be made up. Adjust all of the properties (not discernable) or as the Proulx' have requested, have the Town deed over the entire amount from the back land. They would still have their 50' and all of the properties that are currently improved and have people living on them (not discernable). It would mean the Town would deed over about 40' of the 150' on Lot 10. (Voice was often too soft to pick up on the recorder.) There has been no recommendation from staff to do otherwise. Selectman Seabury asked where this was. Selectman Jasper said it begins right across from Darryl Wagner's house, running towards Jean's house, on the opposite side of the road, across the street from Henry's Drive. (Mr. Sharon pointed out the lots on a map.) Selectman Jasper said the property in question used to belong to the Rancourts. When this property was subdivided, that back land was going to be a subdivision, as well, but there were too many wetlands in there so the lot with the two 50' right of ways are non-conforming. If they lose any of that frontage, they become

even more non-conforming. Mr. Sharon said at that point, he thinks they would file suit. Selectman Jasper said unfortunately all of the properties are still involved to some degree because everything from the beginning needs to be moved around. It's more complicated than the Town just giving up 40' because everything else needs to be corrected. Chairman Madison asked if all of the surveys were off. Mr. Sharon pointed out the back lot line in question and if the Town did not argue about that, and adjusted frontage on Lot 8, that would make it up. Selectman Jasper said that seems to be the simple solution. It's garbage land they got it for nothing, and all of the other people are adversely affected if they don't do it. (Talking over each other.) Chairman Madison wanted to make sure that in giving up their right of way, all of the other people sign off on it, too. Mr. Sharon said they wouldn't be affected. They are off, but the surveyor would adjust 'this' property line and 'this' one. The disparity could be made up by squeezing everybody in, or by taking it all off 'here.' Selectman Seabury asked if that meant people's bounds changed. Selectman Jasper said only on that one lot. Chairman Madison thought the problem occurred when the Rancourt's sold the land. Selectman Jasper said no, it occurred during the original subdivision because they sold the lot as one. This was picked up by a surveyor, and then everyone got surveyors and they all came to the same conclusion.

(Start Tape 1, Second Side)

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, that the Board agree to give up claim to the non-existent 40' of land and, by doing so, making the rest of the subdivision whole, with the surveying and recording done at their expense.

Chairman Madison wanted to make sure that if they are giving up that 40' to the person in the last lot, that they don't have any problems from the other people because all of their surveys are off. She understands what Paul is saying, that once they do that, all of their surveys will be corrected. Mr. Sharon said that's the only way that theirs would be changed. Selectman Jasper agreed, saying otherwise their lots will change. This is the only way to keep everyone whole. Everybody gets the exact square footage of land that they bought. Chairman Madison asked if that could be added into the motion.

Amendment by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, that by doing this, the Board understands they are making all the property owners within the subdivision whole.

Vote: Motion, as amended, carried 3-1. Selectman Seabury voted in opposition.

H. Assessing Items

1. Elderly Exemption Applications (Map 054, Lot 022; Map 025, Lot 003, Sublot MH1)

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to grant, as recommended by the Assessor carried unanimously.

2. Veteran's Tax Credit Applications (Map 31/Lot 54/Sublot 26B; Map 24/Lot 25/Sublot 7B)

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to approve, as recommended by the Assessor carried unanimously.

3. Abatement Settlement (St. Kathryn's Site)

Chairman Madison said this is covering the building assessments only and there will be no interest paid on this abatement. This is principal only. The amount of the abatement is \$8,621.32.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to sign, as recommended by the Assessor.

Selectman Seabury said when the developer purchased the old St. Kathryn's property, they planned it perfectly so there was no tax gain for the Town. Then when they went to the new property, they claimed that it was church and taxes couldn't be assessed on that property. The Town lost out twice. Selectman Jasper didn't think there was any consideration given to the timing, other than when they could get out of one church and into the new church. Had they closed on it before April 1st, that wouldn't have made any sense because the church was still there and they weren't anywhere near completion. The Town was getting less than \$100 a year on what is now the new St. Kathryn's church. The Town got \$8,000 more on the two pieces of property this year than they did last year. The Town doesn't lose. Selectman Seabury said the new property was current use. Selectman Jasper said yes, the Town got the penalty plus \$8,000 in taxes. The Town is way ahead of the game. He pointed out that there's nothing being built on the piece of property that is not being taxed. The new owner has not economically benefited. Selectman Seabury asked if the new owner pays for a subdivided lot. Selectman Jasper said starting April 1, he will pay one lot with an approved plan on it, so he'll pay based on what that is worth, which will be substantial.

Vote: Motion carried 3-0. Selectman Stewart abstained.

4. **Current Use Tax Lien Release** (Map 023, Lots 017 & 017-004)

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to sign, as recommended by the Assessor carried unanimously.

I. Sewer Abatement Requests

1. **S-01-01** (1 Industrial Drive, #7748 for \$534.53; 36 Executive Drive, #4839 for \$2,601.25; 75 Derry Road, #4063 for \$1,870.28)

Motion to deny by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Seabury, as recommended by the Sewer Utility Committee, carried unanimously.

2. **S-01-02** (36 Riviera Road, #4172 for \$338.11; 4 Windham Road, #2086 for \$92.86; 19 Phillips Drive, #2488 for \$25)

Motion to approve by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, as recommended by the Sewer Utility Committee, carried unanimously.

J. Setting the Meeting Schedule for Budget Presentations

Chairman Madison recognized Town Administrator Sharon who said staff has been involved in the process since mid-August. They have to start with when the Budget Committee requested the budget be delivered, and back up everything from that point. It establishes the review dates as the 3rd and 4th of November. Chairman Madison asked if those dates were alright with everyone. There was general agreement.

2. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Hudson Police Records/Cats on Sullivan Road

Selectman Seabury didn't want to violate a confidence, but someone called her today, who had gone to the Police Station to ask for the record of some complaints. She didn't know if those things were kept, or if the information retained dealt with accidents, domestic violence, etc., but not noise complaints or animal disturbances. Chief Gendron said a record of all incoming calls is kept, so if someone did file an animal or noise complaint, that would be on file. Selectman Seabury asked about procedure and how long records are kept. The Chief said records are kept forever. An officer would be sent to check out the complaint and they'd also respond to where the complaint came from to see if the noise was unreasonable, and that would be documented. Selectman Seabury said this person went to the Police Department to ask for the record because, apparently, there have been a lot of complaints, but she couldn't get her records. The Chief asked where it was and what it was about. Selectman Seabury said cats on Sullivan Road. The Chief said he'd look into it, but an officer's time must be accounted for. Selectman Seabury said the Animal Control person goes down there pretty often and asked the Chief to follow up.

Mr. Sharon said the cat breeder claims that there absolutely is no business being operated out of her residence. She was told she needs to put that in writing to the Town. She contends the web site is an old site, but she needs to come up with some pretty solid indication why it is *not* a business. Selectman Seabury asked if a time restriction was imposed. Mr. Sharon said she was given seven days from the time the letter went out. What he related was the last discussion he had with Mr. Oleksak. Selectman Seabury said she knows he doesn't want to hear it, but he (the Administrator) is going to have to stick with this because those animals are going to be left outside in small, open cages all winter long. Chief Gendron said he'd speak to the Animal Control Officer again. She has been making sure the litter trays are being cleaned and as far as the storage of that waste is, it's a health issue more than anything else. Selectman Seabury said this has to be resolved because she gets weekly calls. Selectman Jasper said if all else fails, Selectman Seabury can call PITA and they can come down and start a protest. Mr. Sharon said that in the Animal Control Officer's professional opinion and the State Vet's professional opinion, the animals are well cared for.

A. Senatorial Debate

Chairman Madison asked if the Board wanted to authorize HLN to move forward with holding a debate.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to make the room available for a Senatorial debate, with the consent of the Cable Committee, carried unanimously.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of the BOS Meeting of September 11, 2000

B. Minutes of the BOS Meeting of September 19, 2000

C. Minutes of the BOS Meeting of September 26, 2000

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to accept the Minutes, as presented, and refer to file carried unanimously.

2. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 10/11 7:00 Planning Board in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 10/12 7:00 CIP in the BOS Mtg. Rm.
- 10/12 7:30 ZBA in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 10/12 7:30 Sewer Utility Committee in the SCR
- 10/14 5:30 Fire Department's Medals and Awards Banquet
- 10/16 7:30 Conservation Commission in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 10/16 7:30 Library Trustees in the BOS Mtg. Rm.
- 10/17 1:00 Highway Safety Committee at HPD
- 10/17 7:00 Visioning Committee in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 10/18 7:00 Planning Board Workshop in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 10/19 7:30 Budget Committee in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 10/23 School Board Meeting in the BOS Mtg. Rm.
- 10/24 7:00 Trustees of the Trust Funds
- 10/24 7:30 BOS in the BOS Mtg. Rm.

3. REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Jasper extended his sympathy to the family and friends of Sgt. Hurst and to the entire Police Department, who lost a colleague and friend. The Historical Society had a nice presentation by Former Chief Pollack when he presented his uniform and reminisced about the old days. He talked about getting into trouble with the Board of Selectmen when he transported some fish from Benson's and other interesting stories. It was a nice evening and the Police Department was well represented.

Selectman Stewart echoed Selectman Jasper's remarks. Harvest Fest was wonderful, with nice weather and tons of people. She looks forward to doing it again next year.

Selectman Seabury said there was an editorial in the HLN that concerned her. Her husband told her that's what editorials are about—you don't have to know the facts. She felt that she wanted to respond, however. The first thing the editorial talked about was the recreational needs. They recently hired a Rec Director, who has started applying for grant money, at the recommendation and direction of Selectman Charbonneau, and he is doing a phenomenal job. The Selectmen would like to have a skate park similar to what Nashua has, but they have to find the right piece of land. They don't want a skate park hidden in the woods. Her daughter, Suellen, took her 3-year old daughter to a park off the beaten path in Windham and what she saw was too atrocious for her to even speak about. Teenagers have found the area and are using it pretty liberally. A skate park would be wonderful for the older kids and if they are fortunate enough to get the land for it, they will put it in. They rely on staff to apply for the grants. The editorial talked about the Superintendent finding grants, but he doesn't, it's the teachers and staff, not the high-priced staff at the SAU office. This is her third term as Selectman and before that she was on the Town Council. Back in pre-Council days when she and Shawn were Selectmen, there was a lot of animosity between the Board members and they couldn't get along. They were out and Town Council came in, but the people of Hudson didn't like the Council bureaucracy and rising taxes. However, she felt that the Council did have its good points. It was a learning experience for her on policies and procedures, but they didn't do too well on the hiring of personnel.

She thinks this Board of Selectmen has done an excellent job in hiring staff. They have Dick Gendron, the esteemed Chief of Police, who

has done an outstanding job in the Police Department. He has raised it to the national level and they are the best in the State. He and his staff are to be commended. Jim Michaud, the Assessor, is dynamic and ambitious, and is doing a great job for the Town. Steve Malizia, the Finance Director who came in from private industry, has done an outstanding job. They hired Frank Carpentino as Fire Chief during a time of crisis in the Fire Department and he has done an admirable job. He's right on target on keeping things up to date. Kevin Burns was moved up in the ranks and is doing a fine job building roads and bridges and is to be commended for his work. The editorial says the Administrator is paid to be a leader, but that is not so. He does an excellent job, but is under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, so the buck stops with them.

As far as the Community Planner is concerned, they are not sitting on their hands. They were blindsided when both the Town Planner and Zoning Administrator left. The Town Administrator immediately send out applications via the Internet, etc. and received 44 resumes. They were looked at, weeded thorough and narrowed down to about 15. The NRPC Director and Planning Board Chairman met with a couple of Selectmen and the Town Administrator to go through them. They selected three top-notch, crackerjack candidates. They chose one, who turned out to just be on a fishing expedition to see how much he was worth. With candidate #2, they were thousands of dollars apart, and the third one withdrew. They are back to looking at the old resumes and will consider ones that were received after the deadline. In the meantime, they have hired an MRI consultant to come in a couple of days a week to handle the office, and NRPC will continue helping out. And the Board has authorized Mr. Sharon to hire a Receptionist. She said it's like the old saying "I can talk about my Aunt Hazel, but I don't want anyone else to," and that is what this situation is. Town staff does an excellent job, they are hard working, the Board is part-time and try to get in as many hours as they can and they rely on staff to help them. She thinks the article was unfair.

Chairman Madison said regarding the editorial, the Town Administrator cannot be compared to the Superintendent of Schools. The Town Administrator is ruled totally by the Board of Selectmen. The Superintendent of Schools has his own duties. The School Board is a policy-making body. The two boards are run totally different. There was very little accuracy in the entire article.

Hiring of MRI Consultant, Steve Griffin, as Interim Manager in Planning /Zoning

Mr. Sharon said the Board needs to confirm their earlier consensus on the hiring of Steve Griffin of MRI as a contract interim manager from two-two and a half days a week at \$55/hour. He participated in the Planning-Zoning study and will assist, as required, including the recruiting and screening of the candidates. Selectman Jasper so moved, seconded by Selectman Stewart, carried unanimously.

4. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to enter Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) the hiring of personnel and (c) matters which if discussed in public would adversely affect the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body; (d) real estate matters; (e) pending claims or litigation carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

Chairman Madison said their attorney is expected to be present and when he does arrive, they will be entering into Attorney-Client session. Nonpublic Session was entered into at 8:55 p.m. and was terminated at 10:00 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to promote Bill Avery to Sergeant in the Police Department, effective 10/15/00, @ \$21.54 per hour, with a 55¢ raise in six months, according to the Union contract carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to promote Tom Browne to Sergeant in the Police Department, effective 10/22/00, @ \$21.54 per hour, with a 55¢ raise in six months, according to the Union contract carried unanimously.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:05 by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, carried unanimously.

Recorded by Selectman Ann Seabury

Transcribed by Priscilla Boisvert

Executive Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

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