Present from Board:

Chairman Brown, Selectman Dawson, Selectman Manseau, Selectman O'Leary, and Selectman Foye.

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

Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:05PM.

Announcements:

Chairman announced the Budget Committee would have a Public Hearing on Monday, February 24th, at 6:15PM at the town offices.

The flyer for spring clean up in May will be in the March Town Report.

The Town Business meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11th, from 8:00AM to 7:00PM at the Tilton School Gymnasium. The Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 15th, at 8:00AM at the Tilton School, Hamilton Hall.

Chairman asked the Board for a motion to accept the minutes of February 6th, 2003. Selectman O'Leary asked to have a correction on page four regarding the survey sent from the Pines Community Center should be, survey sent to Northfield residents. Chairman made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Selectman O'Leary. All were in favor.

Correspondence:
Information regarding Phase II Storm Water Requirements from LRPC. Chairman said Public works Director, Dennis Allen will attend.

Alice informed the Board that the new Housing Standards for 2003 from Welfare Director Thibodeau are in their packet and need to be adopted by the Board. After the Board reviewed the information Chairman Brown made a motion to adopt the February 3rd, 2003 Housing Standards, seconded by Selectman Dawson. All were in favor.

A letter from Highway Safety Agency to Chief Chapman informing him that they have been awarded the grant for the radar.

A letter from Sanbornton Police Relief Association regarding the rejection of the flagpole for MB Tractor. Alice will draft a letter to the association explaining the issue was the flagpole, not the flag.

Public Hearing:

At 6:15PM Chairman made a motion to recess from the Selectman’s meeting for the purpose of conducting a Public Hearing, seconded by Selectman Manseau. All were in favor.

Chairman called the Public Hearing to order at 6:21PM.

The issue is to bond or to issue long term notes for up to $300,000 for the clean up of the old Pillsbury Mill site located on West Main Street (parcels no. UO6-03-00 and U06-04-00 on the Tilton tax maps) in compliance with the standards and guidelines promulgated by the State of New Hampshire, Department of Environmental Services for the cleanup of hazardous waste sites. The request for funding will be a warrant article at the 2003 march Town Meeting. All residents are invited to attend. Chairman stated this will be article 4 in the town warrant for March Town Meeting. It reads to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $300,000 if necessary for the purpose of competition the clean-up of hazard waste at the Pillsbury Mill site to authorize if necessary the issuance of not more than $300,000 in bonds or long term notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Budget Act (RSA 33) to complete the clean up; and further to authorize, if necessary, the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such notes or bonds and to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to take such other action as may be necessary to effectuate the issuing, sales and delivery of such bonds or notes. (RSA 33).

Alice said they are hoping they will not have to issue these bonds as she spoke to Mike Wimsatt, D.E.S., who said it looks very good that the E.P.A.
will come and clean-up the site at no cost to the town. Alice said they would not have this in writing before town meeting.

Chairman asked for public input.

Ron Rau from the audience asked what it would cost to borrow the money. Alice said long-term interest rates are between four and five percent for municipalities right now.

Alice will print out a hand out of the history of the Pillsbury Mill site for town meeting.

Chairman discussed the issue of the bond the Board voted to reimburse the owner for expenses questioned by Selectman Manseau. Chairman said he investigated the situation and the town never received any funds. The owner was contacted regarding the home that was put in and he said he did not incur any expenses for the bond.

It was entirely between the contractor and the Insurance Company. Selectman Manseau said the contractor incurred the expense for the bond, and the town was supposed to reimburse them for the expense for the bond, which is what the vote was.

Being no other public input, Chairman closed the Public Hearing at 6:22PM.

At 6:30PM Chairman opened the second Public Hearing to discuss a warrant article, which will appear in the March Town Meeting warrant for the disposition of revenues generated by the land use tax. This will appear as article 15 in the warrant.

To see if the town will vote to deposit one hundred percent (100) of the revenues collected pursuant to RSA 79-A (the land use change tax) in the conservation fund in accordance with RSA 36-A: 5 III as authorized by RSA 79-A: 25 II. Chairman explained this means when someone changes the use of their land that has been in current use and takes it out of current use there is a penalty charged for doing this.

Helen Dawson from the Conservation Commission informed the Board that approximately 48.5 percent of New Hampshire municipalities have enacted this warrant article in their town dating back from 1989 to current time. Helen also mentioned there is a grant out, The Land and Community Heritage Investment Program. There was six million allocated for towns to go after for grant money, but this has been lowered to about four million.
Helen said people are limiting what is available in grant money for the Conservation Commission to try to get grant money for conservation, preservation of land, and recreation and historical buildings that they would like to keep the authenticity of the town, but do not necessarily have enough funding for. Helen said it would be nice for the town to prepare for the fact that they will not necessarily get all of the grant money that they would like.

Chairman asked Helen if she would be the representative from the Conservation Commission to speak at town meeting on the warrant article. Helen said she would be at town meeting and would speak on the warrant article.

Chairman asked if there was input from the public, being none he closed the Public Hearing at 6:40PM. Chairman made a motion to return to the regular Selectmen’s meeting, seconded by Selectman O’Leary. All were in favor.

Chairman Brown welcomed the Explorers Scouts to make their presentation to the Board. Tim Brunele, Hans Chapman, Dan Chapman, and Ryan Kennedy who are Explorer scouts in Belmont are here this evening to seek the Board’s approval of an Explorer post sponsored by the Tilton Police Department. The group is looking to branch off and involves other communities in this program.

Tim Brunelle explained to the Board the reason they would like to start a post in Tilton is because they have been Explorers for a long time and it is their dream to become police officers one day. They feel this would do a very good service to Tilton and surrounding communities. A packet of information was given to the Board members. Hans Chapman feels that if they start an Explorer post in Tilton it will benefit the community and the police department and the fact that they are capable of doing details as long as an officer is with them. They can do traffic detail, very small time security, which they have done in Belmont and Alton. Hans explained the Explorers have their own insurance funded through Learning for Life, the host program of exploring, with coverage exceeding $15 million for bodily injury and property damage. The premium for this insurance is paid yearly by the posts individual members, and is collected as dues. The amount per Explorer is $7.80. He said they do not ask too much from towns and pretty much fund themselves through fund raising and they are sometimes paid for details. They are non-profit. Hans said they offer a program where kids like them can learn the basics of police work. He and Tim Brunelle have been through the cadet academy in Manchester, which is for
one week and is similar to the police academy. Ryan Kennedy explained how they would start the post, lay down basic rules and regulations and charter it through Learning for Life offices in Manchester. They would like to keep a maximum number of 12 or 14 members. Dan Chapman explained that they are going to go through a hiring type process and go through background checks in the schools and any possible criminal records so they can get them they want to represent the post the way they want it. The police department and advisor will be involved in the screening. Chief Chapman stated if the Selectmen approves this post their next step is to present it to the police department and then the officers will decide if this is what they want and if they want to be advisors.

Selectman Manseau made a motion that the Board supports the establishment of the Explorer Post in Tilton, and the young men that are working towards a career in law enforcement, seconded by Selectman O'Leary. All were in favor.

Chief Chapman joined the meeting to discuss a personnel issue. At 6:55PM Chairman made a motion to go into non-public session for the purpose of discussing a town employee matter, seconded by Selectman O'Leary. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman O'Leary, yes, Selectman Manseau, yes, Selectman Dawson, yes, Selectman Foye, and Chairman, yes.

At 7:15 the Selectmen's meeting resumed.

Chairman informed Chief Chapman of a complaint he received regarding a van being parked in the handicapped space in the Municipal parking lot. The van occupies the space around the clock. He has a handicapped card on his mirror, but this goes beyond the 48-hour limit. Chair asked if it is permissible for someone to occupy a handicap spot over the 48 hours. Chief said they are required to comply with the same restrictions, as anyone else except space has to be provided for them. Chief said he would look into this before any action is taken.

Chief informed the Board that they have a lot of problems with parking on Main Street. Chief said they are getting $5.00 tickets everyday, but continue to violate the parking ordinance. Chief is proposing certain offenses. First one, $5.00, second, $15.00, third, $25.00, $50.00 for the fourth offense, $100.00 for the fifth offense and thereafter. Chief said they cannot be taken to court, as it is a civil forfeiture, unless they fail to pay the fine. Chief is hoping this will encourage people to start moving their vehicles. Chief would like to amend article 4 of the Ordinance to include
Chief informed the Board that he has the capability of obtaining a generator through a grant from the State for the town hall. Chief met with Southworth Milton today. Chief said some of it is matching funds, which is 25 percent. The only location for this is out by the bulkhead where Y.A.P. was. This will go on once a week automatically as a test. There was discussion regarding boxing this in.

Mike Jubert and Lou Conley from Keyspan Energy North joined the meeting to inform the Board of a project to install a 12" gas main in the downtown area of Tilton. Their limits of construction will be on Main Street from Academy Street to #27 Main Street. Mr. Jubert and Mr. Conley showed the Board a map of the proposed project. They have already talked to the State, District III. Their intent is to install 3,050 feet of 12" steel gas main in the town of Tilton. Keyspan needs to proceed with this project to alleviate pressure problems in the Town of Tilton and other communities that this critical pipeline feeds. Their limits of construction will be on Main Street from Academy Street to #12 Main Street. The project will be thirty working days and will not start until after July 4th, 2003.

Selectman O'Leary asked about traffic because there will be two construction jobs during the summer. One will be the sidewalk on East Main Street and this project in July. Mr. Jubert said who ever is awarded the bid will have to give them a traffic flow proposal. This was discussed with the Board. Mr. Jubert said they would talk to the Police Department and the Fire department as well to inform them of this project. Mr. Jubert also informed the Board that they do heavy notification by mail. Packets of information were given to the Board. They will send letters to all residents and merchants involved informing them of this project. There was discussion regarding a Public Information Meeting for the residents and merchants. Mr., Jubert and Mr. Conley will let the Board know when they will be ready for a Public Hearing to make a presentation.

Center Sanders from the Road Committee regarding Lochmere roads joined the meeting. He gave the Board copies of the draft handout. Center informed the Board that as a committee they did not meet with the State as they told the Board when they last met with them. Center said they need to move forward and meet with the State if this is what the Board would like them to do. The Committee is recommending not to agree to the reclassification of any of the class II roads to class V. Center said this is what the committee came up with, but also discussed
negotiating with the State. Center said in talking to Bob Barry from D.O.T., they are open to negotiation. Mr. Barry said even if the town took over all the roads, the State could agree to keep the interest in the Bridges. Center said he does not think this is a good plan because the State always tries to get rid of State owned bridges on town roads. Center said Mr. Barry is the head of Municipal Highways and that department allocates the funds for the one third, two third State Aid re-construction projects.

Alice said the charge was to find out whether or not the town should accept the roads or have the roads reclassified. The warrant article reads if you vote to do this, then you are voting to reclassify them. Alice said if they vote for it and appropriate the money it would not be an issue, if they do not vote for reclassification, then they voted not to reclassify any of them. Alice said this would then have to go back to town meeting in another year. Center will submit a final version of the handout with the final figures to the Board. Center said he would wait until Jim Dodge returns from Florida and then meet with the State. Center suggested Chair send a letter to District III regarding the maintenance that needs to be done on the State roads. Chair said he would take this under advisement.

Chair continued the discussion regarding the bond that Selectman Manseau asked about earlier in the meeting. Chair said he understood it was determined that the Board committed them to the bond issue in error, so the Board is liable to correct it. Selectman Manseau agreed with this. Chair asked him how they get an accurate figure as to how much was invested in this bond. Selectman Manseau said there should be a fee structure on the bond and the check would have come from the contractor.

The Board discussed the $20,000 for the sewer project to the HW garage and whether or not it should be presented as a special warrant article at town meeting. Selectman Manseau made a motion to amend the Budget by removing the line item of $20,000 for the sewer line connection in the Highway Department’s budget, seconded by Selectman Dawson. All were in favor.

Chairman informed the Board that up to $10,000 has been set aside by the Budget Committee to buy the establishment (Old Grange Building, Historical Society) and to repair the roof. Alice asked if the Board would like to include this as a Warrant Article. Alice suggested the Board look into the Landship Program. Alice said there are monetary grants available for communities to buy buildings, or land of cultural significance to the town. Alice feels they should go after a grant to buy it. Alice said if they
give the Selectmen the authority to acquire it, regarding the roof there is money in town hall repairs for this. The Board discussed the staffing of the building once it is acquired. There are numerous artifacts to be cataloged. The Board was in agreement to get authorization to pursue the grants.

Chairman went over the Warrant Articles with the Board.

Article 4, $300,000 for the clean up of the Tannery. Chairman will speak to this at town meeting.

Article 5, Silver Lake Road Project. Selectman Dawson will speak to this at town meeting.

Article 6, $15,000 for the Tilton Main Street Program. Selectman Manseau will speak to this at town meeting.

Article 7, $10,000, for the Recreation Trust Fund. Selectman Manseau will also speak to this at town Meeting.

Chairman will speak to Articles 8 & 9.

Article 8, $50,000 for the reassessment fund.

Article 9, $75,000 appropriate this to expend the same for the purchase of the property.

Article 10, $10,000 for the purpose of establishing a recycling center and solid waste facility. Selectman Manseau will speak to this.

Selectman O'Leary will speak to Article 13; vote to accept the Budget submitted by the Budget Committee.

Chairman asked the Board how they feel about the letter from Danville regarding the coalition for equalized taxation. After discussion, the Board agreed not to participate.

Selectman O'Leary informed the Board that the Budget Committee will have a Public Hearing on Monday February 24th, at 6:30PM at Town Hall. A member of the Budget Committee is also a Sewer Commissioner and should not be on the Budget Committee. Another Budget Committee member has to be appointed on Monday and the committee will have to go over the budget again to recommend it.

Selectman Dawson informed the Board that she spoke to Public Works
Director Dennis Allen regarding the Ordinance for the weight limit on Dunlop Drive. Dennis suggested the town go by the limits the State posts in the spring. Selectman Dawson spoke to Chief Chapman and this is an enforceable Ordinance.

Selectman Dawson informed the Board that the Road Committee will be drafting a letter asking other Boards of Selectmen in surrounding towns to support them in going to the State Senator that represents them to get the legislation passed for all Class II changes permanently so that all Class II to Class V will have to go through the legislative body of the town. Selectman Dawson said she should have the letter for the next meeting.

Ron Rau sitting in the audience asked if the Board had any information from Public Access. Selectman Dawson said she has left messages and if she does not get a call back she will write a letter to them. Ron also asked about the weight limits for the road and if it was for Dunlop Drive only. Selectman Dawson said the Board has the authority to put weight limits on all of the Class V roads if they feel it is necessary. It is really on the advice of the Road Agent.

Chair would like to have Town Moderator Ken Randall at the meeting of March 6th to go over the town meeting.

*Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:05PM.*