

DRAFT

*Town of Atkinson
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2011*

W. Bennett opened the Public Hearing on Monday, March 21, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Atkinson Town Hall and led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

W. Bennett, Chairman
F. Childs

Others Present:

Jack Sapia
Alan Phair, Chair Library Trustees
Kay Galloway, Vice Chair Library Trustees
Diane Heer, Director Kimball Library
Ron Lamarre, Lamarre Architects
Mike Murphy, Chief, Atkinson Fire Department
Michelle Veasey, Chair, Energy Efficiency Committee
Elmer Arbogast, Arbogast Energy

Library Donations:

Mr. Sapia approached the Board of Selectmen with concerns on the construction and development of the Kimball Library, completed 2 years ago. Mr. Sapia went on to explain his concerns developed from the process which was used to accept donations toward the construction of the library which in turn left the total cost of the project greater than the approved warrant article of \$2.7 million. Mr. Phair and Ms. Galloway addressed Mr. Sapia's concerns by explaining the original warrant article approved in 1994 an article which gives the Library Trustees full authority to accept donations. Ms. Galloway went on to explain the wrong RSA number was inadvertently used yet the intent of the warrant article was correct. The error has since been corrected. Mr. Phair and Ms. Galloway explained the District Attorney has been involved in this process and is willing to meet and address these concerns. Mr. Phair also ensured the Board of Selectmen all actions taken during the project were legit and made with good intentions. Mr. Lamarre approached the Board of Selectmen as the Architect of this project explaining the process and clarified the project did in fact cost \$2.7 million, however donations were utilized to make enhancements. Mr. Lamarre also explained through the enhancement process, Unitol gave a rebate of \$8,000, which the library gave back to the town. Mr. Sapia responded to these comments by reiterating the project cost over \$2.7 million based on the enhancements made by the donations and expressed further concern of the formality used to accept donations and the future process of accepting donations. Mr. Sapia and Mr. Phair will both provide documentation supporting their arguments to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Bennett and Mr. Childs explained no decision will be made based on the absence of Mr. Friel who has been spearheading this project.

W. Bennett closed the Public Hearing of March 21, 2011 at 8:07pm and opened the Regular Meeting of Monday, March 21, 2011 at 8:08pm in the Atkinson Town Hall.

Library Donations:

Mr. Bennett gave a brief summary of the public meeting. Mr. Bennett reviewed the list of donations made to the library and explained; no decisions have been made due to the absence of Mr. Friel who has been spearheading the project.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Childs made a motion to approve the regular minutes of January 31, 2011 as submitted. Second: W. Bennett. Vote: 2/0.

DRAFT

Mr. Childs made a motion to approve the non-public meeting minutes of January 31, 2011 as submitted. Second: W. Bennett. Vote: 2/0.

Mr. Bennett made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 7, 2011 as submitted. Second: F. Childs. Vote: 2/0.

Appearances:

Mike Murphy, Chief, Atkinson Fire Department

Fire Chief, Mike Murphy approached the Board of Selectmen to clarify the ambulance contract.

Energy Efficiency Report, Elmer Arbogast

Mr. Arbogast presented to the Board of Selectmen his recent energy efficiency assessment of town buildings in Atkinson. Mr. Arbogast explained the town of Atkinson has the potential to save 63% on fuel, 39% on electric, and the ability to reduce CO₂ emissions by 52%. Specific areas for improvement were reviewed. Expenses were categorized by operation and maintenance measures versus capital improvements. Each department head will be receiving a full report. Mr. Arbogast also reviewed next steps which included seeking loan programs, implementing recommendations, and making decisions on the contract.

Old Business:

Revised Atkinson Policy Manual

Selectmen will review.

Requests from Atkinson Youth Baseball

Mr. Bennett has requested for all requests recently made by Atkinson Youth Baseball be included in the agenda next week.

Time and ½ Rate for Fire Fighters

Mr. Smith should clarify this matter with Chief Murphy.

Announcements:

Home Firearms Safety Course

Mr. Childs made an announcement regarding the Home Firearms Safety Course presented by the Atkinson Police Department. The course will be held at the Kimball Library on April 2, 2011 from 9pm – 10pm and on April 9, 2011 from 9pm – 1pm.

Future Agenda:

3/22/11 – Atkinson Department Head Meeting (NHLGC/TRiM) Town Hall 2:30pm

W. Bennett made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting on March 21, 2011 at 9:28pm. Second: F. Childs. Vote: 2/0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Williams

William Bennett, Chairman William Friel Fred Childs