

**TOWN OF NEW HAMPTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TOWN OFFICES  
NEW HAMPTON, NH 03256**

January 25, 2010

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Selectmen Paul Tierney, Charles Bartley and Kenneth Mertz were present.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Town Administrator Barbara Lucas was present.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Paul Tierney called the posted meeting of the Board to order at 2:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to sign the Warrant Articles and the proposed budget for 2010.

**WORK SESSION:**

Mrs. Lucas advised there were five copies of the warrant articles, each requiring signatures.

The Warrant Article by petition on behalf of Gordon-Nash Library was the only warrant article not already voted on by the Board on their January 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Mr. Bartley asked if there was an accounting of the Library budget to be sure \$15,000 of voters' money was necessary. Mr. Tierney recused himself from this vote as he was a Trustee at the Library and noted that the Library representatives will need to defend this at the meeting. Mr. Bartley asked if Mr. Tierney could answer a question on the Library budget. Mr. Tierney said he could and explained the Library was living off a limited endowment. Mr. Mertz noted the Library had experienced some major repairs and Mr. Tierney advised they had some huge repairs due to a leaking roof among other things. For the purpose of Article 20, Mr. Tierney recused himself.

Mr. Bartley read the warrant article in its entirety. Mr. Mertz moved the Selectmen recommend the article, Mr. Bartley seconded and the vote passed.

Operating Budget

Mrs. Lucas presented the Selectmen with the MS-6 forms for the operating budget, the default budget and the 2009 Budget and "Expended to Date" numbers for 2009. She noted the differences between these formats and those the Selectmen were working with as they progressed in their budget work. She advised the numbers were twice verified by Mrs. Lucas and by Elaine.

Mrs. Lucas then explained the layout required for the Warrant Articles. In particular she pointed out the money from warrant articles from 2009 that were non-lapsing that carried over; in particular the unexpended figures for the Fire Station and a Fire truck.

The tax rate setting is done before November, so estimates were and are

normally very conservative. It is periodically the case that revenues can come in lower than estimated, but it is also true they can come in higher as well.

Mrs. Lucas outlined how the revenues are listed on the MS-6 forms.

Additionally she provided the warrant articles and noted the watermarks on the Conflict of Interest ordinance say "Proposed" rather than "Draft".

Mr. Mertz asked if he was a part time employee or volunteer for the Fire Department, how would he handle an issue for the Fire Department which might come before the Board. Mr. Tierney read from the proposed Conflict of Ethics Ordinance and gave his opinion on a variety of examples. Mr. Mertz made it clear that he is supportive of the Ordinance, but was interested in the matter for his own edification. Mrs. Lucas advised they could get the attorney on the phone to clarify further, but Mr. Mertz advised that was not necessary.

The Selectmen reviewed and signed all documents.

*Mr. Bartley leaves the meeting.*

Mr. Bartley had an appointment and left the meeting.

Mr. Mertz asked if Mrs. Lucas received information about the opportunity to post the warrant articles on the Public Radio website. Mrs. Lucas advised she was aware and they had utilized it previously. She noted there had not been a great deal of feed back on it, and that she felt the Town Website and Email Connection were more readily used.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There was none.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None was heard.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Selectman Mertz to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Tierney. The vote passed and the meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin J. Harmon