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Town of Atkinson

Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting

Monday, February 23, 2009

### Call to Order

At 7:36pm on Monday, February 23, 2009 Chairman Sullivan called the Regular Meeting to order in the Atkinson Town Hall.

### Members Present:

Chairman Sullivan

Fred Childs

Bill Friel

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Chairman Sullivan called for a moment of silence for Evelyn Sawyer, who passed away last week. Mrs. Sawyer was a founding member of the Historical Society as well as the Garden Club.

### Approval of Minutes

*Approval of July 14, 2008 Non-Public Session - General discussion of proposed and/or threatened claims or litigation.*

*Approval of July 28, 2008 Non-Public Session - General discussion of personnel and needs of the Town Clerk's Office for a Deputy Town Clerk.*

*Approval of July 30, 2008 Non-Public Session - Personnel needs and pay increase requests for the Highway Department.*

*Approval of August 4, 2008 Non-Public Session - General discussion personnel needs and pay increase requests for the Town Clerk's Office and Highway Department.*

*Approval of August 25, 2008 Non-Public Session - General discussion of personnel and hiring.*

*Approval of September 8, 2008 Non-Public Session - General discussion of personnel needs and hiring in the Town Clerk's office.*

*Approval of September 15, 2008 Non-Public Session - General discussion of hiring a town administrator.*

*Approval of September 26, 2008 Non-Public Session - General discussion of pending litigation.*

*Approval of September 30, 2008 Non-Public Session - General discussion of pending litigation.*

The Board reviewed the minutes.

**Mr. Childs made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of the above Non-Public Sessions as submitted, seconded by Mr. Friel, carried unanimously.**

*Approval of January 5, 2009 Regular Meeting*

The Board reviewed the minutes.

**Mr. Childs made a motion to accept the minutes of January 5<sup>th</sup> as presented, seconded by Mr. Friel, carried unanimously.**

*Approval of February 9, 2009 Regular Meeting*

The Board reviewed the minutes.

**Mr. Childs made a motion to accept the minutes of February 9<sup>th</sup> as presented, seconded by Mr. Friel, carried unanimously.**

### Application for Appointment

Committee Appointment for Board of Adjustment

Discussed with Chairman of the Board, awaiting Frank Polito to review.

### Assessing Items

*Abatement Map 7, Lot 7 - 11 Providence Hill Road*

Pool and patio removed.

**Chairman Sullivan made a motion to approve abatement on Map 7, Lot 7 for \$9,300 based on information signed by Tax Clerk and Assessor, seconded by Mr. Childs, carried unanimously.**

*Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber Map 9, Lot 49 - Maple Avenue (4.5 acres)*

**Mr. Childs made a motion to hold off until tomorrow as the amount is missing on the form.**

### **Veteran's Tax Credit**

*Map 19, Lot 25 - 19 Crown Hill Road*

**Mr. Friel made a motion to approve the property tax credit for Veteran's Map 19, Lot 25, seconded by Mr. Childs, carried unanimously.**

### **Department Heads**

#### *Elderly Services*

Phil Consentino appeared before the Board regarding hiring drivers. He discussed a letter he sent on 02/09/09 requesting permission to hire an additional driver. He has an applicant to fill one of the two open positions in Elderly Affairs staff. The applicant is Edward Houlihan of 11 Sweet Hill Road, Plaistow, NH. The pay is \$10.25 with review after six months. Chief Consentino stated another replacement is needed for an opening coming up.

**Mr. Friel made a motion to authorize the director to hire Edward Houlihan, seconded by Mr. Childs, carried unanimously.**

#### *New Cruiser*

Chief Consentino also addressed that every other year the Police Department replaces two of their front ling cruisers. Chief Consentino would like to only replace one vehicle this year as one was replaced last year following an accident. Chief Consentino stated there was \$23,000 in the account and the cost is \$24,000. A donation of \$1,000 from the Atkinson Police Charitable Fund to make up the difference. The vehicle Chief Consentino would like to purchase is a Ford Crown Vic. Mr. Friel discussed the possibility of a different vehicle with better fuel efficiency and a smaller engine size. Chief Consentino stated the vehicles would need a good pick up time and a change in make would need new equipment. Chief Consentino to get a copy of the spec from the State to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Friel to give Chief Consentino a spec on the Dodge Charger. Discussion of the cost to transfer equipment to new vehicle, approximately \$500-600. Cost for lettering for new vehicle is approximately \$700-800. Chief Consentino stated the equipment is set up for a particular make of vehicle.

Chairman Sullivan asked why Unitil had been on Meditation Lane this week. Chief Consentino stated they are tree cutting and will be in town for 2-3 months.

Chief Consentino mentioned that he and Jody Consentino had received a thank you card from a couple in Florida that had a pipe burst and called the Chief. Chief Consentino stated he got in touch with the Fire Chief and took care of the problem.

The issue of some street lights being out around town was addressed, a list was sent to the Selectmen's Office. Unitil to replace, possibly with more efficient lights.

#### *Highway Department*

Signs are still needed for the brush dump and the sand/salt regulations.

### **Open Bids**

*Brush removal* - Town-wide curb side removal of brush to begin 05/15 and end 05/31 7am-7pm, except Sundays and holidays.

Chairman Sullivan opened the sealed bids.

Jameson - \$210/hr includes 10 wheeler mac truck, chipper, tree men with saws, and fuel.

Devil Tree Removal - \$1800 includes all equipment, fuel, and labor.

Tamerak - \$115/hr includes 2 men and chipper. For curbside \$1600/day (\$200/hr) with 10 wheel loader truck, operator, ground man with chainsaw; \$1400/day (\$175) with 6 wheel chip truck with chipper and operator, and ground man with chainsaw.

Pentucket Companies - \$140/hr disposal services includes 20-30 yard dump truck with driver, 2 hourly laborers, and chipper.

Disposal services at \$100/load.

General discussion of brush removal at curbside. There is a possibility that there will be funds available from FEMA. Mr. Childs stated that if residents have brush in their yard it can get put on the roadside and picked up. Chairman Sullivan stated it would depend upon funds. Mr. Childs stated they would need to find money in the budget.

#### *East Road Recreation Area*

RQF put out. Bids opened by Chairman Sullivan.

Galloway Trucking - \$173,003.53

Bennett Landscaping - \$240,000.

CP McDonough, Plaistow - \$134,900.

Jameson - \$136,712.

Hugo, Key & Sons, Newport, RI - \$194,749.  
Busby - \$192,920.  
Desmond Landscape Contractors, North Andover - \$214,000.  
K&R Construction, Boxford - \$154,000.  
Stevenson Landscape Construction, Dunstable - \$165,000.  
Patti Mangini requested that Mr. Friel review the bids.

### **Old Business**

#### *Library Change Order*

Diane contacted Mr. Lewis in reference to work completed, awaiting a reply.

Mr. Childs offered congratulations to Ralph and Tara Polichetti on the birth of their son, Anthony.

#### *Energy Efficiency Workshop*

To be scheduled for next week

#### *Supplemental Tax Warrant*

Hampstead was reassessed. Chairman Sullivan signed tax levy.

#### *Agreement to Occupy Dwelling at Fire Station*

Signed by Chairman Sullivan and the Board of Selectmen.

#### *Supplemental Tax Warrant*

Received letter from DRA.

**Mr. Childs made a motion to accept the tax collectors property tax supplement warrant for Map7, Lot 202 for \$2,199, seconded by Mr. Friel, and carried unanimously.**

#### *Blind Exemption*

Waiting for letter from the doctor.

Chairman Sullivan to ask Barbara Snicer for more information.

Letter from the Department of Transportation memorandum. Originally the memo stated the town of Dorchester. Municipal Work Zone agreement. The Board had previously agreed to sign. They will be working on 2.4 miles to Atkinson/Hampstead line. West of Island Pond Road and Route 111. Board of Selectmen to sign.

### **New Business**

#### *Cable fees*

Letter not available regarding increase in fees.

#### *Mileage*

No information regarding this issue.

#### *Maintenance*

Dave Weymouth got a price for heat tape \$675 for the back door of Town Hall. Mr. Childs stated it the gutters should get cleaned and the town does not need to spend money. Discussion of cost. Maintenance department is responsible for ice, highway department is responsible for salt and sidewalk. On hold this week. Mr. Stewart and Mr. Weymouth to come in next week to discuss.

### **New Business**

Request received on re-numbering street. Mr. Friel states this issue warrants a public hearing as it could take 2-3 hours. He suggested not having it on a Selectmen's meeting night. RSA 231:133a states. Governing body or planning board shall hold a public hearing where 10 days notice has been given. Requesting under hardship. Mr. Friel requested input from Sue Killam. Proper notice needed. Involvement of fire and police departments. In the past it has been a hearing with three former Selectmen. The resident has a right to a hearing. Mr. Friel stated the Board will vote next Monday for official hearing date. Mr. Friel to discuss with Chief Murphy. To get input from Fire Chief, Post Master and Planning Board. Re-numbering will effect 6-7 residents.

### **Future Agenda**

02/24/09 - 6:30pm Conflict of Interest Committee

02/26/09 - 7pm Candidates Night

03/03/09 - Town Report out

03/10/09 - Election Day

03/17/09 - Last day for Recount Petition

03/20/09 - Last day to remove political signs

Chairman Sullivan discussed the Pot Luck Supper for the ice storm volunteers which was held last week. He thanked the Recreation Department for the planning and the volunteers.

Atkinson Women's Civic Club has a Photo Show at the library. Over 400 contestants entered the Photo Contest. Residents are encouraged to go vote and see the local talent.

**Mr. Childs made a motion to recess the meeting at 8:52pm, until 8am tomorrow morning, seconded by Mr. Friel, and carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen J. LeBlanc

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Paul A. Sullivan, Chairman

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Fred J. Childs, Jr.

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William G. Friel

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