Selectmen's meeting minutes of June 23, 2011.

Present from the Board: Chair Pat Consentino, Selectman Sandra Plessner, Selectman Katherine Dawson, Selectman Norm Boudreau, and Selectman Joseph Jesseman.

Also present: Town Administrator Joyce Fulweiler, Secretary Catherine A. Woessner was not present.

Belknap County Commissioners: Edward Philpot, Jr., Stephen H. Nedeau, John H. Thomas, Debra Shackett, County Administrator, Norm O'Neill, County Human Resources Dir., Glen Warring, Finance Dir.,

Chair Consentino called the meeting to order at 4:30PM.

The Belknap County Commissioners joined the meeting this evening.
Commissioner Philpot addressed the Board to inform them of what they are currently in progress with. The first is the cost of the juvenile prosecutor and the resources that are utilized by every single town in terms of having people in court houses and the inefficiency this can build in the various departments. Comm. Philpot said they are in the process of hiring a part-time juvenile prosecutor for the County. That juvenile prosecutor will be available to every town in the County. They will also have that person in the County Attorney’s office rather than the Sheriff’s Department.

Comm. Philpot said the biggest initiative they are looking at and was discussed when they were at the Selectmen’s meeting last year is the county jail and the problems of the inmates at the jail. 80 to 90 percent of them are drug and alcohol issues and mental health issues, but may not be purely criminal justice problems. The Programs Director continues to expand resources and educational opportunities for inmates. Comm. Philpot informed the Board that they have hired a Consultant, David Bennet and he has looked at the data and operations and has formed a Criminal Justice
Council which includes; District Court Judges, Superior Court Judge, Supervisory Justice of the Superior Court and Prosecutors. The idea is to develop a program rather than just build a facility. The cost to incarcerate one person in the system is $150,000 a year. The other category of people they are dealing with are those with mental health issues and how do they keep them out of a system where they do not belong and is not equipped to handle them. The Community Corrections Program is looking for solutions that are better than suited for them. Rather than building a jail they want to build a Corrections System that has a component of it being a jail. They expect to have a report back from Mr. Bennet in six months and then will start analyzing what the findings are and try to act on those findings. Chair Consentino asked how they can justify these costs, new facility, and new technology to the taxpayers. Comm. Philpot said the programs they are looking at and the county corrections model they are studying is about reducing the cost of dealing with these people. Chair Consentino said she does not feel they are doing enough for the juveniles as this is where the problems begin and does not feel there is enough on our county end of it.

Comm. Philpot discussed dispatch Consolidation. Several consulting firms were contacted and submitted sample RFP's for review. A study committee was formed to evaluate the proposals. Eventually it was discovered that there may be opportunity to work with Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid to share space with the Sheriff's Dispatch center. The consultant’s study has been put on hold, pending further research regarding LRMFA. Comm. Philpot said they are looking for an opportunity to combine facilities.

Comm. Philpot reported that the county is supporting the Community Action Program in all of the areas they requested. There was a reduction across the board to outside agencies because the delegation trimmed the Commissioners recommendations and the Commissioners in turn paired that down internally. There was a discussion whether or not the county could partner with some towns and provide Health Insurance at a lower cost. Ms. Shackett established that yes they could partner with other towns, but the problem is that other towns would not benefit. It would be much more costly.
Comm. Philpot discussed some of the new topics they are working on. They are working on the stimulus spending for the facilities upgrades. They are trying to spend that money in a responsible way to pick up some problems they have had, things they do not want to bond such as roofs. The list is on the county website for review.

Regarding other Regionalization, other opportunities. The Commissioners were asked last night if they could have a county wide Animal Control Officer. Also, should each town have Welfare Dept., or should they have something more regionalized.

Selectman Dawson asked if they will have public meetings as they go through the process of their court program. Comm. Philpot said they will have their schedule on the Belknap County website.

Town Administrator Joyce Fulweiler agenda items:

Joyce reported she and Tom Gallant and Karen DeMeres from USDA, met regarding the $3,000 Community Facilities Grant that will be used to defray some of the ADA improvements to the Tilton Senior Center. Once they receive the letter from USDA they can proceed with the improvements.

Joyce is getting ready to submit the Insurance Claims report for 61 Business Park Drive. Chair Consentino informed the Board of what the water damage is. It involves two walls and is definitely severe enough to have someone look at it. The walls need to be resealed and painted. After discussion the Board agreed to have Joyce submit the claim and will ask if it would be possible to have an Engineer come out to check the walls.

Joyce reported she received a response from Chair of the Parks Commission, Bob Hardy in response to the letter from the Board regarding Old Home Day. Bob informed her that the Parks Commission is not planning on selling any food.

Joyce received a complaint that some people using Riverfront Park may be leaving their refuse in the Riverfront Place’s trash container. Selectman Boudreau will inform the Parks Commissioners of this at their next meeting.
Joyce presented an invoice for Hiltz Construction from Public Works Dir., Dennis Allen for the emergency work his crew did on the Pine Street Bridge. The total amount is $500.39. The Board approved to have it sent to Hiltz Construction for payment. Chair Consentino stated that when she spoke to Todd Querry she told him that they would have our Highway Department do the work and they would be billed for commercial overtime rate. Joyce recalculated the rate and submitted it to the Board for their approval. Joyce spoke with Mrs. Sgambati and she said within the next two weeks she will have a list of the landscaping items that were damaged on her property.

Joyce reported she received an e-mail from Ken Norton letting her know that he has measured all of the areas that need to be secured on the Ernie’s property. Mr. Norton said everything is secure at this point other than the cellar area where there is no point of access without breaking windows or forcing entry. Mr. Norton will continue to check at least every two weeks as discussed and will see about the materials and will schedule the work day. Mr. Silverberg also let Joyce know that they are trying to set a date for either July 16, or July 23rd. Joyce said she will be available for July 16th.

Joyce presented a letter from the Conservation Commission. They are concerned about people parking and walking on the Ernie’s property. They are suggesting that the entire property be somehow cordoned off with signage indicating the dangers inherent in the soils in order to keep people and vehicles off the contaminated soil. After the Board discussed this Selectman Dawson suggested they let the Department of Environmental Services dictate what they do to that property.

Selectman Boudreau reported that he walked the Trail for the first time and since the town of Tilton is responsible for the maintenance of that trail there are some issues of washouts, wooden fencing along the trail and one of the 2x8 sections is missing and another is partially off, there is also broken glass on the trail. Selectman Boudreau asked what the WRTA’s plans are for taking care of the trail. Joyce informed the Board that they are still in the construction phase so the town of Northfield, as Municipal Managers are still responsible for that phase because they still have outstanding work orders. Joyce said it is not Tilton’s responsibility right now to maintain it. If there is a problem it will be reported to Northfield.
Joyce presented the letter to the Fire Commissioners for the Board’s signature. The letter is informing the Fire Commissioners that they will forgo one of the generators if the Fire District reimburses the Town for the cost of the building permit. The amount of the building permit fee is $2,060.00. Because of budget constraints this does not allow for any reduction in revenues. After discussion Selectman Plessner made a motion to sign the letter to the T-N Fire Department, Fire Commissioners concerning the generators, seconded by Selectman Boudreau. All were in favor.

Joyce reported that she discussed with Finance Officer Tim Pearson that the Board had decided to move the amount that was budgeted for the Island from the Parks Commission expense line item to the Island expense line item. Tim has contacted Bob Hardy, Chair of the Parks Commissioners because he is waiting for a break down. When the budget committee had reduced their budget they did not know exactly what had been reduced.

Chair Consentino questioned an invoice from Avitar. $182.00 of that invoice is specifically for work on the water district tax error which was a problem that was generated in their computer system. Chair Consentino made a motion to hold the check to Avitar until the matter is resolved, seconded by Selectman Plessner. All were in favor.

Selectman Dawson asked to have the retaining wall around the Island added to the Capital Improvements list.

At this time Nick Canzano joined the meeting. Chair Consentino asked Mr. Canzano if he would like to have this meeting in non public or public session. Mr. Canzano said he would like this to be in public session. Chair Consentino informed the Board that the complaint against Mr. Canzano from Cara Bean establishment is that he has acted in an unprofessional manner in representing the town of Tilton and Planning Board. Mr. Canzano said at no time did he say he was from the Town of Tilton. Chair Consentino said it is not a question of whether or not the Selectmen believe him or the other person. The problem is there has been a complaint that has come before the Board and they do not act as individuals, they act as a Board.
They do not go into establishments and state they are a “Selectman”. Chair Consentino said if a complaint is made to her personally she takes this back to the Board because they work as a team and not as individuals. Chair Consentino said what they are trying to address here this evening is that they do not want the Town of Tilton’s name out there on any type of stamp of inspections, someone acting as an individual whether it be from the Planning Board or any Board. No one has that right; they are to act as a Board. If anyone receives information that someone has an illegal sign or is doing something illegal they should contact the town to designate this information to the proper Board.

The Board informed Mr. Canzano that verbal complaints have come in and he needs to be aware of it and he needs to be careful that he does not miss represent his position on the Planning Board.

**Approval of minutes of June 2, 2011:** Selectman Jesseman made a motion to approve the minutes of June 22, 2011 as corrected, seconded by Selectman Dawson. All were in favor.

**Approval of minutes of May 19, 2011:** Selectman Dawson made a motion to approve the minutes of May 19, 2011 as corrected, seconded by Selectman Jesseman. All were in favor.

Chair Consentino discussed the Code Enforcement Officer's report. He would like to change the fees and also requesting they bring their building fees up to what the rest of the surrounding town’s are. Mr. LaPlante said he and Augusta from the Land Use Office have been looking into the fees of the surrounding town’s and Tilton’s fees are considerably lower. An example of the new fees has been submitted for the Board’s review and discussion. Selectman Dawson would like to see an explanation of the fees on the permit application. There should be a formula of what determines the value.

Chair Consentino read a letter from the New Hampshire Association of the Blind thanking the Town for their contribution of $500.00. These funds are used to support vision, rehabilitation therapy services to the residents living in the Town of Tilton who are blind and visually impaired. A note sent to the NH Association for the Blind from an elderly client who lives alone.
Her hand written note was written on a special bold line tablet with a 20/20 pen, both low vision aids that are often given to clients for use at home and work. She thanks the association and everyone involved for giving her help by giving her the appliances which she could not afford if she had to pay for them. She thanks everyone for making her life easier.

All of this is made possible because of contributions. The New Hampshire Association for the Blind appreciates the opportunity to participate in the town’s request process. Shelly Proux, Vice President of Development, thanks the Board and others for facilitating this award.

Chair Consentino reported that the NH Association of the Blind has helped four residents in Tilton, giving them aids to help make their lives’ easier.

Chair Consentino stated they need to have a Consortium Franchise Public Hearing. As part of the cable franchise renewal proceedings between the Town of Tilton and MetroCast, the current cable operator. The town of Tilton will be holding its first public hearing on Thursday, July 21, 2011, 6:00PM at the Tilton Town Hall. Selectman Jesseman will make the presentation.

Chair Consentino informed the Board that Autoserv employees have made a donation for the purchase of an air conditioner for our seniors. Tilton Northfield Christmas Fund is purchasing one; also the manager of Lowe’s will be donating five of the stand alone air conditioners.

Selectman Jesseman informed the Board that the Recycling Committee is conducting a town clean-up day along the side of the roads. There are registration applications for New Hampshire the Beautiful, Litter Free New Hampshire. The town will be supplied through the New England Grocer’s Association blue bags for the clean-up. The event will take place in September and there is no cost to the town. Selectman Jesseman informed the Board that the Recycling Committee is asking to have the town sponsor this event. There is an application form for the Board to sign so the Recycling Committee will get the free blue bags. Marge Bonneville has contacted the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and a young lady that is involved in “Go Green” at the Middle School to get volunteers for this clean-up day.
Marge is also the contact person. Selectman Plessner expressed concern that children will be part of the group and wanted to be sure that they will be supervised, especially along the busier roads. Selectman Jesseman will inform the Recycling Committee of this concern. Selectman asked what the criteria is for the "Litter Free NH Program" because on the application it says, make information available to our businesses and residents about the “Sponsor the Highway Program”, produced by the NH Department of Transportation. Selectman Dawson said she thinks this is for Rte.3 and 11, not for Tilton roads. Selectman Jesseman said he will check into this as it was his understanding that they were to have a clean-up day in the town of Tilton.

Selectman Plessner informed the Board that they each have packets of information for the Police Department renovations. The department needs to be brought up to safety codes. Selectman Plessner asked the Board to review the information so they can decide what the priorities will be to make the department safer and then they can get estimates on the renovations. The Selectmen informed Chief Cormier of the three things that need to be taken care of as soon as possible: design for the booking area, security, dispatch, counter, door, and what will be required to move the evidence room to 61 Business Park Drive. Cleaning up the basement of the police station of humidity, water and mold is a very timely task and expensive task.

Selectman Dawson informed the Board that she spoke to Fire Chief Hayden of the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid regarding the Mutual Fire Aid. Selectman Dawson said the complaint from Northfield is that they do not have any representation on their Board. Selectman Dawson said right now Tilton and Northfield are represented by the Fire Chief of T-N Fire District. Northfield or Tilton’s governing body has the option of appointing someone else if they choose to do so. Selectman Dawson said Tilton is not treated any differently than any other member of that Mutual Fire Aid.
The Board will be attending a workshop with the Northfield Selectmen at the Northfield Town hall on Tuesday, June 28th, 2011 with the T-Fire Commissioners and the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association to discuss their services, budget and the apportionment formula they use.

Chair Consentino made a motion to go into non public session as per RSA 91:A:3 (C) matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting., and (E) consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against the body or agency or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such body or agency until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled, Selectman Plessner, yes, Selectman Dawson, yes, Selectman Boudreau, yes, Selectman Jesseman, yes, and Chair Consentino, yes.

At 9:25PM the Board resumed their regular session. At this time Selectman Boudreau made a motion to seal the minutes of the meeting as they pertain to personnel permanently, and legal issues until the matters have been resolved, seconded by Selectman Plessner. Chair Consentino, yes, Selectman Dawson, yes, Selectman Plessner, yes, Selectman Boudreau, yes, and Selectman Jesseman, yes.

Chair Consentino made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:27PM, seconded by Selectman Plessner. All were in favor.