

1. Convene the meeting.

Chairman Binette convened the Board at 7:12PM on the above date. He noted for those watching at home that the screen may be flickering – there are some technical difficulties. He introduced the Board: William Campbell, Robert Eastman, Joseph Pace and Town Manager George Olson. Mr. Ingram arrived at 7:19PM.

2. Minutes of the meetings of January 5th and 12th.

Mr. Campbell moved to waive the reading of the minutes of January 5th and to accept them as submitted; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: 3-0, with Mr. Pace abstaining. Mr. Campbell moved to waive the reading of the minutes of January 12th and to accept them as submitted; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: 3-0, with Mr. Eastman abstaining.

3. Chemical Bids.

Chairman Binette opened bids for chemicals to be used by the Water & Sewer Departments, received from 8 vendors. Results are attached. ***Mr. Pace moved to remit the bid results to the Town Manager and appropriate Department Head and wait their recommendation; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.***

4. Second and final reading of Recreation Impact fees.

Mr. Olson reviewed the matter of the Fire and Recreation Impact fees from an earlier meeting, noting the Fire Impact fees are to be addressed at an ~~earlier~~ ^{later} date. This is the second reading of the Recreation fees.

Mr. Eastman moved to accept the report titled "Recreation Facility Impact Fees in Exeter: Basis for Assessment" dated September 25, 2003 and to implement the following Recreation Facility Impact fees:

<i>Single family detached</i>	<i>\$620 per dwelling unit</i>
<i>Townhouse</i>	<i>\$421</i>
<i>Two family</i>	<i>\$847</i>
<i>Three or More Family</i>	<i>\$711</i>
<i>Manufactured Housing</i>	<i>\$730</i>

Furthermore, it is understood that the Recreation Facility Impact Fee will take the place of other exactions from residential development for recreation facilities currently a part of the Planning Board's Sub-Division Regulations; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Ingram asked for clarification of other specifications requiring open space for developments. Mr. Olson stated the CIP would review the areas in questions and the Planning Board would be solicited for their thoughts. Large developments with recreation areas within the development would be in the hands of the Planning Board.

5. Board action on warrant articles for 2004.

Chairman Binette noted if there are questions or if someone wishes to speak to an article, he will allow 5-minute discussions, as the public hearing was held last week and this meeting is for the Board to vote to support the articles or not.

Mr. Olson suggested the Chair present Article 31 first, as this was not discussed at the public hearing last week. It reads as follows: "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, through special warrant article, the sum of \$100,000 for the purchase of a portion of a parcel of land off the Epping Road, specifically referred to at Map 47 Lot 8, to be used as a site for the construction of new Fire Department facilities."

Michael Dawley, 10 Hunter Place, stated he supports this article and feels it is appropriate. Mr. Pace suggested the word "as" replace "at" prior to "Map". Mr. Olson stated it has been customary to list 'at'. [Later review of Art. 24 shows 'as' as the correct approach].

Chairman Binette continued the discussion of warrant articles with Article 16 (copy attached).

Article 16: Mr. Eastman noted the minutes of January 12th questioned how long the bond would be and at what percentage. Is that now known? Keith Noyes, DPW Director, stated the Water & Sewer Advisory Committee is recommending a 20-year bond and estimates it at 5%. ***Mr. Campbell moved to support the article; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.***

Article 17: Mr. Dawley asked the Board to reconsider their December vote to support this and to table the proposed station for one year, based on two concerns: (a) we've been told it would free up space for the police department but no one can quantify what the police need and their needs should be pinpointed with a space needs analysis for both areas; (b) the uncertainty remains on staffing, with 16 firefighters being proposed, though that needs to be negotiated, with a low of 5 needed. That type of difference results in hundreds of thousands of dollars in salaries each year. If they staff at 16, the impact could be \$1.20 per 1000, six times more than the high school's impact. He suggested the Chief and the Union interact with the Board of Selectmen to develop a consensus on what is needed, non-binding of course. The station would be built for \$4.5 million but the staffing reaches much more.

Brian Comeau, Chief, stated the original presentation has nothing hidden in potential costs, with optimum manning. He noted it would be two years to build and four years for a full staff. The staffing will be dictated by the Board and a lot of negotiations are needed.

Mr. Dawley suggested a preliminary get together in advance, for a consensus of staffing and the 'package deal'. Paul Scafidi, Chairman of the Station Design Committee, cautioned the Board on rushing a 'memorandum of understanding' regarding the staffing issue as it will open up issues for all unions. This is a Board-driven issue and, though it's a great idea, it is not the best for the Town right now. In regards to the police space issue, Mr. Scafidi noted the Committee was not charged with doing the police homework. He has spoken with Chief Kane who stated the office space would increase a minimum of 30%, enough for 10 years. He reminded everyone this is the big part of a package and it will take 2 years to get there. Right now, the department decided to not ask for the new ambulance as there is no place to park it. He stated the Committee did a great job in the 5-month period. If the Town wanted a more thorough report, regarding space needs for all and other information, more time should have been given.

Chairman Binette stated the deliberative session on February 7th would be the place to discuss this further and asked discussion be held. Mr. Dawley noted Mr. Binette had told him in December to come this evening to discuss this article; Mr. Binette believed he told him the 12th. Mr. Dawley noted he fully appreciates all the Committee has done but he thought the original plan was for a sub-station and this changes the dynamics, not that a full station would be a bad thing.

Mr. Scafidi noted sub-station or full-station, the staffing will not change.

Arthur Baillargeon, Tremont Street, asked of the \$1.20 estimated tax impact. Chairman Binette stated Mr. Baillargeon shouldn't come up with figures like that as they have not yet been determined. Mr. Baillargeon asked what the impact would be with just a station build. Approximately 32-37 cents on the tax rate.

Mr. Pace noted the staffing levels for the new water treatment plant may also change. Usually when building change, staffing changes.

Mr. Pace moved to support warrant article 17; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: 3-2.

Articles 18, 19: ***Board voted unanimously to support.***

Article 21: Mr. Olson reminded the Board there was a recommendation at the last meeting to add "there is no impact on the tax rate" to this article. ***Mr. Campbell moved to add the phrase 'there is not impact on the tax rate' to this article; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: Unanimous. Mr. Pace moved to support the article; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: Unanimous.***

Articles 22, 23: ***Board voted unanimously to support.***

Article 24: Mr. Dawley asked if the Town sells this and the station does not pass, how does this apply to Article 31. Mr. Binette noted the Town would hold the land to see how the vote goes. He noted this 'authorizes' the Board to sell but they do not have to. Mr. Eastman asked if this land is sold and the money is spent to buy the land noted in Article 31, and then down the road that parcel is determined to be too big and we should have kept this parcel, why should we jump ahead. Mr. Pace noted all options are available here – to buy, sell, etc., this gives the Board the authority to do so. ***Mr. Pace moved to support the article; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.***

Articles 25, 26: ***Board voted unanimously to support.***

Article 28: ***Mr. Pace moved to support; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: 4-1.***

Articles 29, 30, 31, 32: ***Board voted unanimously to support.***

Article 33: ***Mr. Ingram moved to support; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: 4-1.***

Article 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42: ***Board voted unanimously to support.***

Article 44: ***Mr. Eastman moved to support; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.*** Mr. Scafidi noted both 44 and 48 are similar. It was noted 44 only relates to disabled. If someone qualifies under both circumstances, both apply.

Article 45, 46: Board voted unanimously to support.

Article 48 will be discussed Tuesday, January 20th in a public hearing at 7PM. (This petition was received following the public hearing addressing all other warrant articles last week; the legal notices were posted as such, noting both dates, if necessary).

6. Request for directional sign – NH Martial Art Academy.

The requester was not yet present. The Board held till the end of the meeting.

7. Permits:

- The Town Planner requested permission for a banner across Water Street, promoting the next Visioning sessions, to be placed immediately through January 29th. **Mr. Campbell moved to approve; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous.**
- Phillips Exeter Academy requested permission to block spaces on Front Street on January 21st from 3:30-8:30PM to allow parking for the media and Senator Kerry's entourage while he is being hosted in the Assembly Hall. A similar request was granted for this evening via a phone poll of the Board last Friday. **Mr. Eastman moved to approve; second by Mr. Ingram. VOTE: Unanimous.**
- PEA requested use of the Town Hall on February 11th for their annual candlelight vigil from 7-8:30PM. **Mr. Eastman moved to approve; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.**
- Mr. Olson, on behalf of the Kiwanis Club, requested permission to block spaces by the Bandstand as part of Winterfest from 6:30AM to 3:30PM on February 14th. **Mr. Campbell moved to approve; second by Mr. Pace. VOTE: Unanimous.**

8. Town Manager's Items:

- Absentee ballots are available at the Town Clerk's office for the primary to be held January 27th.
- The primary will be at the Town Hall, January 27th, with polls open from 7AM to 8PM.
- Filing for Town's positions take place at the Town Clerk's office from January 21st through 30th (5PM on the 30th). A list of positions is attached.
- Local candidates (and local offices of national candidates) are reminded that, per NH RSA, placement of political signs in Town's rights-of-way are illegal. A good rule of thumb is behind the line of telephone poles or on the residents' side of the sidewalk – with their permission. The signs will be removed if in the ROW.
- Boards and Committees are seeking members, including the Budget Recommendations Committee. Please send a letter or call the Town Manager's office if interested. The Budget Committee's slate is presented at the Deliberative Session for vote at Town Meeting.
- The next Visioning Session will be held at the EHS Annex on January 24th from 9-12 and January 28th from 6-9PM and will feature historical/cultural, transportation and housing. All are invited to attend these sessions.
- A public hearing will be held on Tuesday to discuss the petition article regarding elderly exemptions. This will be at 7PM in the Wheelwright Room.
- The next meeting will be February 2nd.

Mr. Eastman asked of the SAU Municipal Budget Committee that was approved at last year's Town/School meeting. Where should interested candidates sign up? At the School Clerk's office.

9. Selectmen's Committee reports:

Mr. Eastman – none.

Mr. Campbell: Conservation Commission meeting this past Tuesday heard wetland applications for the water treatment plant. The Commission voted not to object.

Mr. Ingram has two meetings this Thursday.

Mr. Pace: The HDC, this past Thursday, approved work to be done on Water Street, second story by Mr. Berkowitz.

Mr. Binette – none.

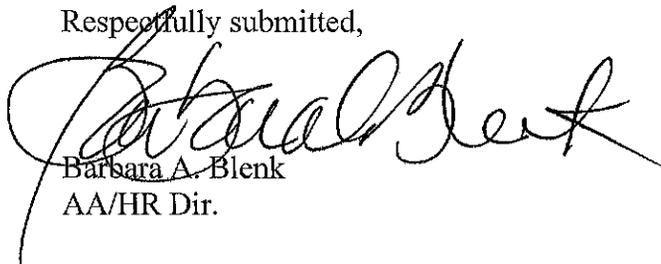
10. Public Comments:

Mr. Scafidi announced a public session to discuss the proposed fire station on Thursday, January 29th in the Wheelwright Room at 7PM. He invites interested residents to come learn more information, observe the proposed floor plan and have input.

Mr. Pace moved to table, indefinitely, item 6, until contacted again by the interested party; second by Mr. Campbell. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Pace moved to adjourn; second by Mr. Eastman. VOTE: Unanimous. Time: 8:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara A. Blenk
AA/HR Dir.

attach.