

**TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY DECEMBER 16, 2014**

***Present: Selectmen: Michael Woodworth, Jamie Thompson and Chris Hutchins.  
Others include: Town Planner Clay Mitchell, Gerard Porteus, Scott Wachsmuth and Art Reed.***

***Call to order at 7:02 pm.***

The Selectmen reviewed and signed:

- Checks Pd 12/19 /14: Accts. Pay. Manifest - \$14,691.36  
Payroll Manifest - \$ 8,979.98

Clay Mitchell updated the Board on the issues before the Planning Board:

- Vernon (301 Piscassic Rd) – Operating under Agricultural Use
  - working with the Conservation Commission
  - Selectmen would enforce Site Plan on Town owned Conservation Easement with Farm Plan
- Merserve (12 River Rd) – Discussion on Agritourism with guidance from Attorney LaPointe
- Zoning Amendments
  - Principal Building – (1) Residence
  - Building Permits being stamped - with guidance from Attorney Ratigan

The Selectmen reviewed the 2015 Contract for Clay Mitchell. Clay noted he would like to begin the transition to a new Planner. Jamie made a motion to accept the contract for 2015, seconded by Chris. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Clay suggested having the Planning Board create an Economic Development Committee.

Chief Reed submitted his budget of \$446,357 to the Selectmen for review. This amount includes \$5,000 for SERT; \$4,800 for two additional shifts; and \$1,500 for bullet proof vests. Health insurance was discussed. The police department health insurance will be less this year because one employee is no longer on the plan. Chief Reed will get his final budget numbers to the Selectmen by December 23, 2014.

Chief Reed reported that we no longer have an IT person. He is looking for a new person or company to assist the police and town with their computers.

The Chief also discussed the lighting of the Route 108 Bridge. The DOT turned the lights off due to budget cuts. The cost to the Town of Newfields to turn the lights back on would be \$160.00 per month or \$1,920.00 per year. The Selectmen decided to send out an email to the residents for feedback on the bridge lights.

At 8:05pm, the Board of Selectmen, by motion of Selectmen Thompson, seconded by Selectmen Woodworth and in accordance with RSA91-A:3(I), entered into a non-public session for the purpose of a personnel matter [RSA91-A:3(II)(c)]. By roll call vote the Board passed the motion: Woodworth-Affirmative; Thompson – Affirmative; Hutchins – Affirmative

At 8:06pm, the Board entered into non-public session.

At 8:18pm, the Board left non-public session and entered into public session.

At 8:19pm, the Board of Selectmen, by motion of Selectmen Woodworth, in accordance with RSA91-A:3(III), that the minutes will not be disclosed because divulgence of the information would adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of the Board or render the proposed action ineffective. All were in favor and the 2/3 requirement for affirmative vote was met.

Scott Wachsmuth submitted copies of the zoning ordinances which he believes the owners of 301 Piscassic Rd are in violation of. The Selectmen informed Mr. Wachsmuth that Town Counsel has been hired to investigate his complaints and the investigation is ongoing. The property has been inspected by both the building inspector and fire department.

Gerard Porteus asked the status of the driveway permit at 301 Piscassic Rd. Sue noted there is nothing on file at this time for a driveway permit. Mr. Porteus stated he appreciated action being taken by the Selectmen.

Mr. Porteus informed the Board that the Windroc Vineyard flag is within the State right of way and it is a safety issue because it distracts drivers. He is filing a formal complaint. Mr. Wachsmuth added that the Windroc flag is a traffic and driving issue.

Mr. Wachsmuth said the sign at 301 Piscassic Rd exceeds the 6 square feet allowed by our regulations. He would like the sign ordinance to be enforced.

The Board will notify Mr. Wachsmuth and Mr. Porteus when a decision has been made on the above items.

Attorney Lane will no longer serve as Town Counsel. A motion was made by Chris Hutchins and seconded by Jamie Thompson to accept Attorney Lanes resignation. All were in favor and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Jamie Thompson and seconded by Chris Hutchins to release the remaining \$2,230.00 in escrow for the maintenance bond on the Dixon Ave turnaround. Brian confirmed that the top coat was completed two years ago and the money may be released.

Two payroll change notices for the police department were signed and approved.

A timber tax warrant for Map 211 Lot 8 was signed and approved. The logger Fred LeClair from Fremont, was required to submit a road bond in the amount of \$4,527.82. The bond was received on December 10, 2014.

A motion was made by Jamie Thompson and seconded by Chris Hutchins to approve the annual assessing contract for R.B. Wood Associates in the amount of \$1,166.00 per month. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Board discussed the Primex CAP agreements which are due December 19, 2014. The agreement would require the town to lock in for two more years with Primex for property and liability insurance at an increase of no more than 9%. The Board decided against signing the CAP agreement so they may get some competitive bids next year.

Dragon Mosquito's cost estimate for the 2015 calendar year is \$300.00 less than last year. Larviciding and Arbovirus Surveillance will remain at \$32,000 and roadside spraying will be \$17, 900.

A Library payroll issue was discussed regarding an employee receiving retroactive pay. The Selectmen agreed it was up to the Library Trustees to approve the retro pay.

It was the consensus of the Board that MSA submit a petitioned warrant article to negotiate and enter into a long-term lease agreement.

The bond warrant article of \$1,535,000 for the police department and town office renovation and expansion was discussed. Sue questioned whether or not the first year's interest payment needs to be raised and appropriated in the warrant article. Attorney Ratigan suggested contacting the bond bank.

The Selectmen discussed correspondence from Attorney Ratigan regarding 301 Piscassic Rd. A motion was made by Jamie Thompson and seconded by Chris Hutchins to follow town counsel's recommendation and have him draft a Cease and Desist Order. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Selectmen will meet Tuesday December 23, 2014 to work on the budget and Tuesday December 30, 2014.

The 2015 meeting timeline was approved as follows:

Town Budget Hearing	Tuesday January 13, 2015 @ 7pm
Public Hearing on Bond Warrant Article	Wednesday January 14, 2015 @ 7pm
Deliberative Session	Tuesday February 3, 2015 @ 7pm

The filing period for declaration of candidacy for town officers will be Wednesday January 21, 2015 until Friday January 30, 2015.

The minutes of December 2, 2014 were reviewed and amended slightly. A motion was made by Chris and seconded by Jamie to approve the minutes as amended. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The minutes of December 9, 2014 were read. A motion was made by Chris and seconded by Mike to approve the minutes as written. All were in favor and the motion carried.

At 9:22pm a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna C. Newman and Sue McKinnon