

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
December 14, 2009
MINUTES**

Call to Order:

5:30pm Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Stephen R. Barry called the Meeting to Order.

Roll Call:

Present: Stephen R. Barry Chairman; R. Andrew Robertson Vice Chairman; John Reagan, Walter Hooker and Alan O'Neal, Selectmen

Also Present: Cynthia Heon, Town Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:

Chairman Barry asked all those present to rise for the pledge of allegiance to the Flag.

Citizen's Comments:

- Harriet Cady/Start Time of Selectmen's Meetings

Mrs. Cady delivered a message from Marcel Riel, a resident, who would prefer the meetings begin at 7pm and not 5:30pm. This would enable more residents to attend the meetings.

- George Treantafel/Road Conditions-School Bus Accident

Mr. Treantafel, of 57 Hartford Brook Road, came before the Selectmen to discuss an accident that occurred today due to icy roads and involved the school bus his son was riding on. Seven minutes after the accident a sander arrived and covered a small icy area with sand but then ran out of sand. Someone else used speedy dry to make the area safe for the children.

Mr. Treantafel had a conversation with the Highway Agent but in his opinion all he got was excuses; (1) The Police Department didn't call to tell the Highway Department it was icy. (2) The weather reports didn't say it was freezing. (3) When the plows and sanders finished around 10pm, the roads were wet and watery. He went on to explain that he drove a truck for a living and knew how fast road conditions can change. If there are no vehicles on the road it will freeze quicker than if there is a lot of traffic.

He did not believe the Police Department should tell the Highway Agent when the roads need to be sanded. The Police Department works for the Town to protect and serve and enforce the laws. The Highway Agent is the person in charge of the highways and should make the decision on maintaining the roads. Mr. Treantafel could envision the Police Department giving the Highway Department a courtesy call or report that conditions may have worsened. If the Police Department is going to monitor the roads, he suggested the Selectmen integrate the departments and not have a Highway Agent.

Mr. Treantafel was made aware the sanding started at 7am well after the high school buses were already on the road. More emphasis should be on safety and less on excuses. He thought perhaps policy or protocol should be reviewed as a neighboring town and the State reacted differently.

Chairman Barry was interested in hearing all sides before offering comment. He didn't have first hand experience about the bus accident but knew there were a lot of upset parents.

Mr. Treantafel indicated Mrs. Heon did offer an appointment with all present but he chose to convey this information to the Selectmen sooner rather than wait.

Chairman Barry requested that the Highway Agent and Police Chief come to the Board in two weeks and in the meantime file a report on the incident. As Chairman Barry drives a truck for a living, he could report that he did not see State trucks on Routes 107, 4 or I-93 between the hours of midnight to 2am, which was when he was on New Hampshire roads.

Opening of Bids/Revaluation:

Chairman Barry read the Invitation to Bid and the noted where the notice was posted. He added it was published in two newspapers, on the Town Website and in The Forum. Requests for Proposals (RFP's) were mailed and e-mailed to a number of assessing firms.

The bids were opened and read as follows:

1. Brett S. Purvis & Associates, Inc. Sanbornville, NH
Complete Revaluation and General Assessing \$113,400
(It was noted that the numbers for the revaluation and general assessing appeared to be backwards;
General Assessing \$76,600-the Revaluation \$37,800)
2. Avitar Associates of N. E., Inc. Chichester, NH
Revaluation and 5-year General Assessing \$149,500
3. Vision Appraisal Northboro, MA
(Declined to submit a bid because they would have difficulty completing the project using the
Town's current CAMA software.)
4. J. F. Ryan Associates, Inc. Newburyport, MA
Revaluation \$183,000
5. Cross Country Appraisal Group, LLC Concord, NH
Revaluation \$149,000
6. Municipal Resources, Inc. Meredith, NH
Revaluation \$176,800
General Assessing \$28,800 per year

Vice Chairman Robertson suggested that the Selectmen each take a copy of the individual proposals to review. A copy will be on file in the Office. Selectman Hooker was asked, by the Board, to review the proposals and return to the next meeting with a recommendation. Selectman Hooker indicated he would not be at the December 28th meeting but would provide a written recommendation.

Parks and Recreation Department/Bicentennial Drainage Project/Quotes:

The appointment cancelled for this evening.

NCICS (Charter School)/Follow-up:

Present: Janet Carpenter, Larry Graykin and Diane St. Jean
Also Present: Fire Chief, Mark Tibbetts; Bill Clark, State Fire Marshall's Office

Chairman Barry was interested in knowing if the group had looked at the rooms in the G. B. White Building and if they were still interested in renting the space. He read correspondence from Fire Chief, Mark Tibbetts which listed the following: (1) A sprinkler system would have to be installed in the entire building. (2) The classrooms would have to be brought into compliance with the fire code. (3) Tenants and customers would not be allowed in the hallways for security reasons. (4) A handicap bathroom is to be installed.

Chief Tibbetts explained that depending on how the space is used it would determine what would have to be accomplished to meet fire code. An engineering study would be required to classify what type of use the building would see and ultimately if the sprinkler would be needed. It was thought the Building Inspector would require a sprinkler system as well.

Chairman Barry thought hiring an engineer, to learn what needs to be done, would be costly and the cost of heating the Town Hall is substantial. Selectman Hooker added the rental income would be nice but the proposal did not make sense.

Selectman O'Neal could see the need for a water pump to use in conjunction with the sprinkler system. His concern was the additional operating expenses may be high and they can't come from the Town.

When the subject of people not being free to move in the hallways came up, Selectman Reagan commented that he did not understand why that would be a problem because there have been toddlers running around down there. Chief Tibbetts informed everyone the key is this is a new school and the process starts over.

Vice Chairman Robertson pointed out the difference is that the business in the building was a private business and this proposal is a public school which, to his understanding, falls under the requirements of the State Safety Code. Vice Chairman Robertson spoke of the talk of wrecking the building, to the Board not wanting to rent the space, to allowing the Parks and Recreation Department to use the space and now suddenly considering renting the space. He was comfortable the Town using the space and did not see the need to rent it.

Chairman Barry wondered what the costs would be for the Charter School. Vice Chairman Robertson didn't want to lead the charge opening the belief the Charter School could rent the space when there is a real good chance the space would not be rented. Chairman Barry reminded everyone the Board asked the group to come back in two weeks when the proposal would be reconsidered.

MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made a motion not to rent the space to the Charter School.
Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

Discussion: Selectman O'Neal stated that, based on the information the Board has, the project could not go forward because there would be no return on this investment. The group may want to investigate the costs but he would not want to lead them on that the proposal would be accepted, when it may be denied.

Selectman Reagan questioned why the after school program is permissible. Chairman Barry thought it might be because it is not an official school of the Town but more a school business. Selectman O'Neal questioned whether the Parks and Recreation program could legally occupy the space.

Janet Carpenter explained the Charter School is a public school in terms of any child in Deerfield can attend without charge. While the Charter School may have to follow the rules and regulations public schools follow, the State is looking at making changes.

Bill Clark of the State Fire Marshalls Office did not want to be put on the spot but stated the fact that nothing could be decided about the requirements until an assessment of the entity requesting the license was done. A school is subject to the N. H. State Fire Codes and occupants and visitor safety is considered. The assessment of the space covers the intended use and program structure outlined for the space and is a third party assessment, objective and based on facts. Once the assessment is done, the information is examined, analyzed and then submitted to the State Fire Marshall's Office.

Based on the opinions brought to the Board, Chairman Barry indicated that the assessment that is required could not be funded as there was no money for a survey and engineering report. Chairman Barry thought if the leg work was done, the "t's" crossed and "i's" dotted, then the Selectmen could base their decision on the report and the Fire Chief's recommendation.

To Selectman Hooker, decisions made regarding the Charter School, or any use of the building, even the Town's after school program, should be based on the facts. The Board does not have funds to cover the

expenses associated with placing the school in the building. It is an incomplete application in terms of debits and credits where expenses exceed income to the Town. There is not enough information to say yes or no.

Larry Graykin commented the group needs to find an answer to the questions and locate where the information can be obtained.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote on the motion not to rent the space to the Charter School. It was a Vote in Favor Yes-4 No-1.

Chairman Barry stated the group was free to gather more information and perhaps things could change based on new information.

Regular Business:

1. Review of Outstanding Minutes/November 30, 2009

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to approve the Minutes of November 30th as written. Seconded by Selectman Alan O'Neal.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor. The Minutes of November 30, 2009 stand approved as written.

2. Vouchers

Payroll Manifest/\$46,704.45

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to approve the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$46,704.45. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

Accounts Payable Manifests/\$249,717.03 and \$277,670.02-Total: \$527,387.05

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Manifests totaling \$527,387.05.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

3. Signatures

A. Release Deeds

Chairman Barry brought forward two Release Deeds for signature by the Board of Selectmen. By signing the deeds the Town would be relinquishing ownership in the properties for Map 410 Lot 031, Daniel Lamy and Map 411 Lot 001, William Farley.

MOTION: Selectman Walter Hooker made a motion the Board signs the two Release Deeds as presented for Map 410 Lot 031, Daniel Lamy and Map 411 Lot 001, William Farley.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor. The Release Deeds were signed.

1. Intent to Cut/Daniel Lamy/Map 410 Lot 031

Selectman Hooker recalled the Selectmen previously signed an Intent to Cut for Daniel Lamy which would allow Mr. Lamy to begin the timber operation. Chairman Barry added Mr. Lamy opted not to start work until the Release Deed was signed.

B. Letter/Deerfield Volunteer Fire Association/Officers and Members

C. Letter/Deerfield Rescue Squad/Officers and Members

D. Veteran's Tax Credit/Map 415 Lot 027/Vicki Martin and Richard Martin
MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made a motion to grant a Veterans Tax Credit for Map 415 Lot 027, Vicki Martin and Richard Martin. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

E. Abatements
1. Map 405 Lot 097/Deborah and Robert Neil Harvey
Reason: Interior Inspection performed and data corrections entered.
MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to grant the abatement request for Map 405 Lot 097, Deborah and Robert Neil Harvey. Seconded by Selectman Walter Hooker.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

2. Map 424 Lot 093 Sub Lot 006/Robert Hinkson
Reason: Interior Inspection performed and data corrections entered.
MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to grant the abatement request for Map 424 Lot 093 Sub Lot 006, Robert Hinkson. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

3. Map 409 Lot 046/V. Nichols Butterfield and Charles D. Butterfield
Reason: Interior inspection performed and data corrections entered.
MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made a motion to grant the abatement request for Map 409 Lot 046, V. Nichols Butterfield and Charles D. Butterfield. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

4. Map 401 Lot 012/Ronald and Linda Royer
Reason: Correction to sketch showing Open Porch to a Patio
MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made a motion to grant the abatement request for Map 401 Lot 012, Ronald and Linda Royer. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

F. Refund Requests/Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office/2nd Half 2009 Property Taxes

Alice Carbonneau	\$ 43	Servicelink	\$ 644
US Bancorp Service	\$3,480	Provident Funding Assoc.	\$ 8.32
Emigrant Mortgage	\$ 296.80	Loan Administration	\$ 820.85
Chase Home Finance	\$ 125.00	Dovenmuehle Mortgage	\$ 55.86
Chase Home Finance	\$2,390.53	INDYMAC Bank	\$2,990.47
BAC Tax Service	\$ 145.06	Market Street Settlement Group	\$ 40

MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to grant the refund requests as previously read. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

G. 2009 Equalization Municipal Assessment Data Sheets Certificate
MOTION: Selectman Walter Hooker made a motion the Selectmen sign the 2009 Equalization Certificate. Seconded by Selectmen John Reagan.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

H. Land Use Change Tax Warrant/\$8,000

Map 201 Lot 005 Sub Lot 001/Weiler William R. and Weiler Edith C
MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to sign the Land Use Change Tax Warrant in the amount of \$8,000. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.
VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

4. Review of Correspondence
Note: Memo/Fire Chief, Mark Tibbetts/This memo was addressed previously.

A. Impact Fees/Distribution
MOTION: Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson made a motion to disburse, to the school, \$6,169.35 collected as of June, retaining 5% in case of appeals. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan.
VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

B. New Hampshire Legal Assistance/91-A Request
New Hampshire Legal Assistance requested copies of the Workforce Housing Ordinances or Regulations under 91-A and any drafts of things to be considered. The Selectmen asked the request be forwarded to the Planning Board.

C. Letter/Chief of Police, Michael Greeley/Re: Space Request
The request of Chief Greeley to use one of the vacant rooms downstairs, and give up two other rooms the Police Department currently occupies, was back before the Selectmen. Chairman Barry was not sure of what the room was to be used for or why the space was required. Selectman O'Neal was concerned about what expenses might be incurred. Selectman Hooker found it difficult to believe no expense would be involved if equipment and computer lines are involved. Chief Greeley will be asked to attend the next meeting with a detailed plan and a list of expenses.

D. Request for Use of Town Hall/Deerfield School Board
The School Board requested the use of the Town Hall on February 6th for the School Deliberative Session. The Board granted permission for the use of the Town Hall on February 6th.

E. Deerfield Conservation Commission (DCC)/2010 Budget Request
The DCC requested the \$44 taken from postage line be returned to the DCC Budget. The Board reviewed the information and agreed that they voted on the budget, as presented, which was minus the \$44 in the postage line. The Board was in agreement no other action will be taken.

F. 2009 Town Report/Quote Award
Chairman Barry read a memo from Steve Jamele, IT Administrator. Mr. Jamele reviewed all quotes and chose Proforma who will be printing the Town Report at a cost of \$4.66 per book.

G. E-Mail/Jack Mettee/Re: Workforce Housing Fact Sheets
Mr. Mettee asked the Board to review the facts sheets on Workforce Housing to be sure they were factual, educational and did not advocate anything. The Board found the fact sheets to be in order. To assure less confusion among residents, the Board asked that it be clearly stated that the official Workforce Housing Ordinance had not yet been passed by the voters.

H. 2010 Education Tax Warrant/Department of Revenue Administrator/\$1,222,426

I. State of NH Department of Environmental Services/Grant Award/Used Oil/\$2,200

5. 2010 Town Operating Budget Follow-up

Chairman Barry recapped some of the things that were touched on during the presentation of the Town Budget to the Municipal Budget Committee (MBC); Money was added to the MBC Part Time Employee Line; the Highway Safety Budget was cut; the Librarian was given a raise.

Chairman Barry agreed with the Librarian's raise, in spirit, but the Board made a decision to not give any raises and he believed their decision should stand. Chairman Barry recommended the Selectmen not do anything with the Town's Operating Budget but continue on with the budget as presented.

Selectman Hooker did not see any reason to change the lines within the operating budget but did have one area on the Warrant he wanted to discuss.

Selectman O'Neal was confused by the Library increase and the perceived philosophy of the Board of Selectmen in terms of what was done by the Board regarding the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's position. A study was done of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's position and it was found the position was grossly underpaid. Now, a study about the Librarian's position is being discussed which would seem to fall into the same category of a wage adjustment. If it had come forward that way, during the budget process, the Board might have done something differently.

Selectman Hooker pointed out the Library Trustees had the salaries included with everything else but the wage scale adjustment wasn't done.

Chairman Barry found part of the problem to be that the Board did not address wage adjustments until part way through the budget process. Wages should have been addressed at the beginning of the process.

Vice Chairman Robertson agreed with Selectman O'Neal in that the Selectmen should adjust the budget and not develop a trend of second guessing what employees should be paid. Selectman Reagan favored the idea but didn't see how it could get done at this time.

6. 2010 Warrant Articles Follow-up

Chairman Barry outlined the action taken by the MBC whereby a number of Warrant Articles were tabled. New information, just received, indicates that reducing the operating budget, by the action of a Warrant Article, cannot be done. The last line, in the Highway Department options, will be deleted.

A. Highway Department Truck Options I, II and Used Truck

Chairman Barry favored dropping the Highway Department Warrant Article for the lease vehicle. He pointed out one highway truck is 15 years old. Selectman Reagan commented that stating the ages of the vehicles is good information for the voters to have.

MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made a motion to remove Option II for the lease purchase of a Highway Department Truck. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Vote in Favor.

Selectman Hooker brought up the Highway Department Equipment Line and wanting to either create another option or reduce the line to \$34,999 or a Warrant Article to purchase a used truck for \$35,000. Chairman Barry preferred to leave the money in the budget and publicly state that if the new truck is not supported the Town will purchase a used truck. Discussion returned to the age of the Highway Department vehicles and what purchasing a used vehicle could mean in terms of how long the vehicle would hold up.

Chairman Barry commented that if one or the other options did not pass the Highway Department would still need a vehicle. Selectman O'Neal questioned whether or not \$35,000 would cover a good used truck. Chairman Barry said the truck in the Warrant Article is brand new and completely outfitted. Selectman

O'Neal suggested establishing a Capital Reserve Account. Vice Chairman Robertson recalled a fair amount of debate over the years on Capital Reserve Accounts with the thought that sitting on the money was not the way to go because people move away and the expenses should be borne by those who live in Town.

MOTION: Selectman Walter Hooker moved to reduce the Highway Equipment line from \$35,000 to \$1 and add a Warrant Article to purchase a used truck. Seconded by Selectman Alan O'Neal.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Vote in the Negative Yes-2 No-3. The motion fails.

Selectman Hooker did not favor leaving \$35,000 in the budget because the funding would have to be raised through taxes even if it is not used. Selectman Reagan said there is no option according to the Department of Revenue. Chairman Barry stated that if the new truck passed, and the \$35,000 was within the budget, a statement would be issued by the Board that the \$35,000 would not be touched by the Department Head or anyone else.

B. Revaluation

Selectman O'Neal asked if any action would be taken to reduce the Contract Appraiser Line because of the bid amounts the Board has seen.

MOTION: Selectman O'Neal made a motion to reduce the Contract Appraiser Line by \$25,000. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

Discussion: Selectman Hooker didn't think the dollar amount was firm yet and suggesting waiting until the Public Hearing before making a change in this line.

MOTION WITHDRAWN:

Selectman O'Neal, maker of the motion, withdrew the motion. Vice Chairman Robertson withdrew the second to the motion.

C. Emergency Management /Generator

Chairman Barry said he has been made aware there is too much conflicting information regarding prices for the generator and the installation.

MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made a motion to pull the Warrant Article for a generator for the G. B. White Building. Seconded by Selectman Walter Hooker.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. The vote was Unanimous in Favor.

D. Equipment/Live Broadcast.

The total cost of the equipment, to produce a live broadcast, was estimated to be \$12,000 to \$14,000. There was some discussion on how worthwhile the project would be if not all residents subscribed to Metrocast Cablevision.

Selectman O'Neal said the key point is the channel could be used for more than just Selectmen's Meetings. Any meeting held in the Conference Room, emergency broadcasts, sporting events or the Old Home Day Parade could be broadcast. There was a question as to whether broadcasting off a CD was possible.

If this equipment were purchased, Selectman Hooker suggested all boards, committees and commissions meet in this room. Another plus is that residents will know when the meetings come on versus random broadcasts.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Robertson made a motion to increase the Warrant Article for broadcasting equipment, for the live broadcast, to \$14,000. Seconded by Selectman Walter Hooker.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

E. Reverse 911

With the information that the Legislature will be voting on, Reverse 911 statewide, on January 6th, Chairman Barry suggested this article be pulled.

MOTION: Selectman John Reagan made a motion to pull the Reverse 911 Warrant Article. Seconded by Selectman Walter Hooker.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

F. Revolving Fund/Warrant Article/Details

There are several different ways to word the Revolving Fund Warrant Article. There was discussion of which method worked best, having just the wages in the revolving fund, only fees for direct or indirect expense associated with details, moving funds quarterly. Selectman Hooker was asked to prepare a draft of how the Warrant Article would read and run it past DRA and Town Counsel.

Vice Chairman Robertson stated the intention was not to buy equipment out of the fund. This year of the \$35,000 appropriated for special details, \$65,000 was spent causing the Board to look for the money in the budget. This has happened in the past. Selectman O'Neal said if all the direct and indirect expenses are covered, and there are any funds left, those funds could offset the expense of retirement and cruiser costs.

7. Town Administrator's Report

A. December 24th/Work Schedule

Employees have asked if there would be any adjustment to the work day on December 24th. In particular, the Transfer Station who would like to adjust their hours and begin at 7am. Lenny Mandigo thought it would be better to coordinate the hours. The Board was in agreement to close Town facilities at noon on December 24th. The Transfer Station will open at 7am and close at noon to afford more of an opportunity for the taxpayers. Signage, posting and publishing will be done.

B. Preferred Vendors

Several Department Heads have asked whether or not preferred vendors, for mechanical work, would be chosen via the bid process again this year. The Board was in agreement the preferred vendors are established and there will be no bid process, or change, at this time.

C. Citizen's Forum/Revaluation Process

Once the vendor is chosen, a date will be set for a Citizen's Forum, which will be scheduled and facilitated by the DRA.

8. Old Business

A. Fire Truck Repairs/Pump

MOTION: Selectman Alan O'Neal made a motion to pay the remainder due for the fire truck repairs. Seconded by Vice Chairman R. Andrew Robertson.

Discussion: Selectman O'Neal thought the Town Budget could support the expense at this time. The Fire Chief will be asked for an invoice.

VOTE: Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor.

B. Schedule Meeting/Police Department and Highway Department

Selectman O'Neal suggested scheduling a meeting for the Police Department and the Highway Department to learn more about the policy of call-out for sanding and salting. Chairman Barry indicated that once the Highway Department and Police Department comment on what happened this morning, the Board would

know better how to proceed. According to Chairman Barry, tradition has been if the Police Department knows it is getting icy they call the Highway Department.

While reading the reports will be helpful, Selectman O'Neal still thought knowing if there is a call-out policy and what it is would be helpful. Selectman O'Neal's belief was the Police Department should make some calls but it is not fully their responsibility to warn of icy roads.

Selectman Hooker asked what the Highway Agent's policy was for postponing or closing school. Chairman Barry believed that the Highway Agent gets up early, looks at the road around 5am, surveys the weather and road conditions, then makes a decision. Selectman O'Neal said, to that point, how does that affect high school buses rolling around 5am. Drawing on past experience, Chairman Barry said Dail Transportation also makes a call as to whether or not they are going to put buses on the road and Dail communicates that decision to the Highway Agent.

Speaking to policy, Vice Chairman Robertson recalled Mr. Cote having a written policy on call-outs for the Highway Department employees. Chairman Barry added that if there was a policy involving the Police Department, the problem still exists that the Duty Officer may not see a certain road and that would not be the Officers fault. It is part of the process but not the whole process.

Reports will be requested from the Chief of Police and the Highway Agent and will be placed in the Selectmen's file for review.

6:58pm Chairman of the Board, Stephen R. Barry, recessed the Selectmen's Meeting for the purpose of holding a Public Hearing on making Candia road, a one-way road from November to April.

7:33pm Chairman of the Board, Stephen R. Barry, reconvened the Selectmen's Meeting.

Candia Road/One Way November to April:

Selectman Hooker offered the idea that the concept of Candia Road being one-way from November to April could be tried. Selectman O'Neal and Vice Chairman Robertson thought it would be difficult for the Highway Agent to plow. The direction of plowing was determined as down the hill because of concern of what would happen when the plow truck met vehicles if they were plowing uphill.

Chairman Barry suggested a section of Candia Road, from 67 to 91, be one-way traffic from November to April. Vice Chairman Robertson didn't think that change was appropriate, at this time, and a plan including more detail should be provided. It seemed to Chairman Barry the Board did not favor this change until a more detailed plan is presented.

MOTION: Selectman Walter Hooker made a motion that Candia Road be a one-way road from 67 to 91 and that the Board enact that proposal. Seconded by Selectman Alan O'Neal.

VOTE: It was a Vote in the Negative Yes -1 No-4. The motion fails.

Citizen's Comments:

- Candia Road Resident/Signage

A resident suggested signage could be one-way signs on either end, no winter travel signs, or travel at your own risk signs. The Board said that could not be done as it was a Town maintained road. Vice Chairman Robertson said signage could say "local use only". Chairman Barry said the Highway Agent and the Police Chief could look into the possibility of signage but pointed out Candia Road has been there a lot longer than all of us.

A resident added that those who live on the road take into account bad weather conditions when they decide to travel Candia Road and typically take the path of least resistance.

- Harriet Cady/Tax Refunds

Mrs. Cady requested that someone notify the mortgage companies about all the refunds so the taxpayers will not pay more on their mortgage payment. Chairman Barry indicated the Tax Collector would be made aware of this request and would also ask for the Tax Collector's input.

- Maureen Mann/Librarian's Wage Increase

Mrs. Mann understood there were to be no raises which led to confusion when the Board a few weeks later spoke about wage adjustments but there was no wage adjustment for the Librarian. The Librarian, Evelyn DeCota, has given the Town 27 years and the Board provided a wage adjustment to someone who just started in March knowing what the salary would be at the time yet the Board chose to bring that individual in line with other positions. The point being made, by the Board, again, there were to be no raises. Mrs. Mann requested due consideration for someone who has worked for the Town for some time and is not up to the standard salary in comparison to other communities. While Mrs. Mann understood the Board's explanation, she did not find a change of rules, in the middle of the process, appropriate.

Adjournment

7:41pm

Selectman Walter Hooker made a motion to Adjourn. Seconded by Selectman John Reagan. Chairman Barry called for the Vote. It was a Unanimous Vote in Favor. The December 14, 2009 meeting of the Board of Selectmen is adjourned.