

**Call to Order:** Chairman Robert Manners called the Select Board meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Other members present: Joe Judd and John Payne.

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Joe moved and John seconded a motion to accept the minutes of March 11, 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

**Noteworthy News:** At the request of the town clerk, Bob reminded all dog owners that all dogs 6 months and older must be registered with the town clerk annually by March 31<sup>st</sup> to avoid a late fee. Documentation includes a current rabies certificate and a spay/neuter certificate (new this year.) The new dog officer is quite energetic and dog owners who fail to register their dogs on time should expect active enforcement. Dog tags are particularly important to assist the dog officer in identifying the owner of any missing dog he may find.

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, the Shelburne Grange will sponsor a public forum for citizens to discuss areas of interest. Topics will likely include the following:

1. A review of the Town Meeting Warrant,
  - a. Individual department budgets,
  - b. Planning Board bylaw proposal
2. Discussion on the Glacial Potholes project,
3. Pratt / Arms roof fund drive,
4. Candidates for public office will have a chance to discuss their platforms and respond to questions.

**Department Reports:**

John had nothing new to report either on Police or FRCOG.

Joe: Highway is hopeful we have seen the last winter storm for this spring;  
With the SFABA and Buckland, Joe continues to develop a film permit proposal;  
The Sidewalk permit should be in final form shortly;  
Senior Center – talking daily, running smoothly, budget request without Friends Support;

Bob: Town hall, no issues;  
Pratt Memorial Library – RFQ due from architects on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Appointments:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Cowell Mold Remediation – Covino Environmental has completed its analysis and reports that Cowell is 100% free of mold. Air quality is “perfect.” A report will follow. Also, Joe believes the electrical repairs are now complete and he expects to authorize release of the payment, which had been held back. The next step is to begin discussions on the best use of the Cowell space, particularly the ground floor, and the upstairs area.
2. Cowell Floor Restoration – Joe presented the 3 quotes he has received
  - a. American Sports Floors \$ 13,048
  - b. Dion \$ 6,600
  - c. Smith \$ 2,660

Regarding the significant differences in the quotes, Joe noted that American Sports quote involves a far more extensive refurbishing than is necessary while the Smith quote involves only minor floor repair and only two resurfacing coats. Dion's quote proposes the appropriate level of flooring board repair and resurfacing. After further discussion, Joe moved and John 2<sup>nd</sup> a motion to accept the Dion bid at \$6,600. The motion passed unanimously. Funds will come from the Cowell Restoration Fund.

The wall mats at either end that protect over exuberant basketball players from serious mishaps when driving to the basket are in poor condition and need to be replaced. Emily is obtaining quotes and Joe hopes to present a request at the next meeting.

3. Glacial Potholes project – Jessie Ledic of National Heritage met with Joe to discuss the steps necessary to receive approval; the endangered insect is a member of the dragon fly family and as the spring progresses will emerge for study and evaluation. The town should hire a biologist to prepare a report describing the impact of the Potholes Project on the dragon fly (Ledic suggested 3 biologists whose work would be acceptable to National Heritage.)

The endangered tree is a Mountain Alder, but it is not clear yet what steps the Pothole Project should take to protect the Alder.

The National Heritage application will cost \$300.00.

4. Street Vender Permitting: As mentioned above, Joe's proposal is in the final draft.
5. Wired West: Wired West has submitted a new draft letter for the town to express interest in WW's services but not formally committing to buy the services until we see a full pricing and services package. On a motion by John, seconded by Joe, members unanimously approved signing the letter expressing an interest in using Wired West's services.
6. Cabot Risk Quote: As previously reported, Joe noted that the town's existing insurance already provides \$10,000 in benefits for individuals injured while performing volunteer work for the town. This coverage could be increase to \$25,000 for an additional \$400 premium. The coverage includes an accidental death benefit and can supplement an individual's existing coverage as necessary. Maximum coverage in case of multiple claims is \$500,000. Joe will seek a formal proposal from Cabot to present to the Board.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. FY '14 Budget and Town Meeting Warrant –
  - a. Members discussed the merits of proposing a new dump truck on this year's warrant. The highway department will need a new truck within the next few years. Cost is estimated at \$150,000 +, a significant portion of which can come from Chapter 90 funds. The current Chapter 90 program runs for another 3 years, and while the program is likely to be renewed, in the current fiscal climate, nothing is assured. If the town could purchase the truck now on a 3-year lease structure, with about \$50,000 each year coming from the \$210,000 projected annual Chapter 90 funds, then the town would not run the risk, in the event the Chapter 90 program is canceled, of having to meet the final lease payment from town funds. Alternatively, Highway considers the \$34,000 pick up truck more critical for the near term, believes asking for two trucks in one year is over-reaching, and expects total cancellation of the Chapter 90 program is unlikely.

- b. Article 6 – the Omnibus: Members deferred detail discussion until they are able to review the Budget Overview sheet;
  - c. Article 7 – MTRSD capital request: Members expressed strong concern about the \$85,000 increase in the basic MTRSD account, even to the point of recommended denying the school budget. The earlier proposal, which involved only a \$70,000 increase, was more palatable.
  - d. Article 8 – Ozro Miller: Joe;
  - e. Article 9 – third police officer: John;
  - f. Article 10 – Cowell User Fee: Joe;
  - g. Article 11 – Roof replacement: Bob;
  - h. Article 12 – Vehicle replacement: Bob;
  - i. Article 13 – Pickup truck Joe, make be withdrawn, depending on budget totals;
  - j. Article 14 – Plow Joe;
  - k. Article 15 – Voting booths Bev;
  - l. Article 16 – Voting Machine - defer until next year;
  - m. Article 17 – Computer equipment Bob;
  - n. Article 18 – Copier for Town Hall Bob;
  - o. Article 19 – Pratt roof project Bob, maybe structure as matching required;
  - p. Article 20 - 23 – Sewer related Defer to Maureen;
  - q. Article 24 – Tree care Tree Committee
  - r. Article 25 – Tree replacement Tree Committee
  - s. Article 26 – Revolving Funds John;
  - t. Article 27 – Wind Moratorium extension Planning Board
  - u. Article 28 – By law revisions Planning Board
  - v. Article 29 – Cell town revisions Planning (or Zoning)
  - w. Article 30 & 31 – may be withdrawn Planning
2. Agricultural Commission – Christine Dwight has expressed interest in serving on the Agricultural Commission. She submitted a letter describing her experience in agriculture. She appears to be a strong candidate. The Board will review openings on the committee.
3. The GSFABA has requested a one-day liquor license for its benefit auction on April 6 at the Buckland - Shelburne Community Center. BBC will be offering some of its extensive array of beers for sampling. Joe made a motion to approve the request, subject to proof of insurance; John seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
4. MTRSD Long Range Planning Committee – No action taken, Bob to consider for next meeting.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

National Grid has advised that it will be performing vegetation control along its lines in the northeast section of town.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Joe presented a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. John seconded the motion, which passed uncontested.

John Payne  
Clerk pro tempore