Present from Board: Chairman Manseau, Selectman Foye, and Selectman Dawson Selectman. O’Leary joined the meeting 6:10 pm. Selectman Brown was not present.

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

Chairman Manseau called the meeting to order.

Police Chief Kent Chapman met with the Board and advised them as follows:

- The World tour will be July 27-August 3. There will be training for all law enforcement officers in the area.
- The department in conjunction with area towns has developed a plan for inoculation against small pox for area residents if it becomes necessary. The Middle School has been chosen as the vaccination site for Tilton, Northfield and Franklin residents. The Police Dept. has been working on the plan for several months with LRGH. The final plans will be completed by May 1st and submitted to the State for approval. Once approved, a set of plans will be on file in the selectmen’s office.

The Chief informed the Board he has applied for several grants including:

1. A grant for participation in dedicated DWI Patrols; the town will receive full reimbursement for any overtime costs created by these patrols.

2. A grant in the amount of $15,000 for the Town Hall generator.
3. A grant has been secured to pay for 50% ($3,500) of the cost of 14 new bullet proof vests.

4. A $1,400 grant to develop an Emergency Management Mitigation plan for the community.

5. A grant for the purchase of digital radios in the amount of $25,000.

6. A grant for half of the cost of the new radar unit.

Chief Chapman requested authorization to process with the filing of a small claims petition against an attorney’s office that is refusing to pay for copying charges. Selectman Foye moved and Selectman Dawson seconded the motion for the requested authorization. All voted in favor.

Chief reported the no parking signs are up behind the Congregational Church for no parking between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm on Sundays.

Chief reported the Emergency Management Plan for the Town has not been updated since 1997. As the Emergency Management Director the Chief is in the process of updating the plan and completing a mitigation plan for the Town. A committee will be established to assist in the development of the plan upon which Selectman Brown will serve. Once completed, the plans will be filed with the State.

**Announcements:**

Chairman announced the Tilton-Northfield Rotary would be holding their annual Radio Auction on Sunday April 27th from 4PM to 8PM and Monday April 28th from 6PM to 10PM.

Spring clean up will be in May and notices will be mailed out next week.

The Board approved and signed the Payroll and AP manifests.

The minutes of the meeting of April 3rd were accepted as written. (Motion by Selectman Dawson, seconded by Selectman Foye and voted unanimously by the Board.)

**New Business:**

The Chairman reported that an informal meeting to establish a Recreation Committee was held. The Chair presented the Board with a list of individuals interested in serving on the Committee and a separate list of individuals interested in assisting with the development of the ball field.
Selectman O’Leary joined the meeting at 6:10PM.

The Recreation Committee will be separate from the Parks Commission, which presently has two members: Bob Hardy and Martha DeRoy. The Board was advised that Vici Virgin has volunteered to serve on the Commission.

**Appointments:**

Selectman O’Leary moved to appoint the following members to the Recreation Committee:

Bob Hardy, Martha DeRoy, Thomas Szot, Deborah Manseau, Rick Manseau, Tracy LaPlante, and Katherine Dawson, seconded by Selectman Dawson. All were in favor.

Chair announced the Parks Recreation Committee would hold its first official meeting on Monday, April 28th at 6:30 PM at the town offices. The committee will focus on the development of the ball field to be located on Route 132 and on completing an analysis of the short and long term recreational needs of the community.

**Ball field update:**

Selectman Dawson reported she is still waiting to hear a clear commitment from a local company for assistance with the construction of the field.

Selectman Dawson also reported she spoke informally to Rick LePene, a local engineer concerning the development of a base map for the field. It was agreed to hire Mr. LePene to develop the map.

**Old Business:**

Selectman Foye reported he visited Mr. Suter’s property on Friday April 4th, but because of the snowstorm that day rescheduled the meeting for Saturday, April 19th and will report back to the Board at their next meeting.

Lisa Swancott, a Northfield resident, met with the Board to report on her meeting with the T-N Recreation Council. A copy of the petition she presented to the Pines was provided to the selectmen. Ms. Swancott is concerned about the training program for the Pine’s counselors and about the Pines establishing a separate summer program for middle school aged children.
The status of Mr. Lavalle’s request concerning an abatement of his betterment tax for Noyes Road was discussed. No decision was reached as the Board is awaiting additional information.

At 6:35 PM Chair excused himself from the meeting and turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Katherine Dawson.

V. Chair asked if Keyspan has responded to inquiries regarding the gas line replacement project scheduled for Main Street this summer. There has been no response to the voice messages left at Keyspan. A Keyspan rep will be requested to meet with the Selectmen at their next meeting.

V. Chair suggested Alice write a letter regarding the progress of the restoration of Squantum.

At the request of the Administrator the Board discussed the Richardson subdivision road. Construction of the road stopped last November with a little less than 50% of the project complete. Alice explained to the Board that when Vollmer Associates gave them the original estimates to oversee the entire project the estimate was for $1,800. Alice said the town has spent over $2,400 to date to Vollmer to have them inspect the road. Alice said this issue was discussed with Mr. Richardson at a Selectmen’s meeting of December 2002 explaining that Mr. Richardson should pay the overage as our engineer had been called to the site and the work had not been completed. Alice said she wrote a letter to Mr. Richardson and explained this to him and Mr. Richardson wrote back saying the town’s regulations state he does not have to pay and he will not pay. Alice suggested to the Board that they do not send Vollmer back up to inspect the road and when Mr. Richardson calls to have the road inspected the town tell him they are not going to inspect it because he will not bear the cost of it. Alice said when it is time for the final inspection which is what the regulations say he is supposed to pay for, then Vollmer can check the road to see if it has been built properly, and if it has not the town will not accept it.

Alice also mentioned in Mr. Richardson’s letter to her he asked to have the Board deal with his attorney. The Board discussed this and agreed to have the Town Administrator write to his attorney stating the Board’s position in this matter.

The Board was informed that Market Basket is about to start road construction; it was recommended that the town’s engineer inspect the
construction periodically. Alice said the town has an agreement with Market Basket that states they will pay for the cost of all of the town’s experts. Alice asked the Board’s permission to have Vollmer Associates oversee the construction of the road. Alice said they would bill Market Basket for this. Selectman O’Leary moved to hire Vollmer Associates oversee the road construction, seconded by Selectman Foye. All were in favor.

V. Chair discussed the sidewalk issue regarding Rte., 3 over I-93. The last letter from the State, which referred to RSA 231:13 Liability for sidewalks. Alice said the position of the State was that they would only have put the sidewalk in if so requested by the town. Alice asked for documentation showing where the town made such a request, but they have yet to produce that. Selectman Dawson said there was a response from the State stating there is no agreement that the town signed. The Board discussed this and they agree they did not request the sidewalks and do not want them. Alice will write to the State regarding this issue.

Correspondence:

The Board discussed a letter from the Recreation Council asking the town to appropriate the amount of $45,000, in lieu of the $47,100 voted in the budget by Town Meeting. Alice asked the Board if they want to follow the intent of Town Meeting or follow the intent of Selectman O’Leary and the Budget Committee. After the Board discussed this, Vice Chair asked to wait until there is a full Board before they make a decision.

The Board was advised that the Town completed the purchase (purchase price: $6,000) of the old Grange Building located in Lochmere last week. Attorney Chandler handled the transaction for the town including the title search. The Board will discuss a committee to preserve the building and cataloging the artifacts when Selectman Brown is back as he expressed an interest of serving on the committee. A complete set of keys for the facility will be provided the police and highway departments.

The Board reviewed a list prepared by the Tax Collector of properties scheduled to be deeded to the town for non-payment of taxes. In keeping with established practice, the Selectmen instructed the Administrator to conduct a field review of the properties on the list and advise the Board of any potential liability issues created by assuming ownership.
Vice Chair asked Mr. Gazza who was sitting in the audience if he had any questions. Mr. Gazza who attended the last Selectmen’s meeting asked if they had any information on his question regarding the trash at the dam in Silver Lake. Alice said PSNH has been contacted but we have not heard back as of this date. Mr. Gazza asked how the decision was reached as to what parts of town were to be reassessed in 2001. It was explained to him that what was reassessed was waterfront and water influenced property. The ratio study for 2000 showed that water-related property was at 50% of value whereas the rest of the town was at 90%. The attempt was made to value the water related properties at the same level as the rest of the town.

Chairman Manseau rejoined the meeting at 6:55PM.

Jim Cropsey met with the Board and informed them he is in the process of applying for a CDFA Grant for Tilton Main Street Program that will be sponsored by them. Mr. Cropsey informed the Board that this would have to be approved by the town to show some sort of agreement that the Riverfront place is developed in the manner that the town would support. Mr. Cropsey said it is his understanding if the Grant is approved will go into Tilton Main Street Program and administrated by a third party so there is a break in control. Mr. Cropsey’s Riverfront project would pay the money back to the Main Street Program with interest. That money would remain in the Main Street Program and help fund their program and other projects in Tilton. Chairman asked what he is going to do with the funding, and do they have to have a specific project. Mr. Cropsey said it is for the remaining renovations of the Riverfront project and would open earlier than what they might be able to do otherwise. Mr. Cropsey explained this is federal money that comes thru the State as part of the CBDG and the funds are for downtowns, specifically downtown imitative which would be working with renovations for rehabilitations of downtown structures. Mr. Cropsey stated that one of the things they are not providing is housing and this was mentioned in the beginning that the town was not interested in additional housing; they are interested in commercial space which Mr. Cropsey is providing. Mr. Cropsey indicated to the Board he would need the letter of support from them to include in the application by May 2nd, 2003. Selectman Foye asked Mr. Cropsey how much the Grant is that he is applying for. Mr. Cropsey said they have only a ballpark estimate. They are asking for at least $100,000 or as much as $150,000 to $200,000. Selectman Dawson moved & Selectman O’Leary seconded a motion to authorize a letter of support for Mr. Cropsey’s project. All were in favor.
Selectman Dawson advised the Board that several downtown merchants have requested a different color (not specified) for the spring painting of the crosswalks in the downtown area. No decision was made on the request pending further information.

Selectman Dawson, representing the Flower Committee, requested the Board authorize the repair of the cement work around the World War I monument in front of the Town Hall on Main Street. The repair work involves leveling the curbing around the monument, which has been worn down by wind, weather and street maintenance. After discussion the Board agreed to have the necessary repairs as determined by the flower committee made to the monument circle.

Chairman informed the Board that he spoke to Chief Chapman regarding keeping a couple of the older cruisers at the Highway garage. He also asked if he could store records at the garage as they are running out of storage space at the police dept. Chair will ask Selectman Brown to discuss this with Dennis to see if they can use a corner of the loft and fence it off to store the files.

Chair asked to have D.O.T. contacted regarding a “No Parking” sign that was requested from D.O.T. two years ago on Rte., 3 across from Mr. Conzano’s property, which is an emergency pull off on Lake Winnisquam. Alice will contact D.O.T regarding this matter.

Chair discussed the need for a second story for the Police Department, as they need more room. Chair stated that if this is designated as the Emergency Response area, a portion would be for storage of the equipment needed and the rest of the area for a squad room they can apply for a Grant thru FEMA.

At the request of a resident, the Board will have the Health Officer investigate water draining out of a hose at a house on E. Main Street.

Selectmen Foye moved to appoint Victoria Virgin as a member of the Parks Commission. Seconded by Selectman Dawson. All were in favor.

Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:50PM.