Minutes of March 21, 2002

Present from Board: Chairman Brown, Selectman Katherine Dawson, Selectman Manseau, Selectman O'Leary and Selectman Jim Foye.

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

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 6:03PM.

Chairman Brown congratulated Selectman Manseau who won his second three-year term to the Board of Selectman, and to newly elected Selectman Jim Foye. He also bid farewell to former Selectman Joseph Plessner who he felt did a great job.

Announcements:

1. School District Budget Meeting is Saturday, March 23rd, at the Winnisquam Regional Middle School.

2. June 28th, Street Dance at the Providian Bank Parking Lot.

3. Public Access hours for Board of Selectman's meeting viewing. Wednesday, 8:00 A.M., Thursday, 12:00A.M.(midnight), 8:00A.M., and 12:00P.M.(noon)

New Business:

Election of officers for the ensuing year:

1. Chairman, Board of Selectman. Chairman Brown asked if there were any nominations. Selectman O'Leary nominated Bob Brown as Chairman, seconded by Katherine Dawson. Chairman asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none he closed the nominations for office of Chairman. All were in favor of
Bob Brown as Chairman. (Bob Brown abstained from voting)

2. Planning Board, ex-officio. Bob Brown currently holds this office, but would relinquish it if any other Board member would like to serve on the Planning Board as an ex-officio member. Katherine Dawson volunteered to serve. All were in favor. This will be effective March 26th, 2002. Bob Brown offered to serve as an alternate.

Old Business:

1. Minutes of March 7th, 2002. Selectman O'Leary asked to have a correction made on page three, second to last paragraph, the word trash should be changed to “storage”. Chairman Brown made a motion to accept the minutes as amended for March 7th, seconded by Selectman O'Leary. All were in favor.

2. Discussion regarding a letter from Attorney Chandler regarding the question of the status of the roadway on Main Street, Congregational Church. After discussion, the Board agreed to have Alice send a letter to the Church informing them of the Town’s intent, and what has been done so far. If they have any questions they can respond to the Board of Selectmen.

3. Chairman Brown asked Selectman Manseau if he had a point of contact for St. Mary’s Church regarding the ballpark. He said he does and will be in touch with Attorney Chandler to go over the leasing arrangements. Selectman Manseau asked about a verbal agreement with the people who developed the Outlet Mall concerning a parcel of property on Manville Road and what happened with that verbal agreement. Alice explained that there is a conservation easement on it and the conservation easement prohibits recreational facilities on it. Chairman Brown also mentioned there were concerns about the overhead power lines on the property.
4. Regarding audit for Library, Alice will talk to Eliza Conde and get back to the Board.

5. Chairman asked the Board to discuss the speed limit for Main Street. They agreed to 15 miles per hour from the railroad tracks on the East end to the railroad tracks on the west end. The Board will inform Public Works Director Dennis Allen of this and ask him to order a sign stating “Reduced Speed Ahead, Congested Area” in addition to the new speed limit signs stating 15 miles per hour. The new speed limit cannot be enforced until the Ordinance is in place.

6. Bestway Disposal Contract. Selectman Manseau made a motion to accept the contract from Bestway as written from 2002 thru 2005, seconded by Selectman O’Leary. All were in favor. Alice will send the contract to Northfield for the Selectmen to sign.

New Business:

Chairman Brown informed the Board that he received a call from Ralph Carter, a Selectman in Sanbornton. The Board of Selectmen in Sanbornton are concerned about a town line marker of granite stone that disappeared when construction started on Autumn Drive. The Selectmen would like to have it replaced. Sanbornton would be willing to pay Rick LePene to do the survey work which involves going back two markers for each side and running a new line and then locating a pin where the marker goes. Chairman Brown said it would probably cost upward of $2,000 for the cost if we would agree to set the new granite marker which would cost around $200.00. The Board discussed this and questioned who removed the granite marker. The Board further discussed this and asked Alice to call Mark Morrell, D.O.T. for further information on this before a decision is made. Selectman Manseau asked about walking the boundaries with Sanbornton. Chairman Brown said that was discussed and they will wait until spring to do this. Selectman Manseau and Selectman Dawson will do this with the Sanbornton Selectmen.

At 6:30PM Sewer Commissioner David Wadleigh joined the meeting. Alice explained to the Board that the Sewer Commissioners would like the town to include them in the payroll
in addition to Carla and also there is the issue of whether or not they would be covered under our Worker’s Compensation. Alice said whether or not the Sewer Commission is covered under worker’s Compensation would need to be discussed with the Selectmen and it would be their decision. Alice said it was her understanding that all of the sewer expenses were going to go through our books. She also explained to David that our Auditor’s would like the financial records of the Sewer Commission to be part of the town records.

The law states that the Treasurer is supposed to be signing all of the checks. Alice said she was under the impression that the Sewer Commission had agreed to do this in the beginning of this year. After further discussion, the Board asked David to talk to the Sewer Commissioners and explain that by law they must be covered by worker’s compensation if their payroll is going to go through our books. Alice will contact the Chairman, Med Sattler and discuss this with him. David had no objection to this.

Chairman Brown informed David that the funds of $20,000 were approved at Town Meeting to connect the Town Garage to Municipal Services and the Board would like to have this started as soon as possible. Alice will contact Ken Partridge to start and also call Rick Lepene to do the elevations. David will let Chairman Brown know when this project will start.

Selectman Manseau made a motion to authorize the merging of the books and Worker’s Compensation for the Sewer Commissioners, seconded by Chairman Brown. All were in favor.

Chairman Brown asked about the status on Silver Lake Road. Alice said they are doing the engineering on it now, but she would like to know about the status of the sewer line. Alice asked David if the Sewer Commission had enough money to put sewer lines in while they are digging up the road. David said Med is looking in to Grants. Alice informed David that she spoke to Gary Clifford from D.O.T. and he said he thought they would be able to do some of the drainage work this fall. Alice said she would call Mr. Clifford and ask him for something in writing. She will also look into Grants for the sewer line.

Mr. Charles Bowler from Hill Rd. joined the meeting to discuss
Mr. Bowler sent a letter of explanation to the Board. Chairman Brown informed Mr. Bowler that he and Dennis Allen looked at the road. Chairman said Public Works Director Dennis Allen suggests to resolve the rut situation in the right of way is to bring in a load of ledge pack and level it off. This should stabilize the road and allow driving over it without any further damage or rutting. As far as the catch basin goes this is not on the work list for the summer, but Dennis will make time to clean out the pipe. Chairman said we would be researching town records to try to determine what our right of way is from the center of that road on to Mr. Bowler’s abutter’s property to see if the built up area is in fact part of the easement. Mr. Bowler thanked the Board and said he is happy with this arrangement and it is acceptable to him. The Board is in agreement.

Mr. Barry Conway, Commandant of the New Hampshire Veteran’s Home joined the meeting. Mr. Conway submitted plans for expansion for the Veteran’s Home. Presently there are 150 beds for elderly and frail. Mr. Conway said they have received funding and approval for everything. Presently there is about 97,000 square feet of facility and the new unit will add about 76,000 square feet of new facility. It will be an addition of 100 beds primarily for Alzheimer’s residents. With the infrastructure on the roof to add an additional fifty beds if necessary in the future they will be expanding up rather than taking more land. There will be new parking facilities and a picnic pavilion. Mr. Conway said initially he wanted the project to expand the recreation room.

He explained this was a ten million project initially and the bids came in rather high, almost two million dollars higher than anticipated, so the recreation room will be on the back burner for now. Mr. Conway said they expect to start construction April 1st, 2002 and they are hoping to finish in May of 2003. Mr. Conway asked the Board if exit 20 would be the best route for the construction trucks to come thru town. The Board discussed this expressed their concerns going over Winter Street as there is a weight limit. The Board will check with Dennis for a date when the winter/spring weight limit is removed. Mr. Conway informed the Board that the Veteran’s would like to meet with the Board of Selectmen. The Board agreed they would have a Board meeting
held at the Veteran’s Home to answer any questions they may have. Mr. Conway said he would also like to have neighborhood meetings to show a presentation of the new addition. Selectman Dawson asked if the new facility would be exclusively for Alzheimer’s patients. Mr. Conway said true Alzheimer’s some other forms of dementia. Mr. Conway said the will be a state of the art facility. Chairman Brown said they would be in touch with him to set a date for a meeting at the Veteran’s Home.

Chairman Brown discussed a letter from the Main Street Program indicating that their Board of Directors have voted to donate $2,275.00 to the town for the preservation of Time Table Mable. Selectman Manseau made a motion to accept the donation and dedicate it to the restoration of Time Table Mable, seconded by Selectman O'Leary. All were in favor. Alice informed the Board that Ron Harvey would come to Tilton to do the cleaning. Selectman Dawson asked about a program to do the rest of the statues. Alice said she and Gayle are in the process of writing a Grant for this project. Selectman Manseau suggested a statue repair and maintenance fund to be set up so money, such as the donation would be put in directly in the Trust Fund so people making the donation would know it is for the maintainence and presevation of that statue. The Board was in agreement. Chairman Brown asked Alice to write a thank you letter to the Main Street Program for their donation. The Board agreed.

Chairman Brown informed the Board of a discussion from Marta Burke of Patricia Ann Drive who has some concerns about the web site. She asked if the town could post a ballot ahead of time so questions could be studied before the election. She mentioned some of the information is outdated. She also has some suggestions. Chairman Brown thinks she is talking about the school web site, not the town’s Selectman Manseau will call her to clarify this. There was also discussion regarding E-Mail addresses for the Board. Selectman Manseau said he would look into setting up an independent E-Mail site to access each mail box.

Chairman Brown mentioned the letter from Attorney Chandler regarding the cease and desist situation on Winter Street. The court will comeback with a deadline date for clean-up. If there
are any questions on this the Board will ask Attorney Chandler to come in to give an explanation.

Memo from Sandy Plessner, Planning Board. Chairman Brown informed the Board that he and Selectman Dawson will be attending the NEMO presentation and will bring back information for the rest of the Board.

Regarding a letter from Jim Cropsey, Chairman Conservation Commission. Chairman Brown asked Alice to call Jim or the entire commission to have an informal interview with them to ask some questions about what they are doing and where they are going. Chairman Brown reminded the Board that they did not accept the recommendations last year for two of the members. The question is, does the Board want to continue that line or resurrect the Commission. The Board discussed this and agreed to have Alice invite the Commission to the Board of Selectmen’s meeting next week. The Board will interview them next week and vote on the appointments.

Chairman Brown informed the Board that Joe Plessner attended an informational meeting regarding Lake Winnipausakee and the water levels.

Alice informed the Board that Joe Plessner received enough write in ballots to be a Trustee of the Trust Fund. He declined to accept because this is for a three-year term. However, he is willing to be appointed to a one-year term. He declines his election, but if the Selectman are interested, he would be willing to accept an appointment as a Trustee. As an appointed Trustee he would come up for election next March. After discussion, Chairman Brown made a motion to appoint Mr. Plessner as Trustee of Trust Fund for a period of one year, seconded by Selectman Dawson. All were in favor.

Chairman Brown asked the Board for their input.

Selectman Dawson received a phone call asking if Noyes Road is a salt free road. Alice said it is and was voted on. Selectman Dawson said if this is so, it should be posted. She said the road has been salted. Chairman Brown said he will check this with Dennis. Selectman Dawson asked about Tilton’s representation on the Board for The Pines and how we can get information as
to how the members are selected and how we can get more representation from Tilton. Alice will call Cindy Rose, Director of the Pines to see what the process is.

Selectman Manseau asked when the statue Squantum is going to be returned. Alice said she will call Mr. Harvey for this information. He also asked about having Dennis place the pedestal in place by Old Home Day.

Selectman Manseau asked if it is known who owns the Fire Station, the town or the Fire District. The Board discussed having Alice contact Attorney Chandler to do a title search. Selectman Manseau updated the Board on the Street Dance. The Youth Opportunity is going to co-sponsor it so it will be covered under their liability insurance. Providian Bank has given permission to use their parking lot. The Dance is on June 28th from 6:00PM to 10:30 or 11:00PM. Tilton House of Pizza will have pizza slices available. Selectman Manseau said he also discussed this with the Main Street Program about sponsoring a clean-up in the morning with a group of kids. Selectman Manseau also discussed the need for radio microphones for the Selectmen’s meetings as he has received several complaints about the poor audio when the tapes are viewed on Public Access T.V. He will check on the price of the microphones and get back to the Board. The Board was in agreement. Selectman Manseau informed the Board that three of the Boy Scouts have volunteered to run the video for the Selectmen’s meeting and would like some training. Selectman Manseau will call Public Access T.V. as they said they would provide training for this. The Board was in agreement with this. Selectman Manseau informed the Board that he has had three people volunteer for the recreation committee so far and asked if they have contacted anyone at town hall. No one has to date.

Selectman O’Leary informed the Board that he is resigning from the Beach Committee as he has too many commitments right now. He will put his resignation in writing.

Alice asked the Board if they want her to have Attorney Chandler do a title search on the Fire Station. The Board further discussed this and agreed to have Alice contact Attorney Chandler to do the title search.
Selectman Foye mentioned that at the Town Meeting Chief Chase said that two of the officers are sponsored by a Grant and those Grants are almost expired. Selectman Foye asked if there was a plan and what was going to happen to those two officers. Alice informed him that we assume the cost and will not lose those officers.

Alice informed the Board of an engagement letter for Bond Counsel Services from David Barnes. This is to do the Library Bond. Alice asked the Selectmen to vote to engage Mr. Barnes and to sign the engagement letter to pursue with the Bond issue. Selectman Manseau made a motion to engage Mr. Barnes in Bond Counsel, seconded by Selectman O’Leary. All were in favor.

Alice presented an appointment slip re-appointing Catherine Brown-Herman as the Deputy Treasurer. The Board signed the appointment slip.

Alice presented a Tax Anticipation Note for the Board to sign. She informed them the interest rate on it is 2.08. This is with the Bank of New Hampshire for one million dollars. The Board signed the T.A.N. and also a Certificate of Bonded Indebtedness.

Alice also presented an elderly exemption for the Board to sign.

Alice asked the Board to go into non-public session for the purpose of personnel action reports that need to be signed by the Selectmen.

At 8:24PM Chairman Brown made a motion to go into non-public session for discussion of employees, seconded by Selectman Manseau. Selectman Foye, yes, Selectman Dawson, yes, Selectman Manseau, yes, Selectman O’Leary, yes, and Chairman Brown yes.

At 8:40PM the Board came out of non-public session and resumed their regular meeting.

At 8:41PM Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting. All were in favor.