Selectmen's meeting minutes of September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Present from the Board:
Chairman Richard Manseau, Selectman Brown, Wadleigh, and Dawson. Selectman O'Leary was not present.

Also present:
Secretary Catherine A. Woessner. Town Administrator Alice MacKinnon was not present.

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

Approval: Minutes of August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2005
Chairman Manseau asked to have corrections made on pages 2, 3, & 8. Chairman Manseau made a motion to accept the minutes of August 25<sup>th</sup>, as amended, seconded by Selectman Brown. All were in favor.

AP & Payroll Manifests: The Selectmen approved and signed the manifests.

Selectman Brown showed the Board two Load Limit signs the Public Works Director Dennis Allen prepared for the Board's approval. After the Board's review they agreed with the visual weight limit sign.

Selectman Brown went over the Fall Solid Waste Collection Notice with the Board. The dates for the Fall Solid Waste drop off will be for Tilton residents only on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, from 9:AM to 3:PM and Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, from 9:AM to 4:PM. The Board was in agreement.

Selectman Brown reported that the generator at the Highway Department is running and is fine. Dennis will talk to Chief Chapman to find out if he has the funds in his budget to have the electrical work done for the generator connection. Selectman Brown said nothing has been scheduled for town hall as of yet.

APPOINTMENTS WITH SELECTMEN:
Tracey and Jon, Cybertron, Inc.
Tracey informed the Board that Selectman Dawson had contacted her regarding concerns of the town clerk's computer. Tracey said the town clerk's machine is not broken; it is an older machine with windows 98. Tracey said from what they have observed the problems are caused by too much being done at one time. Tracy said there are some things they have suggested to the town clerk to alleviate the problems she has been having. Tracey said they feel her machine is adequate for
her day-to-day activities and a new machine may help but is not absolutely necessary. Tracey informed the Board that in terms of replacing machines in the office, Catherine’s machine would definitely come first as her machine is far worse than the town clerk’s. Tracey explained to the Board that there are four machines that need to be replaced. The order of replacing computers are: Catherine, Cindy, Joe & Sandy Plessner. Chairman Manseau said they may look to Cybertron for some ideas on policy structure. Tracy will correspond with Selectman Dawson via e-mail. Chairman Manseau said once they have a policy in place they would audit all the machines along with Cybertron.

PUBLIC HEARING, BUFFALO PARK:
Chairman Manseau made a motion to recess the regular Selectmen’s meeting to start the Public Hearing, seconded by Selectman Brown. All were in favor.
Before opening the Public Hearing Chairman Manseau read comments from two members of the Conservation Commission. Bob Hardy stated that he is commenting as a resident who lives near Buffalo Park and not as a member of the Conservation Commission and is opposed to any ban of hunting at Buffalo Park. He said the area has been open to hunting longer than he has lived on Winter Street for over 40 years. Mr. Hardy also said if there is an issue with firing a gun close to a house or hunting out of season why not let the State handle it, why does the Town need to get in the middle. Mr. Mitchell stated the Tilton Conservation Commission considered the option of “no hunting” in the Buffalo Park Conservation Area, but concluded that they did not have the power or the authority to restrict hunting from this property. Mr. Mitchell said the TCC did not want to change what people have used this property for over the years so long as it was within keeping of the overall philosophy of a “Conservation Area” which more often than not, permits hunting and fishing. Although it was not unanimous, it was the consensus of the commission to permit hunting, but to also make sure to post that fact during the hunting season so that visitors to the Conservation Area(aka Buffalo Park) would be aware of the risks and to dress accordingly. Mr. Mitchell stated that he does understand that recently a local property owner, who lives near Buffalo Park, was the one who was shooting at a coyote, and it needs to be noted that the gun shots were not due to hunting in Buffalo Park, but on a persons private property. If the Selectmen choose to ban hunting in Buffalo Park, it most likely will not deter a home owner from using a gun to protect themselves, their family and pets from attacks by predators.
At 6:35PM Chairman Manseau opened the Public Hearing regarding the posting of No Hunting at Buffalo Park for public discussion.
Bill Joscelyn: Mr. Joscelyn stated to close this to hunting would be a big mistake. Even though he does not hunt there himself he feels the land owners around
Buffalo Park should have a right to control unwanted animals getting in their yards attacking their pets. He said as a Board, he would hesitate to put a ban on hunting in that area. The State law now states that you cannot shoot within 300 ft. of an occupied house and most of the hunters he knows obey this law. Mr. Joscelyn feels the Board should leave things as they are and go along with the State Law.

**June Tilton:** Mrs. Tilton stated that her land borders Buffalo Park. She has one of the few right of ways to the Park. She has had no problems with hunting and likes the way things are.

**Todd Corey:** Mr. Corey said he has lived in Tilton all his life between Winter Street and Colby Road. He occasionally hunts at Buffalo Park and would hate to see his kids lose something he had when he was growing up. He said this is a perfect place to teach kids the sport of hunting. Mr. Corey said to the best of his knowledge he has never heard anyone complain about hunting at Buffalo Park. Mr. Corey read RSA 644:13 Unauthorized Use of Firearms and Firecrackers. He stated this is not a compact area. Mr. Corey said the complaints and statistics speak for themselves and feels this comes down to people being uneducated on hunting.

**Tom Pucci:** Mr. Pucci said he has hunted in Buffalo Park and has lived in the area for 38 years. He and his children enjoy the park. Mr. Pucci feels that just because the landowners have changed he does not see any reason to fix something that is not broken. Mr. Pucci said that to limit the things that are already in use would be a deterrent to the family values.

**Roy Wakefield:** Mr. Wakefield said he has lived in the area for 49 years and he has never heard of a problem.

**Dave Gloddy:** Mr. Gloddy feels things should be left the way they are.

**Scott Gloddy:** Mr. Gloddy feels it would be a shame to lose another piece of land that other people are enjoying and because there have not been any problems it should not even be addressed.

**Scott Long:** Mr. Long lives on property that directly abuts Buffalo Park. He said he is not anti hunting and is not opposed to responsible people using the property for responsible things. Mr. Long said he is the one who raised the flag out of pure frustration for getting no results from the Police Department to investigate a shooting that he felt endangered his family.

**Susan Walker** Mrs. Walker stated that her husband is a hunter and she does not oppose hunting. She thinks the issue that led up to this is the discharge of firearms in the evening that is clearly right within the Winter Street area. It is not as if it is in the park or someone is actually hunting. This is a gun going off at eight o’clock in the evening. Mrs. Walker said it would become an issue if people were just on the outskirts of the park shooting out into where people’s homes are. She feels this should be addressed.
Todd Corey: Mr. Corey said he heard the shot that Mr. Long complained about and as a citizen Mr. Corey did not feel threatened by that shot and as a police officer in a neighboring town he did not feel threatened by that incident.

Chairman Manseau said the reason for the public hearing is because concerns were raised. Chairman Manseau said they did not convene this hearing to overrule State Law; they wanted to gather information to see how the public felt. Chairman Manseau stated that the Selectmen have become guardians of that property through the course of several events in the last year and it is their responsibility to make sure that it is utilized for the best possible course of action. Chairman Manseau stated that he feels the Selectmen would be remiss in their duties if they did not have this hearing. Chairman Manseau thanked everyone who contributed. Chairman Manseau said it looks like a lopsided vote at this point in time and this is strictly an informational gathering session. Chairman Manseau said he is also meeting with the Fish&Game and the Police Department to go over the RSA’s that cover this and then will report back to the Board.

As there were no further comments, Chairman Manseau thanked the public for attending the hearing and closed the Public Hearing at 6:59PM. Chairman Manseau made a motion to go back into regular session, seconded by Selectman Brown. All were in favor.

APPOINTMENTS WITH SELECTMEN CONTINUED:

CHARLES BOWLER: HILL ROAD Mr. Bowler joined the meeting. Mr. Bowler had previously sent in photographs of the drainage problem that started in 1998 for the Board's review. Mr. Bowler explained that the situation is that the catch basin is a dry well and when it rains heavily it overflows and builds up to the point that the water runs down his right of way seriously eroding the right of way. Mr. Bowler went on to say the problem is two-fold. The road has no crown. All the water is diverted to the catch basin side of the road as the property across from the catch basin has build up a berm so the water will not go into their yard. In 1998 the Highway department was going to see how much the town owned and get rid of the berm if it was on town property. Mr. Bowler said the major problem is that the catch basin is a dry well and cannot handle the heavy rains. Mr. Bowler stated that he is here this evening to ask the Selectmen to save everyone some money and repair the damage caused by the faulty drainage of the road. Selectman Brown informed Mr. Bowler that he informed the Board of the situation earlier in the meeting and they agreed they need to go to the Conservation Commission and have them look at this situation first. The Board would like to find a permanent solution if they can. Mr. Bowler said he feels the real problem is the berm, which is on his neighbor’s property. After much discussion the Board agreed to a short term
solution by having Dennis put down ledge pack and then follow up with a long-term solution. Selectman Dawson suggested removing a portion of the corner of the berm. Mr. Bowler said that would be satisfactory. Chairman Manseau said they would have to talk to the property owner where the berm is located. In the meantime Selectman Brown will inform Dennis of the Board’s decision. Chairman Manseau said they would have to come up with a long-term solution, as this is a recurring problem.

PAT CLARK, RIVERFRONT PARK UPDATE:
Pat informed the Board of a preexisting condition that needs to be taken care of regarding a drainage line across the westerly end of the Park. Pat gave the Board copies of a map indicating the problem area. Pat and Mr. Cilley from DOT, Selectman Wadleigh and Dennis Allen, Public Works Director looked at the drainage lines. They also talked to Engineers Rick LePene and an Engineer from Dover for their opinion. Pat reported that DOT would supply the material, which Pat said they are asking for heavy-duty polyethylene pipe, 15” and an extra manhole. Pat said there are two different possibilities to take care of this and went on to explain this to the Board. Pat explained there would have to be some work done to move the manhole and in order to do this right they will need an engineer to look at it. Pat said the cost of this would be about $1,000 to do the engineering. The cost to the town will be the labor; the material for the manhole and the piping will be supplied by DOT. Pat said they would like this to be done in the fall before construction begins next spring on the Park.

Pat informed the Board that the Park Committee is getting ready to go out to bid as soon as possible. VHB is working on upgrading plans to include all of the addendums they had on their first bid specs. They are hoping to have this finished by September 23rd, and the Committee is hoping to go out to bid a week after that. Pat said the date for the completion of the Park is tentatively set for June 15th of next year.

Pat informed the Board they need a driveway permit for the main entrance to the Park so emergency vehicles can get in and in order to do that they need to have a sidewalk agreement and drainage easement. Selectman Dawson will show the draft drainage easement to Mr. Cilley from DOT. Selectman Dawson asked if the town is going to get approval from DOT for whatever design the town come up with. Pat said that the conversation he had with Jack Cilley, DOT he seemed very positive about it. The Selectmen agreed to get approval from Mr. Cilley on the design of the drainage easement. Selectman Dawson asked Pat if he received a form from DOT for the sidewalk agreement. Pat informed the Board that Mr. Cilley said they can use an agreement from another project and adapt it to the Park project and he would sign off on it. Pat said he needs this to get the driveway permit. Chairman
Manseau made a motion to authorize the hiring of an Engineer to design this phase of the Park project not to exceed $1,001.00, seconded by Selectman Dawson. All were in favor.
At 7:39PM Chairman Manseau made a motion to go into non-public session regarding employee related matters. Selectman Brown, yes, Selectman Wadleigh, yes, Selectman Dawson, and Chairman Manseau, yes.

At 8:59PM the Board resumed their regular session.

Chairman Manseau made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session until all issues have been resolved, seconded by Selectman Dawson. All were in favor.

Sandy Plessner, Land Use Office informed the Board Konover has suggested naming the driveway going into Lowe's, Lowe's Lane or whatever the Board decides. Because of 911 listings a name is needed. Sandy said once they have a name for the road then they can give 911 the address. Chairman Manseau made a motion to name the driveway Lowe's Drive, seconded by Selectman Wadleigh. All were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:
A letter from Tilton School requesting the Board’s permission for them to line pedestrian cross walks on the corner of School Street and Academy Street, along with the corner of Academy Street and High Street to provide a safe egress for their Students when entering and exiting their campus. After discussion the Board authorized Tilton School to go ahead with the painting of the lines going across Academy and High Streets.

A letter of resignation from the Deputy Treasurer, Catherine Brown-Herman.

A request from Judy Tilton for copies of the audio minutes of the Selectmen's meeting of August 25th, 2005.

A letter from Kathy LaPlante Main Street Director asking for the Selectmen's support and recognition of local Program Manager, Judy Rich by proclaiming Wednesday, September 31st, 2005 as Tilton's Downtown Revitalization Professional's Day.

Joe Plessner asked the Board to approve the purchase of a machine that will be able to copy tapes in the office.
Chairman Manseau made a motion to authorize Joe Plessner to purchase the new recording matching up to $200.00, seconded by Selectman Wadleigh. All were in favor.

Chairman Manseau submitted copies of the modified rules and scheduling request for the Route 132 Recreation Field. After the Board’s review, Selectman Wadleigh made a motion to approve the Scheduling Requirements and Organized Sports Restrictions for the Route 132 Recreation Field as written, seconded by Chairman Manseau. All were in favor.

Chairman Manseau informed the Board that he received a request from Chief Chapman requesting a new “School Zone” sign to be installed at the westerly end of the High School property so the Police Department can enforce the speed limit. The Board was in agreement. Selectman Brown will inform Dennis of this decision and have him order the new sign.

Chairman Manseau informed the Board of a request from Chief Chapman asking the Board’s approval to send one officer to help with the Disaster Relief (hurricane Katrina) if it becomes necessary. This would be for one officer to volunteer for no longer than one month and will be kept on the payroll for a maximum of 30 days. Chairman Manseau made a motion to authorize one police officer for up to one month to respond to the Disaster Relief if needed, seconded by Selectman Dawson. All were in favor.

Public Input:
Carla Constant reported that the street lights that have been reported out have still not been fixed.

Chairman Manseau adjourned the meeting at 9:25PM.