Minutes of January 3rd., 2002

Present from Board: Chairman Brown, Selectman Plessner, Selectman Dawson, Selectman Manseau, and Selectman O’Leary.

Also present: Town Administrator, Alice MacKinnon, and secretary Catherine A. Woessner.

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

Chairman Brown opened the meeting with a few announcements for the viewing audience.

1. D.O.T. will be inspecting the stability and repairing the footings on the Park Street Bridge starting Monday, January 7th, 2002 for the next three weeks. The river will be lowered for their machinery.
2. Chairman Brown reported that the Salt Shed and spreader rack at the highway garage is complete.
3. Sand and Salt for residents of Tilton may be picked up at the highway garage for private use only. Anyone taking this for private business will be prosecuted.
4. There is a new dumpster for recycling cardboard at the highway garage.

Minutes of December 27th, 2001. Selectman Manseau made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Selectman Plessner. All were in favor.

Old Business:

Chairman Brown went over a few items still pending.

1. Recycling information. Selectman Manseau contacted someone in the Governor’s recycling program and a packet of information will be sent to town hall.
2. Selectman O’Leary reported that the Beach Committee has not heard from the Engineer yet.
3. Trash pick-up: Dates and Holidays will be put in Town Report.
4. Alice reported she spoke with Martha Douglas regarding the formula Y.A.P. uses and is not sure when this was adopted. She
will get back to Alice with the information.
5. Milfoil: D.E.S. will call Alice back. They are going to send data to her. The Board discussed this and would like more information from the State as to what their overall plans for Lake Winnisquam are.

Selectman O’Leary asked about the property where the puppies were for sale. There are just empty crates left on the property. Selectman Plessner said he spoke to the owner and he is looking into purchasing the property to move the business indoors.

Selectman Dawson reported that the dumpster at South Bay Resort is over strewn with trash and the dumpster appears to be in the right of way. The Board discussed this and will have Selectman Plessner look at it first before Alice sends a letter to the owners.

Chief Chase joined the meeting and presented his budget to the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Brown said the Board would like to discuss the wages.

Selectman O’Leary said he did not see anything in the budget for air conditioning. Chief Chase said he has been waiting for estimates and did not receive some of them until after the budget was submitted. Chief Chase said he will add $7,700 which is the low bid he has received so far to Building Maintenance. Chief Chase said he invited nine vendors to bid and received three proposals. The Board agreed to round this amount to $8,000 for air conditioning.

Chief Chase said he is asking the Board for a five percent wage increase for all employees. This is for cost of living and longevity. Selectman Manseau asked Chief Chase if he had recently done comparison studies from town to town to see where we are in the geographic area. Chief said he did not do it this year, but the last time he did it they were right in the middle. Chief also said that the NH Municipal Association does a survey every year and is always based on population. Chief Chase asked the Board not to consider the home town population but the transient population in Tilton.

The Board reviewed the budget with Chief Chase. Under equipment purchases Chairman Brown asked for an explanation of the vehicle to be purchased. Chief Chase said they are looking at a 4 wheel drive Ford Expedition. This is also readily available in a police package. Chief also said they will be retiring a cruiser this year. The Board also discussed additional parking at the Police Dept. Chief did not put anything in the budget as he was unclear as to exactly how this was going to be done. The Board said they will
ask Dennis to take a look at it to see if his department can regrade and gravel the parking area. Selectman Dawson asked for an explanation of Animal Control wages and expense. Alice explained that some of this is wages. The A/C officer is paid $250.00 per month and the rest is for expenses for equipment for the officer to use. Officer Farrington now holds this position.

Dennis Allen, Public Works Director joined the meeting to present his budget to the Board. Dennis is asking the Board for a five percent increase for his position. His crew will stay the same. This increase will also include the two men training for the plow. A portion of the increase is to also include overtime for the person at the transfer station on Saturday. Also overtime for spring clean-up for three weekends. Dennis said that two of his crew are retiring in July and August.

The Board reviewed the budget with Dennis. Selectman Manseau questioned the $22,500 under Building Repairs. Dennis explained that this is for the sewer line. Alice will separate this in the budget. Alice said $2,500 is for building repairs and the rest is for sewer. The telephone budget increased from $950.00 to $1,700.00 because a second line has been added as Dennis is on line and has a fax machine. Under care of trees Selectman O’Leary questioned why Dennis is asking for $4,400 when he only spent $1,700. Alice said this is to replace trees on Main Street. Under care of cemeteries Dennis explained that this is not a separate item it is included in his care of trees. This is all of his mowing, changing and replacing all of the fences at the cemeteries and redoing the gates. This money is also used to repair items on the Island and repair of small equipment. The $350.00 line item under care of cemeteries will be eliminated.

Park Cemetery is separate not in Highway budget. Alice explained the town pays this out to the Park Cemetery Association which is a private non-profit that takes care of the Park Cemetery. Each town, Tilton and Northfield contributes $1,750.00. Regarding sidewalk construction. Alice explained this was encumbered money that was spent. A $10,000 payment was made for the East Main Street sidewalk and there is another $12,500 encumbered for the Winnisquam sidewalk. Part of the sidewalk has been done and will be continue to the Winnisquam Post Office.

Alice will add in $8,000 for the air conditioning for Police Dept. budget for next week and also add the Conservation Commission budget in.

Alice presented an intent to cut from Bob Jordan for the Board to sign.
Selectman Manseau made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34PM, seconded by Selectman O’Leary. All were in favor.