

**Town of Atkinson  
Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting 7:30 P.M.  
Monday, March 1, 2010**

**Open Regular Meeting:**

Chairman F. Childs opened the Regular Meeting of the Town of Atkinson Board of Selectmen at 7:30 p.m. and led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Childs announced that Selectman Bennett would not be present due to illness.

**Members Present:**

F. Childs, Chairman  
W. Friel

**Others Present:**

P. Smith, Town Administrator  
M. Murphy, Fire Chief  
P. Consentino, Police Chief  
T. Dunn, LGC  
T. LoPizzo, LGC

**Department Heads:**

- *Mr. Michael Murphy, Fire Chief* – Chairman Childs requested that Mr. Murphy step before the Board. Mr. Murphy reported on emergency operations due to the severe storm and power outages from Friday, February 26, 2010 to Monday, March 1, 2010 as follows:

- Until systems were restored and that the crews finished up on Monday, March 1, 2010.
  - Any residents who still did not have power call the Fire Department at 362-5611 or 4203. Mr. Murphy reported that all PSNH systems were also restored and again requested that any residents who did not have power call, the Fire Department.
  - Communication between the power company and the Town was better this time than last year. Mr. Murphy also informed the Board that the Road Agent was still clearing roads.
  - Residents should refrain from attempting to remove any trees or branches that were on power lines and to call the Fire Department to report them. The power company would take care of removing them.
  - All roads were open and passable but Hovey Meadow Road was still only one lane.
  - Communication between the Fire Department and the Police Department were great this year and that police cruisers were checking for hanging limbs and other problems.
  - The Fire Department had closed the shelter and that Hampton Water Department stayed up and running throughout the storm and was able to supply water to people with home wells.
  - The Fire Department had an answering machine with updates if no one was at the Fire Department.
  - There was major damage on West Side Drive and West Road that lots of trees were down on Conley Road, Brendan Road, Main Street, Upper Maple Avenue, Birch Lane and Sawyer Avenue.
- Mr. Murphy thanked the Police Chief and officers and the Highway Department.
- Residents with damage should contact Mr. T. Stewart, Road Agent and submit bills so that the Town could get some money from FEMA.

- *Mr. Philip Consentino, Police Chief* – Mr. Consentino stated that Mr. Murphy did a good job of explaining the damage from the storm and went on to say that there were many telephone conferences with other towns regarding the storm, as well. Mr. Consentino thanked Mr. R. B. Wood and Dan Traynor for opening up West Side Drive, there was a huge tree down and they brought a back hoe and power saws and cleaned it up. There were crews from Canada, Pennsylvania, Vermont and down South. Unitil had 20 trucks in town the day after the storm.

Mr. Consentino reported that he had a letter from TJ Max Corporation thanking Detective Sergeant Philip Farrar for bringing a retail fraud investigation involving a \$2,500 dollar loss, to a conclusion. One of the perpetrators lived in Atkinson. Mr. Consentino gave the letter to Mr. P. Smith for Detective Farrar's folder.

Mr. Consentino then gave the Board a letter regarding LT Baldwin stating that LT Baldwin had earned a Bachelor's Degree from Franklin Pierce College and requested that the Board promote LT Baldwin to Captain. Chairman Childs informed Mr. Consentino that the Board would take the matter under advisement. Mr. Friel requested a pay matrix. Mr. Consentino informed the Board that he had a pay matrix but it was skewed due to the fact that he hired two experienced officers from the Salem Police Department and had to start them at a higher rate.

**Appearances:** Thomas Dunn and Thomas LoPizzo, Member Relations Executive, New Hampshire Local Government Center

Mr. Dunn and Mr. LoPizzo came before the Board to explain how LGC assisted local governments, including a web site, training opportunities and group insurance. Mr. Dunn and Mr. LoPizzo also explained how the Town insurance rates were calculated, the size of the insurance pool and the reasons for the 16.4% increase in insurance cost for 2009. Mr. LoPizzo explained that due to an unexpected rise in claims due to end of life issues and extended illnesses during the summer of 2008.

The Board thanked Mr. Dunn and Mr. LoPizzo and stated that they explained the increase very well. Mr. Smith remarked that that sector of the economy was getting more and more expensive and asked if they covered how to lower costs. Mr. LoPizzo explained how LGC is cutting costs.

**Assessing:** Mr. Childs informed the Board that there were two requests from the Assessing Clerk. The first was for an abatement at 11 Brendan Drive and the second was for a Veteran's Tax Credit at 19 Rock Ridge Road.

**Selectman W. Friel made a Motion to deny the request for an abatement at 11 Brendan Road. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor with Selectman Bennett absent to deny the request for an abatement.**

**Selectman W. Friel made a Motion to deny the request for a Veteran's Tax Credit at 19 Rock Ridge Road. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor with Selectman Bennett absent to deny the request for Veteran's Tax Credit.**

**Town Administrator's Report:** Mr. Smith gave his report to the Board.

Mr. Smith asked the Board if the Brush Dump would be reopening. Mr. Childs replied that there was a vote last week and the Brush dump is reopening for the remainder of the year and that the Department of Transportation was working on West Road and Island Pond Road.

- *Street Renumbering* - signs have been posted at the properties on Coventry Road and Washington Road identifying the residents of the properties. Selectman Friel has a draft ordinance for street renumbering.

**Old Business: None**

**New Business:**

- *Janitorial Services* – Atkinson Cleaners has begun working and a new contract needs to be drawn up.

**Approval of Minutes**

-*September 21, 2009 Regular Meeting* – The Board reviewed the Minutes.

**Selectman Friel made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the September 21, 2009 Regular Meeting as submitted. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor, with Selectman Bennett not present, to approve the Minutes as submitted.**

-*October 19, 2009 Regular Meeting* - The Board reviewed the Minutes.

**Selectman Friel made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 19, 2009 Regular Meeting as submitted. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor, with Selectman Bennett not present to approve the Minutes as submitted.**

- *October 26, 2009 Regular Meeting* – The Board reviewed the Minutes.

**Selectman Friel made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 26, 2009 Regular Meeting as submitted. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor, with Selectman Bennett not present to approve the Minutes as submitted.**

- *November 6, 2009 Special Meeting* – The Board reviewed the Minutes.

**Selectman Friel made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 6, 2009 Special Meeting as submitted. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor, with Selectman Bennett not present to approve the Minutes as submitted.**

-*November 6, 2009 Special Meeting* – The Board reviewed the Minutes.

**Selectman Friel made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 6, 2009 Special Meeting as submitted. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor, with Selectman Bennett not present to approve the Minutes as submitted.**

- *November 23, 2009 Regular Meeting* – The Board reviewed the Minutes.

**Selectman Friel made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 23, 2009 Regular Meeting as submitted. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor, with Selectman Bennett not present to approve the Minutes as submitted.**

- *November 30, 2009 Non Public Meeting* – The Board reviewed the Minutes.

**Selectman Friel made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 30, Non Public Meeting as submitted. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor, with Selectman Bennett not present to approve the Minutes as submitted.**

- *December 28, 2009 Regular Meeting* – The Board reviewed the Minutes.

**Selectman Friel made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the December 28, 2009 Regular Meeting as submitted. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor, with Selectman Bennett not present to approve the Minutes as submitted.**

**Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
March 1, 2010**

- *February 2, 2010 Regular Meeting* – The Board reviewed the Minutes. Chairman Childs stated that he had one correction on Page 2; first paragraph under Announcements, “Jake” should be changed to “Jay”.

**Selectman Friel made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the February 2, Regular Meeting as corrected. Chairman Childs seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor, with Selectman Bennett not present to approve the Minutes as corrected.**

**Announcements:**

Chairman Childs made the following announcements:

- The Regional Selectmen’s Meeting would be held on March 16, 2010 at Town Hall.
- The Atkinson Civic Club is hosting a Candidates Night Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall
- Mr. Friel announced that he had completed a draft ordinance for street numbering.

**Other Business: None**

**Chairman Childs made a Motion to adjourn the March 1, 2010 Meeting of the Town of Atkinson Board of Selectmen at 8:35 p.m. Selectman William Friel seconded the Motion and the Board voted two in favor, with Selectman Bennett absent to adjourn.**

*Respectfully submitted by Karen Wemmelmann*

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Fred J. Childs, Jr.

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William G. Friel

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William M. Bennett