

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2007  
HOPE TOWN OFFICE  
6:30 P.M.**

*Note: These minutes may not be considered an official public record until such time as they are read and accepted by the Board of Selectmen.*

**Board Members Present:** James Annis, Barbara Bentley, Eric Campbell, Tim Pearse, Ray Sisk

**Others Present:** Jon Duke, Richard Higgins, Jill Lang, Bill Pearse Jr., Bill Jones, Dana Daniels, John Jensen, Joe Berry.

**I. Call the Meeting to Order**

James Annis called the meeting to order at 6:40 P.M.

**II. Minutes**

**a. Minutes of the December 11, 2007 meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

Barbara Bentley moved to accept the minutes of the December 11, 2007 meeting of the Board of Selectmen with corrections. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 4-0 (Sisk absent)**

**III. Joint Session of Budget Committee**

**a. Fire Station design-build package**

The Town Administrator told the Budget Committee of how the process toward building a fire station had progressed over the past several months. The Selectmen elected to move forward with a fire station only project in the fall, and met with Richard Higgins to look at the next possible steps in the project. The Administrator spoke with area lenders and the Bond Bank and all parties felt it would be necessary for the town to go out to bid with builders to develop a firm price for voters to decide on in June. To get to the point where the project could be put out to bid, Higgins suggested the town consider hiring an architect to fully design the building or create a design-build package that would be put out for design-build teams to place a bid on. The latter option would require less upfront money and whereas the Town did not set funds aside for this purpose all funds would need to be raised at a Special Town Meeting.

If the funds were approved at the Special Town Meeting, Higgins would work with the Fire and Emergency Services Capital Planning Committee to go over previous designs, re-work the design to meet the needs of the town and site, get approval from the Selectmen, and create a booklet and brief blueprints. This work would cost just under \$12,000, while a traditional bid for architectural services would be in the neighborhood

of \$46,000. Thus the Selectmen chose to move ahead with the design-build package and place that before voters.

**Jill Lang moved to support the article. John Jensen seconded. Motion passed 5-0 to recommend.**

## **VI. New Business**

### **a. Homemakers Extension**

On December 5, 2007, the Hope Homemakers Extension voted to disband. The extension owns 6 wooden tables, approximately 40 chairs (mostly brown, some metal), a kitchen table, and a coffee percolator. Later that same day, the Extension voted to re-organize as the Mid-Coast Ladies Club, and wishes to continue meeting at the Town Office for the time being. Francina Pearse was elected President and Margaret Morse was elected treasurer of the new organization.

The club is looking for a new home and at that point they wish to take the chairs, tables, etc to their new location. This would mean that much of the meeting room furniture utilized in the library space would need to be replaced. The Administrator pledged to include funds in the coming year budget to replace this furniture.

### **b. Committee appointment – Tim Higbee**

Tim Pearse moved to appoint Tim Higbee to the Capital Planning Committee. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

### **c. Warrant Approval**

Eric Campbell made a motion to approve warrants 44, 45, and 46. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

### **d. Committee Help**

The Town Administrator noted that that a number of the town's committees are reorganizing and attempting to improve their record keeping and paper trail, however these committees are, in some cases, requiring a great deal of time and energy of him and his office. Additional secretarial help was discussed, as was the suggestion for these committees to do more of the work themselves rather than ask that office for assistance. The Administrator suggested bringing the chairs of the committees in and discussing ways in which the processes with which they operate can be streamlined and improved to aid the significant amount of clerical assistance required.

## **VII. Adjournment**

Barbara Bentley made a motion to adjourn at 9:07pm. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**