Selectmen's meeting minutes of March 2, 2006

Present from the Board:
Chairman Richard Manseau, Selectmen Wadleigh, Brown, Dawson, and O'Leary.

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

Chairman Manseau called the meeting to order at 6:01PM.

Appointments with Selectmen:

Police Captain Owen Wellington: Captain Wellington joined the meeting regarding the hiring of a new police officer. Captain Wellington informed the Board that they are asking the Board's approval for the hiring of Andrew Salmon who lives in Gilford, N.H. Captain Wellington reported Mr. Salmon does not have any experience in law enforcement, but has a family background in law enforcement. Captain Wellington reported that Mr. Salmon is not certified and will have to go to the Academy. The Board discussed the fact that Mr. Salmon does not have any experience in law enforcement but do not feel this is a reason for not hiring him. After further discussion Chairman Manseau made a motion, based upon Captain Wellington's recommendation and background investigation that they hire Andrew Salmon as a full time patrol officer, seconded by Selectman O'Leary. Discussion ensued. Selectman Brown asked what Mr. Salmon grade and step would be. Captain Wellington said he would start at grade 16, step 1. Selectman Dawson asked how the town can protect their investment in Mr. Salmon by the time he graduates from the Academy. Captain Wellington informed the Board that the issue has already been addressed as far as Mr. Salmon is concerned. He was asked if he would be willing to sign a three-year contract, which in return for the town sending him to the Academy and other various trainings, he will stay with the Town of Tilton for at least three years. Captain Wellington said if he does not there is a fee of around $12,000 he would pay the Town, which amounts to the 12 weeks (salary) plus 8 weeks of training. All were in favor of the motion.
Captain Wellington informed the Board that they are currently in the testing process of the background investigation for the next new hire. This will fill the second vacancy and bring the police department up to 16 full time officers.

Selectman Dawson discussed the issue of the dog nuisance that was discussed at last week’s meeting and the RSA that was presented did not apply as it is for cities. Selectman Dawson asked Captain Wellington to look at RSA 466:31, Dogs A Menace, a nuisance, she feels it covers everything they need it to. Captain Wellington said he would check to see if this applies to the problem discussed at last weeks meeting.

**Officer William Patten**

Chairman Manseau and the Board of Selectmen expressed their appreciation for the actions of Officer William Patten’s recent behavior on February 28th, 2006.

Captain Owen Wellington presented Officer Patten with a letter of Commendation for Lifesaving Valor of February 28th, when he responded to a building fire on Lancaster Hill Road and entered into the burning building to save the life of another. Captain Wellington thanked Officer Patten for his selfless dedication and commitment to the safety of the Citizens of our community.

Officer Patten said he is humbled to receive the award and was very appreciative to have received it.

**Don Shaw: River Road, letter from Selectman Brown regarding sump pump drainage water.**

Mr. Shaw informed the Board that he has been looking into what alternatives they may have to alleviate this problem. Mr. Shaw made it clear to the Board that he is only representing himself and is looking for a solution into his problem with water drainage. In looking for solutions Mr. Shaw has talked to Chris Itcus from the Water Treatment Plant in Franklin and asked if he would be able to tie into the sewer line that would be going in shortly with a sump
pump drain. Mr. Shaw said they do not want the water. Mr. Shaw also called District 3 and asked if it would be possible to put a line directly into the storm drain (underground) next to his property. Mr. Shaw said he would bear the expense of this. The answer was no. Mr. Shaw has also talked to DES and asked if he would be able to pump directly into his leach field, but this is not until the sewer line goes through. DES said Mr. Shaw would not be able to use his tank as a holding tank. After the Board further discussed this they agreed Jim Bouchard of the Turner Group should be notified of the water problem in this area as they will have to do some engineering on River Rd., and Church Street before they put the sewer line in. Selectman Brown will be in touch with Mr. Bouchard. The Board thanked Mr. Shaw for looking into solutions for this problem.

**APPROVAL:** Minutes of February 23, 2006. Selectman Brown made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Selectman Wadleigh. Selectman Dawson noted a few additions on pages 1, 2, 5, &6. Selectman Brown made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Seconded by Selectman Wadleigh. All were in favor.

**AP & PAYROLL MANIFESTS:** The Selectmen approved and signed the manifests.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Deer St. letter:** Alice reported that the new property owner wrote a letter to the town regarding the water concern. Alice said the problem is caused by a tree being down on school property and he wanted permission to clean out the creek. Alice called the property owner and informed him he should call the Superintendent’s office and discuss the matter with them. Public Works Director Dennis Allen said that the tree is holding the water back, and it is not a town problem, it is a school problem.
School Funding Formula Proposal: The Board discussed the meeting with the Northfield Selectmen regarding the School Funding Formula. Sanbornton Selectmen were not at the meeting. Selectman Brown felt the formula was well accepted and Northfield understood that in the fourth year that things will be where they should be and it would not dramatically increase their taxes.

Public Works Director, Dennis Allen: Dennis reported that in about two weeks he will be putting up the weight limit signs and they will coincide with the State putting up their signs. Dennis said March is the month to inspect all of their vehicles, three have been inspected and they have two more to be done. Dennis also reported that he spoke with Wayne Waswell from District 3 regarding the conditions of Silver Lake Road, River Rd, and Church Street. Mr. Waswell met with Dennis and they rode over these roads and Mr. Waswell agreed that the conditions of the roads are very poor. Dennis asked him what they could do if the sewer project does not go through this year. Mr. Waswell said he would at least shim those three roads if the sewer project does not go through this year, although he seems sure the project will move forward so they would not have to shim Silver Lake Rd. Dennis explained to him that River Road was worse than Silver Lake Rd., and Mr. Waswell agreed he would shim it. This will not be done until after the contract for the sewer project has been awarded and the project starts. Dennis said Mr. Waswell would put this in his fall resurfacing project. Selectman Dawson asked how he would address the potholes. Dennis said they shimmed the upper part of Silver Lake Road three years ago and the town paid for two or three loads of shim. Selectman Dawson said the sewer project will go in on River and Church, but the road reconstruction will not. Only Silver Lake Road will have the reconstruction. Chairman Manseau informed Dennis that regarding the use of inmates for Spring Clean-up, the department is realigning their policy and is going to be stricter as to who is going to be out in the community. They will probably be experiencing a shortage. Chairman Manseau said this policy is for Concord and Laconia and thinks they should know by the end of this month what the new policy would be.
**Correspondence:**
Letter from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regarding notification of the Project funding for the Riverfront Park is $3,200 less than the original amount because of an 80% rescission mandated in the Act. Pat Clark is aware of this change.

Letter from Focus: Tamworth regarding the town’s ability to control their wetlands. Selectman Dawson said they are asking the Selectmen to contact the Municipal Association to give their support. Selectman Dawson made a motion to support the Tamworth Wetlands Ordinance, seconded by Chairman Manseau. All were in favor. The letter will be ready for the Selectmen’s signatures next week.

Chairman Manseau announced the Selectmen have been invited to meet with the Turner Group regarding the Lochmere Village Sewer Project on March 16th, at 10:AM in the town offices.

Letter of notification of the Winnisquam Football Schedule for the High School, Middle School, and Jr. Varsity from Ryan Adams, Athletic Director. Mr. Adams is asking the Selectmen for permission for the Winnisquam Football team to utilize the Town’s Recreation field located on Rte 132 for their scheduled games for the 2006 season. After the Board discussed this, Chairman Manseau made a motion to authorize the use of the Recreation field for the use of the HS, Varsity, and Jr.Varsity and Middle School games at indicated in their request, seconded by Selectman O’Leary. All were in favor.

Proposal for the study of the Police Department from MRI. The Board will meet with them to discuss their proposal.

**Reports from Selectmen:**

**Selectman Dawson:** Selectman Dawson discussed the letter regarding Exchange Holdings. LLC who is the owner of the Shaw’s Plaza. They are not in favor of a planned bridge from the Evans Express mart to the driveway that goes into the Shaw’s Plaza. Selectman Dawson said a question she has is if they go through (eminent domain) process and take possession of their portion of the brook and the bridge, which seems to be half. According to the
description of the warranty deed their property line runs down through the middle of the brook. Selectman Dawson said this does not necessarily give them the right of ingress and egress onto their entrance to the parking lot, unless somewhere in Pike’s previous deed there was ingress and egress over the brook. Selectman Dawson said she doubts this as it was one parcel when Pike’s owned it, the brook did not divide it into two separate parcels. Alice said she would have to research this. Selectman Dawson discussed the idea the merchants had at the last DOT hearing of February 16th regarding the median to have a traffic light and feel this is worth looking into. Selectman Wadleigh asked if anyone has checked into investigating Rte. 140 (access). The Board discussed the possibility of taking the bridge and do not think this would be feasible. Chairman Manseau said putting in traffic lights seems to be the most reasonable alternative unless there is the option of Rte.140. Chairman Manseau said a committee is being formed regarding the median and they should look into Rte. 140 as an alternative. Alice will contact Joe Fortin from Franklin Savings Bank who will be on this committee to let him know that the Board of Selectmen do not feel it is feasible to take the bridge.

Selectman Brown: Selectman Brown reported that he is working with Mike Gagne on his representation of BCEDC for the town. Mr. Gagne is looking over the packet of information he received and will let Selectman Brown know whether or not he will be able to fit this into his schedule.

Selectman Wadleigh: Selectman Wadleigh reported that Wednesday afternoon he attended the TAC meeting in Meredith. Selectman Wadleigh said it was a very involved meeting but did not reflect too much as far as Tilton is concerned. There was discussion regarding access roads should be built into everyone’s town’s plans. Selectman Dawson said the Planning Board should be aware of this and not to late for them to be addressing this in subdivisions. Selectman Brown will notify the Planning Board of this information.

Selectman Dawson said the residents of Lochmere are notifying the State of an insufficiency regarding the Lochmere roads and a letter will be going out. Selectman Dawson submitted a copy of the letter. The letter asks to have
the Board of Selectmen notified when the State is ready for the design of the road.

At 7:30PM Chairman Manseau made a motion to go into non-public for the purpose of a personnel matter, seconded by Selectman Brown. Selectman Dawson, yes, Selectman O'Leary, yes, Selectman Brown, yes, Selectman Wadleigh, yes., and Chairman Manseau, yes.

At 7:47 PM the Board resumed their regular meeting

Chairman Manseau made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session until all matters are resolved, seconded by Selectman Brown. Selectman Dawson, yes, Selectman O'Leary, yes, Selectman Brown, yes, Selectman Wadleigh, yes, and Chairman Manseau, yes.

Alice informed the Board that she received a request from a permanent part-time employee who is asking to be paid half of his vacation time so he does not loose it. Alice said there is a policy in the Employee Manual for full time people that they can be paid half of their vacation time as opposed to taking it every other year and he would like the same benefit. The Board discussed permanent part-time and temporary part-time. Selectman Dawson asked if there was a separate policy for these people. Alice said it is unclear in the manual, it is mentioned in the manual that permanent part-time employees accrue vacation time at the same rate as full time employees do based upon a percentage that they work per week. Alice said the policy in the manual says full time employees are entitled to do this and does not mention permanent part-time employees. Selectman Dawson asked if this would include the part-time patrolmen. Alice said it would not because they do not work regular hours; they work when they are needed.

Alice said regular part-time employees would be added to the section entitled “Payment for Vacation time”. Selectman Dawson feels the part-time employee needs to be more defined, it has to be more than just intermittent basis. Alice will clarify this for next week’s meeting and the Board will amend the policy.

Chairman Manseau adjourned the meeting at 7:58PM