

**Selectman Meeting
Minutes
June 19, 2013**

Selectman Connolly, Selectman Sargent, Selectman LeBlanc, Selectman Dickhaut and Chairman Dziokonski were in attendance. Attendees were Town Administrator Ward and Town Solicitor Gibbons. Chairman Dziokonski opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

Review of Minutes

The board received minutes from May 8, 2013 Selectmen's Meeting, for review and approval. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Liquor License Change of Manager – Clinton Post VFW # 523

Chairman Dziokonski opened the hearing for the change of manager request made by the Clinton VFW Post #523; he invited applicants to come forward before the board. Christine Grant was introduced as the new manager. Chairman Dziokonski opened the discussion up to the board for questions. There were none. He opened the hearing for public comment. There was none. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve the change of manager as requested. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The board wished Ms. Grant good luck with her new position.

Water Bill Abatements- Superintendent McGown

Superintendent of the DPW Chris McGown was before the board regarding a hearing of water bill abatements as presented. Mr. McGown reviewed he received requests that were beyond the normal abatement regulations.

61-67 Clark Street

Mr. McGown explained this is a four family home and needs Selectmen approval for abatement. Property owner Cynthia Burell was before the board. Ms. Burell explained this is a rental property and she wasn't aware there was a problem until she received the bill. She was unable to get into the apartment until recently and discovered it was a leaky toilet. Mr. McGown agreed it is your typical leaky toilet but the regulations do not allow for him to grant abatement to a four family multi unit home. Selectman Dickhaut asked if the toilet is repaired. Ms. Burell stated yes it was repaired as soon as she was made aware. Mr. McGown explained there may be some overage on the next bill as well. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to approve the abatement as presented. Selectman Sargent made a motion to approve the abatement as presented including the upcoming bill. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Mr.

McGown explained the standard abatement policy will be used and the bill abated according to the history of use. The vote was unanimous.

731 Main Street

Ms. Dardone was before the board explaining she is the property owner and there was a broken pipe she was unaware of until she was contacted by her tenant. Mr. McGown explained the usage for this property varies. There are commercial businesses at the location and the usage can be from 4 or 5 thousand cubic feet to 25 thousand cubic feet. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to grant the water usage abatement to 731 Main Street. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

4 Gorham Avenue

Mr. Raymind Safi was before the board regarding the multi unit apartment building he owns at 4 Gorham Avenue. Mr. Safi explained it was determined there was a broken pipe and as soon as it was found he repaired it. The problem was unknown to him until the tenants reported the issue. Since purchasing the complex he has updated all of the fixtures. He has since learned the pipe he replaced had been repaired, with a patch twice by the previous owner. Mr. McGown reviewed the usage history with the board. Selectman Connolly made a motion to grant the abatement based on the policy to determine the average usage for property. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Fire Union Safety Committee- Radio Communications Discussion

Fire Department Safety Committee Greg Nelson, Jeff Sivert, Dustin Whitaker and Mike Cislauk were before the board regarding the radio communications. Chairman Dzikonski welcomed the safety committee, he reviewed the board would like an opportunity to speak with the consultant Mr. Hart who presented the town with a report on the communication system the department. Chairman Dzikonski explained he reread the report and it is his understanding there are many recommendations and several options but doesn't pinpoint the overall needed repairs. Mr. Sivert explained there are two different frequencies being used at this time for mutual aid; some communities have changed to the 400 band. Chairman Dzikonski reviewed he isn't opposed to a long range plan to go to the new 400 band, at the last meeting the implication was made the radios are deficient and in response to the report this is needed. The report doesn't state make the change it makes several suggestions. He feels he has to defend the board and state they have acted responsible with this issue. Mr. Sivert disagreed stating the issues cannot be identified, they have tried to log when and where they are experiencing the issues and have tried but cannot replicate issues. All agreed the report doesn't state the specific complications, but the department still experienced problem over the weekend. Mr. Sivert explained a simple answer would be

to go to 400 band, and convert the Police and Fire and start new this would be a way to fix everything. Selectman Connolly stated it is a significant amount of money to invest to make this change, he expressed the board shares concerns but not sure the fix is to solve the problem is to invest \$100,000.00 or more. The Safety Committee asked for the board to prepare a bid document to solicit bids for a new system with radios for 4 different bands and each Fire Fighter receiving a radio. Chairman Dziokonski explained it is a matter of semantics; the board has no objections to gathering more information, Town Administrator Ward can research the cost of a new system prior to going out to bid. Town Administrator tried to reach consultant Jack Hart by teleconference for more information but he was unavailable. Selectman Connolly made a motion to start the process, as recommended in the consultant's report, to find a consultant to work with on a system plan and an RFP. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Dickhaut asked where will the board find the funding to purchase a new system. Mr. Nelson asked if the stabilization fund can be used. Administrator Ward explained it would require town meeting action and appropriation. Mr. Sivert explained the board should get bids. Selectman Connolly explained getting bids for a consultant to design an RFP will not solve the problem. Selectman Dickhaut explained this will fall under the category of the Finance Committee, when there is an amount you can present it to the Finance Committee for approval. The vote was unanimous. Selectman Connolly made a motion to contact the Finance Committee to review the available funding in the reserve fund to fund this project. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Solicitor Gibbons recommended the Fire Safety Committee reach out to consultant Mr. Hart and ask for a ball park estimate to have a rough amount to bring to the Finance Committee. Chairman Dziokonski invited Community & Economic Director Phil Duffy to the discussion to share the information he has researched regarding grants available. Mr. Duffy explained there is funding available through a Homeland Security Grant which would be a matching fund grant. The application open for this in August and September, and there are workshops prior to application deadline. Mr. Duffy explained it would be a good idea to bring in consultant to compose an RFP to have an understanding of the need. Selectman Connolly made a motion to encourage Mr. Duffy to aggressively pursue this grant opportunity. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. Under Discussion: The board reviewed at the next meeting a representative from the Police Department should be invited to discuss the issues and concerns with changing bands. Administrator Ward reviewed this grant is to be pursued by the Fire Department only. The vote was unanimous.

Administrative Business

Public Works Monthly Report

Superintendent of Public Works submitted a monthly report relative to the operations of his department for the month of April 2013 for the Selectmen's review and approval.

Selectman Sargent made a motion to accept the report as presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Old & New Business

Landfill Bond Anticipation Notes

Administrator Ward reviewed with the board the Treasurer is requesting the board accept the lower bidder of Unibank for savings for bond anticipation note in the amount of \$300,000.00 at 0.54% for the Landfill Recapping Project. Administrator Ward reviewed the borrowing will support the Special Town Meeting article that passed. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to approve the borrowing as presented. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Town Administrators Contract

Solicitor Gibbons reviewed with the board he has the final draft of the Town Administrators contract for the boards final approval. He discussed the only change is the compensation which will reflect the results of the Personnel Salary Study to be completed. Selectman Dickhaut made a motion to approve the contract as presented. Selectman Connolly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Employee Dental Reimbursement Request

Chairman Dzikonski reviewed the board has received a letter from a school department employee requesting reimbursement for dental expense due to the fact that her insurance plan was cancelled without authorization. Selectman Sargent made a motion to reimburse the employee the amount requested. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Selectman Connolly reviewed the board doesn't have the ability to reimburse this request. The Town Treasurer has not sent any correspondence to the board regarding this issue. It is unclear if the board has the ability to reimburse. Discussion continued and the board highlighted this is another example of you do not always get what you think with elected positions. The board reviewed there wouldn't be an account to withdraw the reimbursement from it is unclear where the funding would come from. The board reviewed this may be the first of many, they are unsure how many this issue affected, at this time they have not received any explanation from the Treasurer, who is elected and the board cannot pay his bills. There are a lot of facts regarding this issue and the Town Treasurer should explain. The vote was 1 / 4 opposition. Selectmen Dickhaut, LeBlanc, Connolly and Chairman Dzikonski opposed. Selectman Connolly made a motion for the Administrator to write a letter to the Treasurer expressing the boards concerns and respectfully asking him to correct this issue. Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Upcoming Election Reminder

Chairman Dzikonski stated he wanted to remind the registered voters of the upcoming Election on Tuesday, June 25, to elect a new Senator and to elect the local officers of the town. He wished Selectman Sargent all the best on his bid for reelection. He also thanked Selectman Dickhaut for her years of service and bid her good bye. Selectman Dickhaut thanked him for the well wishes and stated she would like to continue service to the community and hoped to be appointed to the Finance Committee she has submitted a letter of interest to the Moderator. Selectman Sargent thanked Selectman Dickhaut for her 24 years of service on the board, stating it has been an honor to serve with her. Selectman Connolly explained he has enjoyed working with Selectman Dickhaut, he felt they work very well together. Selectman Dickhaut expressed she has enjoyed serving the community and working with the current board. She would like to continue serving on the Government Reorganization Committee along with the Town Hall Renovations Committee. Chairman Dziokonski expressed interest in serving on the Government Reorganization Committee. Selectman LeBlanc made a motion to approve the request from Chairman Dzikonski request to serve on the Government Reorganization Committee. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Committee Reports

There was none.

Public Comment

Fire Fighters Safety Committee members returned before the board with a request for the board to contact FEMA and or the National Guard to request temporary coverage of the communications for the department until the issues are resolved. Selectman Connolly made a motion to inquire with FEMA/national Guard for assistance with temporary coverage of the communications system for the Fire Department. Selectman Sargent seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Selectman LeBlanc made a motion at 8:25PM to adjourn. Selectman Dickhaut seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Corbosiero
Administrative Assistant to the
Clinton Board of Selectmen