

# Town of Hampton



## TOWN OF HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN August 30, 2010 Minutes

PRESENT: Richard Nichols, Chairman  
Richard Bateman, Vice Chairman  
William Lally  
Richard Griffin  
Gerald Znoj  
Frederick Welch, Town Manager  
Mark Gearreald, Town Attorney

7:00 PM

### SALUTE TO THE FLAG

#### I. Public Comment Period

Candice would like to give a quick update on the Grist Mill. They have been reviewing the Verra surveyor plans and noticed on the east side of the property there is an area at least 40 wide by 50 deep that could be used for parking. She wonders who she should go to have this measured out and give an opinion to the Board. Mr. Welch would suggest talking with Atty. Gearreald and using the surveyor that the Town normally uses and have the area marked out. They have also had a lot of people looking at the property and in regards to the dam, they wonder if you close the spill wall behind the house to the right and put it on the west the other side of the mill. Mr. Welch commented that without a State order the Town cannot do anything. There was a discussion as to whether or not this will help with cost. They have talked to some of the abutters around the pond and they are very amenable to having any needed heavy equipment go through their property. Lastly, since there may be a hurricane soon they are asking any volunteers from the public to help pick up some of the debris on Thursday morning from trees being knocked down.

#### II. Announcements and Community Calendar

Mr. Griffin wants to remind everyone of the great time that is going to be had at the Pig Roast on Saturday.

#### III. Appointments

##### 1. Chris Muns and Jim Waddell – State Representatives and State Senatorial Debates

Mr. Chris Muns stated that Mr. Chris Nevins is here tonight on behalf of Jim Waddell. They are here tonight to see if they could once again get the support of the Board to hold a

Candidates' Debate night like they have done in the past. They would like to do the debate the week of October 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> and have it televised on Channel 22. Their preference is to have it the week of the 11<sup>th</sup> the reason being they would have more time for reruns. They would like to have it at Winnacunnet again. They are aware that there is a cost involved and they hope that either the School Board or Town will absorb the cost. If not they are sure they can come up with enough money to cover the cost. There were further details on how the debate was run in the past and would be run again. They hope to have both Representative and Senate candidates but on separate dates.

#### Discussion

Mr. Bateman commented that it would have to be coordinated with Channel 22 and with the passing of John and Brad Jett moving into the private sector there may be an over taxation on manpower and knowledge. It may be nice to do but difficult.

Chairman Nichols would suggest they talk to the Interim Chairman who is here tonight.

Mr. Griffin thinks that they might have to do it here.

Chairman Nichols thinks that it should be done on the same night but in two parts one for the Representatives and the other for the Senate candidates.

Mr. Griffin mentioned the cost and how the Board is looking to cut cost.

Mr. Lally agrees that it is a good thing and having the ability to run on Channel 22 is a great thing. There might be a little bit of a challenge finding the time with Channel 22 staff. Mr. Lally thinks that the Board needs to discuss what is happening with Channel 22 at another time.

Chairman Nichols thinks that they have the support of the Board and should talk with Channel 22.

Mr. Znoj does support this whole-heartedly and thinks it is a good thing. Hopefully it can be worked out with Channel 22. Mr. Muns went over the format of the debate again for the Board. Mr. Muns commented on how shocked he was when he returned from vacation and heard the news about John. He expressed how instrumental he was to making this debate happen last year. He thinks there is a lot we can learn in this Town from John's commitment and dedication to this Town.

## 2. John Price, DPW Director – DPW Departmental Update

Mr. Price started out with the good news and bad news. The good news being that Smuttynose is probably coming to Town the bad news being that we have a moratorium put on us by DES in reference to them saying we are at 80% capacity for the WWTP. This is a bone of contention and something we are looking at the letter came out last Thursday. There has been a moratorium put on all sewer connections from last Thursday on.

#### Discussion

Mr. Lally clarified that the moratorium on sewer connections includes everything even single-family homes. This will have an impact on everything at the beach.

Mr. Griffin wonders why this is the first time we are hearing about this and how they are always being told that we are not even near capacity. He mentioned how when we have

talked about Rye in the past and where always told that we have plenty of capacity. He needs to have this explained to him. He is dumb founded over this and wants to know how this happened.

Chairman Nichols stated that it does not make sense that we jumped from 65% to 80% like that.

Mr. Znoj wonders if this is a hard number or one that Mr. Price does not believe in and about to prove it's wrong. Mr. Price personally does not believe that we are at 80%. This is something that was brought out at a meeting with Smuttynose that he had a week ago up in Concord with 2 members of the DES staff. There was a letter sent out by DES back in October of 2009 asking for certain information. The information was not transmitted to DES only because nobody in this Town received a copy of the letter.

Mr. Griffin wants to know where the letter is stating we are at 65%. Mr. Price does not know the answer to that. Chairman Nichols does not know whether there is a letter or not but since the Infrastructure Project it has come up a number of times. In fact, when he spoke with Mr. Welch earlier today he questioned if he was remembering this wrong. Another point is that Mr. Price mentioned that we do not necessarily agree with this 80%. Chairman Nichols also mentioned that it takes a substantial amount of time to turn this around and meet all the requirements of the letter. Mr. Znoj commented that according to the letter after a minimum of one-year collection they will begin to look at it.

To Mr. Lally it looks like the bathrooms at the beach will not be able to be completed.

There was a discussion on how at one time we were approaching capacity and the work that was done to prevent this from happening. Chairman Nichols does not believe that since this has been done and the 65% number surfaced there has not been enough construction in Town to account for this drastic increase.

Mr. Znoj asked about the part of the report that mentioned that we must repair/replace the WWTP equipment that is not fully functioning. Mr. Price explained they are in the process of evaluating this and will be making some kind of a list to send to Mr. Welch. Mr. Price mentioned that it was brought up to him by someone at DES that our BOD summer is supposed to be 10,000 and it is showing 20,000. Mr. Price went into further detail about some of the testing that is done by DES and how the testing is done. He also shared some information about the flow that was coming into the plant during the March storms.

Mr. Welch read the moratorium and explained how it not only includes new construction but any change in use of existing structure. It was also discussed that the State already has permits for the construction at the beach excluding the Sea Shell but it is believed that the State will be exempt.

Chairman Nichols thinks that this definitely needs to be researched and the topic revisited.

Mr. Lally brought up the impact that this can have on the DPW budget.

Chairman Nichols would like to know if there is some sort of plan in place for interaction.

There was an additional discussion on the existing construction and whether or not the permits that have been issued will be honored.

The Board agreed that this is clearly something that will need to be discussed on a weekly basis if not sooner.

Remainder of DPW monthly report

Mr. Price explained that they continue to work on the generator for the Town Office. The work should be completed by the end of the week. Mr. Welch explained further that once DPW work is complete the interior wiring will need to be completed and should be done within the next two weeks. They hope to have the work completed and testing will be done on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### IV. Minutes of August 23, 2010. Postponed to September 13, 2010

#### V. Town Manager's Report

The State Legislature's Ground Water Commission will be meeting at 7 PM September 8, 2010 at the Brentwood Recreation Hall at 190 Route 125.

The Chief of Police has concluded his review of the commercial purchase of gas and diesel and has concluded that obtaining fuel from Hess is the process that should be followed by the Town. Pursuant to a prior instruction from the Board, we are proceeding to establish the necessary accounts so that we might purchase our municipal fuel from Hess on Route 1 at a lesser cost than we purchase from the State of New Hampshire. We will retain the ability to purchase from the State when their costs are lower than the private vendor.

We have received a late filed request from Friends of the Mounted Patrol to hold a raffle for the benefit of the Mounted Patrol at the Seafood Festival.

We have been informed by a telephone call from the State Department of Environmental Services that they have placed a total sewer connection moratorium on the Town of Hampton effective Thursday, August 26, 2010. The Town will immediately stop accepting septic pumping from locations outside of Hampton. We will keep the Board informed as we work with the State to remove the restrictions as soon as possible. One thing that is bothersome to him is that he heard on August 17<sup>th</sup> that a letter had been sent to EOC from the State stating that they would not support the necessary connection for Smuttynose. The letter had been sent a year ago but the Town did not receive a copy of the letter. They then received the letter discussed tonight on August 26<sup>th</sup>. In the time between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> the State did approve Smuttynose. This is a mess and they are working hard to resolve it.

#### Discussion

Mr. Znoj thinks the first thing to do is validate the data.

Once again, the Board agreed this cannot be resolved tonight and we need to be meeting face to face with the State.

Chairman Nichols brought up the permit for Friends of the Mounted Patrol to hold a raffle at the Seafood Festival.

Chairman Nichols MOTIONED to approve the Friends of the Mounted Patrol raffle in conjunction with the Seafood Festival. Mr. Lally SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Chairman Nichols asked about the memo from Bob Casassa about both the Primary and General Election and the need to have Selectmen present. Mr. Griffin will not be in Town for the General Election but will put in double time for the Primary. Mr. Welch stated that they will need to have someone there at all times between 7 am and 8 pm as well as someone present for the counting. The Board agreed to have Kristina put together some sort of schedule for the Primary at this time and then talk about the General Election when it gets closer.

## VI. Old Business

### 1. Dog Warrant

Chairman Nichols asked about the Dog Warrant and he did not get a copy. Mr. Welch explained that he has received the warrant from the Chief of Police. The summary of the report is as follows 504 dogs were on the original warrant with only 70 dogs remain unregistered. Of the 70 20 owners have identified and notified of the violations pending for failing to register their dogs pursuant to NH law and the 50 remaining individuals have not responded to a certified letter, phone calls or home visits from the Animal Control Officer and a Police Officer. The Animal Control Officer will continue to bring these individuals into compliance with NH law. The Department may file in Hampton District Court warrants for violations for individuals who fail to come into compliance. There are a number of individuals who have multiple year violations.

### Other Old Business

Mr. Griffin asked for an update on Brad Jett and whether or not he is still going to be working for the Town or if there is going to be a need for restructuring.

Mr. Bateman explained that Brad Jett has a contract for "x" number of hours and works well beyond this number. This time might not be available to him anymore however he will finish what is contracted for. Mr. Bateman does not know when the contract runs out and this is something that we do need to find out.

Mr. Griffin thinks that if there is going to be a shortage that we need to only tape meetings like this one and not things like football games. He knows people like to watch the other things but if there is a shortage this is what needs to be done. Mr. Znoj agrees with Rick. Brian McCain commented to the Board that Brad has no intention of leaving the work he does for Channel 22. Mr. Lally and Mr. Griffin both agree that the Board needs to be kept informed of what is happening with Channel 22 and to make sure that things continue to run smoothly.

Mr. Griffin explained that he was approached this week by a condo owner and proceeded to talk to other condo owners in regards to inspections of fire suppression. One particular condo owner is charged \$150 a year for this inspection. Mr. Griffin wonders if this is something that is done everywhere and required. He wonders if this is something that the Fire Department used to do or something that can be done by them even if a fee/permit was involved. He would also like to know if the private contractors are approved and recommended by the Fire Department.

Mr. Welch explained that some years back the Town made the decision to not be involved in the Fire Alarm business. When this was done all these people went to private vendors. The

only time we do the inspection is when a new system is first installed. The inspections that Mr. Griffin is referring to is not something that is required by the Town but instead a decision that is being made by either the property owner's or insurance companies. Mr. Griffin also wonders how this is different from when he has to have his broiler inspected through his insurance company and State. Chairman Nichols pointed out that Mr. Welch is telling us here tonight that this is not something that is required by the Town's Fire Department.

## VII. New Business

### 1. Cemetery Trustees – Bid for Restoration and Repair of Head Stones

Chairman Nichols commented that the Board has received copies of the bid.

#### Discussion

Mr. Griffin has spoken with members of the Historical Society and they feel very strongly that this bid is very good.

Mr. Welch explained that it does need to be approved by the Board in accordance with the purchasing policy since there were only two bidders.

Members of the Historical Society shared some background on the company they have chosen to do this work.

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED to award the bid for the Restoration and Repair of Head Stones to Jonathan Appel. Mr. Lally SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

### 2. Parks and Recreation Dept – Bid for In-line Hockey Rink Boards

Chairman Nichols commented that the Board has received fairly detailed information on the two bids. Chairman Nichols referred to Mr. Welch for additional information on the recommended bid from Dyana for \$43,058 with an additional \$8,000 for some optional work and fencing. Mr. Welch only has the memo from Dyana and she is asking that the bid be awarded to the low bidder.

#### Discussion

Mr. Znoj wonders how this compares to the Warrant Article. Mr. Welch confirmed that this was voted on in the 2010 warrant and he believes that \$75,000 was appropriated.

Mr. Bateman would like to point out that they will be using local labor.

Mr. Znoj confirmed that this area is well used.

Chairman Nichols MOTIONED to award the bid for the for In-line Hockey Rink Boards to Athleticas for \$43,058. Mr. Bateman SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Chairman Nichols would like to bring up an item on the consent agenda for the termination of old Leases for 19 L Street (2). He explained that it was recommended that this be discussed under New Business. The Board did not see any problems with terminated these leases.

Chairman Nichols MOTIONED to approve the termination of old Leases for 19 L Street (2).  
Mr. Znoj SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

### 3. General Budget Discussion

Chairman Nichols commented that they talked a little about this last week and he has some comments to make. However, he asked if any other Board members would like to make any general comments before they begin to discuss the DPW reorganization.

#### Discussion

Mr. Znoj thinks that we need to get into specifics with each department as they come up. He was expecting a zero percent increase and zero is zero and the budget came in .8% above. He had said he would like to see a reduction in cost through improvement factors and he did not see any of that.

Mr. Lally would also like to see zero but with what we have on our plate next year, he is unsure we can do that. He would like it to stay as close as possible to zero. After hearing what we did tonight, we might be in uncharted waters.

Mr. Griffin is very concerned and feels that he has been misled. He really finds it upsetting that they are not getting the right facts at these meetings.

Mr. Bateman thinks interestingly as difficult as the State's position we can take pride in the fact that there has been a great deal of action in regard to water and water flow. If we are able to remove water from the top of the surface and prevent it from getting into homes and channeling it correctly. He thinks that than first of all, we are doing something that should have been done for years in the past and we now know that it needs to continue for years into the future. It cannot be neglected or put aside. When you are presented with something like this tonight, you have reached the summit. He does have a few questions. In regards to latex what happened with that and the impact it had on the system.

Mr. Welch stated that EPA did not assess a fine but did make Foss do the clean up. Mr. Price added that they did have to pay the Town for any and all expenses related to this.

Mr. Bateman wonders about Brazonics and Mr. Price stated that they are being watched very closely. Mr. Bateman stated that when we have things like Fire Stations and the cost of reorganizing DPW and you look at what we could be looking at through the State he does not think it is going to be zero increase.

Chairman Nichols has a spreadsheet that he provided and asked Mr. Schwotzer to join them since he has some questions for him. The spreadsheet compares 2010 to 2011. The Operating Budget is up by \$196,000 or about .8%. One thing he would like to point out is that there is \$510,000 in the 2010 budget being spent that was in the other Cost Offset Account. Most of the \$510,000 is paying for health insurance and retirement. The increase in Warrant Articles for 2011 is a little over \$600,000. Gross tax effect spending including operating budget and Warrant Articles is up by \$803,000 or roughly 3.2%.

Mr. Schwotzer has done some very preliminary estimates on Revenues for next year and he feels we should plan on at least \$150,000 less in revenues. Therefore, the net impact of gross spending minus the budgeted revenues is \$953,000, which is a 5% increase in taxes. Also

since the \$510,000 in the Other Cost Offset account is going to be spent in 2010 the actual increase for 2011 is \$1.4M or 7.7%.

Chairman Nichols has a few questions for Mr. Schwotzer before they get to the DPW. In regards to health insurance it is actually a little less than he expected and would like to know how Mr. Schwotzer calculated this amount. He used the July run rate as opposed to the budgeted amount and added the 17.5%. As for retirement, the difference between Chairman Nichols calculation and Mr. Schwotzer's is the portion that Mr. Schwotzer put into fund 27. The only comment that he would like to add is that what the Board is discussing tonight only has to do with the Town.

Chairman Nichols also confirmed that the DPW reorganization cost does not include benefits for the 3 new positions. Therefore, an additional \$50,000 or \$60,000 in health insurance alone would need to be added to DPW reorganization cost.

Mr. Znoj would suggest that Chairman Nichols tell what the tax effect increase means to the average single family home. The tax increase would be 32 cents or \$114 but this does not take into consideration that the \$510,000 will be spent in 2010.

#### 4. DPW Reorganization

Chairman Nichols thought that it was more constructive to talk about the DPW reorganization before the DPW budget.

Mr. Price explained that the reorganization was worked on by Mr. Price and Mr. Welch at the direction of this Board. They have come up with a list and plan. It was mentioned that there were 3 new positions but he would like to point out that only 2 are being funded at this time. The Assistant Director for Solid Waste was not funded on the spreadsheet. Chairman Nichols clarified that the \$288,000 in the cover letter only includes 2 new positions.

#### Discussion

Mr. Lally would like to know what benefit this reorganization has for the residents of Hampton. It consolidates the Highway Department and the Sewer Drain Department into one. It will cut back on some positions, not layoffs or terminations, there will be one Assistant Director, which will be responsible to the Director, and there will be a General Foreman in that position. That gives us the management rights and duties in the department. When they were working on the budget numbers, they thought that it would be better to go with only 2 Assistant Directors and that one Assistant Director could be worked into Highways and Solid Waste together at a slightly higher rate than the other Assistant Director. He needs a management position in Highways, Solid Waste and Waste Water.

Mr. Price commented that he needs to get off of the subject for a minute and address some comments/questions that arose earlier this evening. To Mr. Griffin he commented that they have never misled this Board to the best of his knowledge. They have always talked about the loadings and at staff meetings; his superintendent of the WWTP has told them that yes they have gone over on flow because of the water. He has never been told by his superintendent that they were in violation. To the best of his knowledge maybe only once have they received a letter from EPA. This is why it is kind of dumbfounding to them were this letter is coming from and the figures.

Mr. Lally wonders if Town's people can expect to see a difference in service. He needs a management backup. Mr. Lally thinks it is important for people to know that there is a lot more to Public Works than the person who picks up your trash.

Mr. Griffin thinks people need to know that this is not new it is something that has been going on for the past year.

Mr. Price also pointed out that under the Managers plan they will be picking up some new responsibilities and that is the parks.

Mr. Znoj has read the plan and knows a lot of time has gone into this plan. Although he appreciates Mr. Price and Mr. Welch's efforts, he is not in favor of this plan. He feels that there are other ways to accomplish this goal of getting some planning into the department. He has some ideas in mind that he would like to toss around with the two of them. He thinks more discussion needs to be done and that the plan can be accomplished without adding 3 new positions.

Chairman Nichols thinks more work needs to be done. He sees 3 distinct components to this reorganization. He sees one aspect that involves shuffling functions around between Solid Waste and the Transfer Station and he suspects that this makes all the sense in the world. The second component adds 3 Assistant Director Positions 2 for the time being and he thinks this is too much. He agrees that we need more planning resources in Public Works but adding 3 fulltime positions all at once is too much. He thinks one position is more suitable. The third component is taking recycling in house. This is another number that we have not even talked about and is not in the spreadsheet. This is another \$1.25M in capital and wonders if this is a onetime hit all in the same year or what the plan is.

Mr. Welch explained that the only difference would be that the recycling would be picked up in house as opposed to being vended out. This would require a double arm refuse truck and some sort of waste container for each household. He believes it is a 96-gallon waste container that is picked up with the arms on a waste truck. It would require 2 employees as opposed to the 3 or 4 employees currently needed.

Chairman Nichols wants to make it clear that he is not opposed to bringing the recycling in house. However if we make a judgment to add positions and spend \$1.25M in capital we need to bid this out. We need to bid the trash collection and solid waste as well as the recycling to find out what probable privatized cost are and it should be bid out over a 3 or 5 year period. Once the Board understands the outside cost they would then be in a position to make a business decision that doing it in house makes sense or not. He is opposed to spending \$1.25M without having any idea of what an outside contractor could do this for. He would also like to point out that back in June when the Board talked about bringing recycling in house it was with the intention that the work would be done by part time employees. He does not see this happening in the proposal. In fact, part time labor is down according to this. We have a number of positions in DPW where the cost of benefits is close to the cost of the employee's salary. Part of the strategy of reorganizing PW was to be on a long-term basis more and more part time for those positions where you can effectively do it. He is not advocating lying off anyone or changing their status from full to part time. However as turnover occurs this should be done. If we don't as a Town start addressing these things and looking for these efficiencies proactively while we kind of have the control

to do it we are going to find ourselves 3 years or 5 years from now like those Town's in MA who have to lay off 10 or 15 employees.

Mr. Griffin pointed out that there are people who are looking for work and part time work included. Chairman Nichols thinks that there are a lot of good things in the plan.

Mr. Znoj agrees with Chairman Nichols and it should be bid out for the trash pickup and recycling pickup and one for them combined.

Chairman Nichols thinks that if he has the support of the Board we should get into the general discussion of the DPW budget but will need to come back to it again. He thinks Mr. Welch and Mr. Price should discuss further, what was said tonight and then come back to the Board.

Mr. Griffin would like to hear from Mr. Welch and see if there are alternatives. Mr. Welch stated there are always alternatives and the Board needs to come to a decision as to how they want to operate the Public Works types of operations. If the Board wants to replace any retiree or employee who leaves the department with a part time employee than it would be 2 part time employees to make the fulltime employee. The one problem with this is there is no planning. Unless they are willing to commit hundreds of thousands of dollars to have a company come in here and start looking at planning or the additional hours needed for current employees to look into planning. We are in trouble in every single one of these divisions. He went into details of all the problems that exist with the department.

Chairman Nichols commented that he knows it is going to take time and out of the 40 or so positions at Public Works, there might only be 5 or 6 that can become part time positions. He is only suggesting that this is something to look at and only turn the positions that are practical into part time.

Mr. Price explained that part time employees did come up during their deliberations and there are part time positions in this plan. However, he has to be very honest with them and as he sits here as the Director of Public Works in this Town to cut some of these positions when someone retires into a part time position it is not going to work. He will forgo the Assistant Directors if that is what the Board has a feeling for.

Chairman Nichols does not think that Mr. Price is giving this a chance. He understands that the example of the position that Mr. Price gave for trash pickup but does not feel that he has looked at other positions closely to see if they could be filled with a part time employee.

Mr. Price explained that the part time labor is down because they have cut back on the number of part time employees. He cut back part time employees at the Transfer Station and only has the 4-fulltime employees. He does not think it is fair for the Board to say that he has not looked at part time employees because he has.

Chairman Nichols stated that looking at his proposed budget part time wages is down by 20% and regular wages are up by \$111,000. Mr. Price stated that if you look at the wage schedule he prepared for the budget and only looking at raw salaries none of the overhead cost he only comes up with a difference of what they were going to come in with before the reorganization and the reorganization and that's a total increase of \$84,954.84 for wages. Out of the reorganization he did not know who was going to come out for what position so he went with a higher salary so that he did not get caught needing more money.

Chairman Nichols is confused since his proposal states a cost of \$288,000 to implement the changes.

Mr. Schwotzer believes that the memo was written before they had the final analysis done and that he worked into the budget. Mr. Schwotzer comes up with the same amount as Mr. Price for the changes in Public Works and referred the Board to appendix B. He believes that the cover memo of the proposal is incorrect.

Chairman Nichols stated that when he goes to the bottom line of the DPW budget it is up by approximately \$250,000, which is in line with the \$288,000. Mr. Schwotzer stated that has many things in it and when we are talking about the reorganization labor increase is the \$84,000. Chairman Nichols thinks this is very awkward that they are reviewing a proposal stating an increase of \$288,000 and are now being told it is only an increase of \$84,000. Mr. Welch thinks that they have their marching orders and should go back and look at it and then come back to the Board.

##### 5. DPW Budget Discussion

Chairman Nichols would like to bring up a couple of other good size increases in the DPW Budget. The whole reorganization has us spending \$1.247M on equipment and bringing recycling in house. The recycling contract that we awarded on July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 had a rough cost of about \$355,000 which we would have a half year impact in 2011. This would mean a cost of about \$175,000 for recycling in the 2011 budget and recycling is in the budget at \$303,000. He wonders why this is so. There was no reason why this is so and it was agreed that with the reorganization this amount should be reduced. There was \$29,000 more in mowing contract and he attributes this to moving the responsibility of the Recreation Department into Public Works. The Recreation budget is only going down by \$26,000 and we are adding a combination of \$29,000 and \$10,000 in the purchase of a lawnmower and he wonders why we are adding almost \$40,000 in expense and we are only going down by \$26,000 in Recreation.

Mr. Price explained that the \$10,000 for the lawnmower is to replace a current lawnmower for DPW that has died and needs to be replaced.

Mr. Bateman clarified that work was not being moved from Recreation to DPW just contracted services for mowing.

Chairman Nichols stated that his final item is vehicle maintenance and the total across the 3 separate areas is \$136,000 budgeted for vehicle maintenance. Yet in 2009, we only spent \$89,000 and we have only spent \$45,000 thus far this year. We also have \$52,000 budgeted for new pickup trucks. One thing he has noticed in the past couple of years is that our vehicles look pretty good when driving around Town as opposed to the clunkers that we saw a few years back. He thinks that we have a budgeted line item here for maintenance that reflects the time when the Town had a lot of older vehicles and this line item can now be adjusted. He would ask that this line item be looked at again.

Mr. Griffin commented that it has been brought to his attention that Fire Department vehicles are not being maintained at DPW anymore.

Mr. Welch stated that the Chief has decided since many of their vehicles are specialized pieces of equipment that have parts that the Town cannot maintain. Therefore, he has made the decision that it is cheaper to bring it to the vendor once to have these repairs done as

opposed to taking the vehicle out of service twice. Mr. Price pointed out that when the Fire vehicles did come down to DPW the parts were paid for out of their budget.

#### Discussion

Mr. Griffin confirmed that the drainage work will be going out to bid and there is a Warrant Article for the drain work.

Mr. Znoj does not understand the \$18,000 for compost. There was nothing spent in 2007 and 2008 and \$18,000 in 2009. He would like to know what is going on with compost. It was explained how the Town was actually loosing for years because a private vendor was coming in and removing a million dollar product. It was explained now that a company is coming in and turning the leaf and brush pile into compost to be used by the citizens. Mr. Price would recommend that they let him continue to have it composted and then give him permission to sell it.

Mr. Znoj asked about the \$52,000 for the two pickups. It is under administration and he wonders who is going to drive these vehicles. Mr. Price commented that all the vehicles come under administration they will be trading 2 vehicles in for the 2 new ones.

Mr. Znoj asked how many miles are on these vehicles. Mr. Price does not know off the top of his head but they always replace the oldest vehicles. They have 17 plus pickup trucks. Mr. Price reminded the Board of the work that these trucks are used for such as plowing. Mr. Znoj asked about the \$40,000 for the generator for the Transfer Station. It was explained that they have not had one in the past but after the storms last year and being without power for days there is a need since he cannot use the compactors when there is no power.

Mr. Znoj asked if it would be cheaper to have part time employees maintain the lawns at Tuck Field and other areas of Town. Mr. Price does not agree that it would be cheaper to bring this lawn mowing in house. He did do some running of figures when it was put out to contract and he is happy with his decision.

Mr. Welch explained what it was like when it was being done in house. Since it has gone out to contract, there have been no complaints or problems. Mr. Znoj wonders why there has not been anything spent under Tree Removal and trees have been removed but the bills have not come in yet.

The Board agreed to come back to this at a later date. Mr. Price reminded the Board that he will be out from the 16<sup>th</sup> of September until the end of October. He will get the information back the Board before he goes out.

Mr. Griffin wants to make sure all precautions are being taken in regards to Earl. Mr. Welch stated that there is a meeting for Emergency Management tomorrow and it will also be discussed at the Staff meeting. Mr. Griffin stated that after growing up in Florida no one should leave anything in their yard if Earl is going to come.

Chairman Nichols stated that there are a few Warrant Articles that are Public Works. He would like Mr. Price to stick around for any questions on these articles.

#### 6. Warrant Articles

Chairman Nichols brought up the \$250,000 for drainage. Mr. Welch stated this is expensive work it deals a lot with easements and things of that nature, legal expenses, some will be spent on streets and a lot will be spent on private property.

Mr. Znoj clarified that this money is dedicated to the three major areas including High Street, Cogger and the railroad. Nothing has gone out to contract so this amount is just a guess at this point. The maintenance of drains is included in the budget.

Chairman Nichols would also ask about the Town Wash Down Facility at \$95,000 and wonders if any other Town's in the area have this. Both Exeter and Dover have one of these facilities. Mr. Price explained the corrosiveness of these vehicles especially the salt trucks. He wonders if other Town's in the area might want to come together and cut down the cost. Mr. Welch stated that they would look into this. Mr. Znoj wonders where he got this amount and it was given to him by Exeter.

Mr. Price updated the Board that the Salt Shed is underway and hopefully will be done by the end of November.

Mr. Znoj commented that on the Mounted Patrol we need to really flush this out and give the people a real picture of the cost to maintain the ongoing service. Chairman Nichols stated that this really is for only one year and will have to go out again in 2012 as a Warrant Article. Mr. Welch stated that if it was to pass in 2011 it would probably be put into the budget for 2012 with a Warrant Article asking if the public wants to continue the Mounted Patrol.

Mr. Znoj would like to know what the principal amount is in the Cemetery Burial Trust. Mr. Welch does not have a Town report so he does not know at the time.

Mr. Znoj noticed that some of the Human Services have come in higher and it is understood that if they want funds greater than last year they will have to have their own Warrant Article and will not be a part of the Selectmen sponsored article.

Mr. Znoj asked about the Ice Dam and Mr. Welch explained that it was damaged in the spring storms. The amount is expected to be around \$75,000. This will help on the overall drainage problems.

#### VIII. Consent Agenda

1. Termination of old Leases for 19 L Street (2)
2. 2010 Veteran Tax Exemptions  
Andrews, Jay D.; Arno, Guy; Bergeron, Albert & Judith; Bilodeau, Thomas H.; Binette, John; Blair, Thomas & Donna; Blatchford, Richard L.; Bottom, Roland; Bouchard, Paul S.; Bouchard, Raymond & Dorothy; Bouchard, Richard & Judith; Brandt, Kevin; Brenna, James Terry & Virginia; Brennan, Leland; Broderick, Francis J.; Brown, George H.; Brown, Stanwood S.; Buckley, Brian N.; Buddenhagen, William W.; Burgon, Jane T. (George P.); Burke, William T.; Burns, William F.; Burrell, Gerry & Margaret
3. 2009 MS-5 Form
4. Seafood Vendors Licenses
5. Entertainment License "Le Bec Rouge" 73 Ocean Blvd
6. Entertainment License "Stacey Jane's" 9 A Ocean Blvd
7. Parade & Public Gathering License – Smuttynose RockFest Marathon/Half Marathon

Mr. Griffin would like to ask about #5 and 6 and wonders if there have been any complaints against these establishments. There was a complaint on #5 that when people leave the business the door opens and noise comes out.

Mr. Welch stated that unfortunately that is a function of opening the door to leave. There is nothing that can be done about that.

Mr. Znoj did not see any map with the Smuttynose race. Chairman Nichols pointed out that the Police Chief is in the loop.

Mr. Bateman stated that those places that do not file for Entertainment License by a certain date there needs to be a fine schedule to motivate them to get it in. Mr. Welch stated that there is a fine schedule in place but they have to be sighted as having entertainment first.

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED to move the Consent Agenda. Mr. Lally SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

IX. Closing Comments - None

X. Adjournment

Chairman Nichols MOTIONED on a roll call vote to enter into a nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3., II., (a). Mr. Bateman SECONDED

ROLL CALL VOTE: 5-0-0



Chairman