

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting
7:00 pm
Town Offices
Tuesday, December 16, 2008

Present: Lowell Nottingham, Pat Paquette, Roger Boise, Pam Marsh, Keith Hall, Pam Kingman

Visitors: Barb Torian, Jill DeVoe, Annie Perkins, Iva Menard, Suzy Roorda, Wayne Marcelle, Jeff Everest, Kirsten Pitts, Chris Bray, Jim Walsh and Travis Paquette

AGENDA RESULTS:
VISITORS BUSINESS:

- 1. Auditors, Jill DeVoe, Annie Perkins and Iva Menard: Fiscal year v. Calendar year:** The Auditors met with Tom Telling from Telling and Associates to discuss the process of changing to a fiscal year. He advised them that it is not an easy switch, and the first year is the most challenging. But once it is up and running, it is smooth. How to break up the budget will be another part of it. Pam Marsh spoke with VLCT they said most Towns start out running an 18 month budget. This is a topic the Selectboard would like to discuss at Town Meeting; it will give the townspeople a chance to voice their opinions. The Selectboard does not expect the change to happen this year; they just want to open it up for discussion. The Auditors asked why the Selectboard wants to go to a fiscal year. Keith Hall said he doesn't like running a budget in January when it is not voted on until March. He questioned what would happen if the budget got voted down. Another reason is that the schools run on a fiscal year, which is July 1 – June 30. It was agreed that the transition period [if it happens] would be the hardest part of switching to a fiscal year. The Auditors asked if they could get some training to better audit and spot balance the books. The Selectboard agreed it would be beneficial and to contact Telling and Assoc. to see how much he would charge. Barb Torian suggested calling NEMRC or VLCT, they also offer training.
- 2. Suzy Roorda – Town Hall Applications:** Recently several people have requested the fee for renting the Town Hall be lowered or waived for short term use. Currently there is no fee schedule, only set rates for the gym, cafeteria and kitchen. The Selectboard has asked Suzy Roorda to come up with a fee schedule for short and long term use of the building. This will help them determine what they will charge for these uses. **Kirsten Pitts** is one of the applicants who only want to use the gym for a couple of hours for a birthday party on Jan. 3, 2009. Lowell Nottingham made a motion for Kirsten Pitts to use the gym for \$25.00 for the birthday party and to have Suzy Roorda come up with a proposed rate schedule for the Selectboard to look over. Seconded by Pam Marsh. 5 yes / 0 no. Further discussions

- about Town Hall rent; Suzy Roorda pointed out there are some classes that have the fees waived, such as Karate, Scrapbooking and the 4-H clubs. **Travis Paquette** who teaches a Self Defense class said the only time he charges a fee is when equipment needs to be replaced. He supplies the belts and uniforms for his students. **Kate Rickert** has also asked for a reduced rate to use the cafeteria for a baby shower for her daughter on Sat. Jan. 24, 2009. She is asking the Selectboard to lower the fee to \$50.00 they will be using the cafeteria for 4 hours. Other applications are as follows: **1)** Alan Whitney – Wild Game Dinner on Sat. Feb. 14, 2009 using both the kitchen and cafeteria from noon – 9 pm. Fee \$250 **2)** Mike Dykstra – New Haven Volunteer Fire Dept. Pancake Breakfasts starting on Sunday Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 22 and April 26, 2009 using both the kitchen and cafeteria from 6am – noon. Fee waived **3)** Chris Bray – Would like to hold a Button up Workshop to be held on Fri. Jan. 9, 2009 in the cafeteria from 6 – 9 pm. Fee waived **4)** Jodi Thompson – Scrapbooking every Monday in the cafeteria from 6:30 – 9pm. Fee waived **5)** Shelly Driscoll – Equine 4H Club meetings held the second Wednesday of every month in the gym from 6:30 – 8pm. Fee waived **6)** Kim Callahan – African Drum and Dance Class, every Thursday in the gym from 6 – 9pm. The town is paid a fee of \$12.50 per class. **7)** Cindy Kayhart – New Haven Dairy 4H meetings in the gym the first Saturday of every month from 9am – noon. Fee waived. **8)** Travis Paquette – Self Defense Class held in the gym every Monday from 6:30 – 8pm. Fee waived. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve all of the routine applications, seconded by Lowell Nottingham. 5 yes / 0 no
- Suzy Roorda** – Would like to hold a Neighborhood Crime Watch seminar in the New Year, once she gathers more information she would like to put it in the newsletter.
- 3. Wayne Marcelle – Under Stage Construction:** While he was cleaning the gym floor Wayne Marcelle noticed that some of the doors were not put back on their hinges securely. The plumbers have left supplies under the stage for when they come back to hook up the water line for the new building. Mr. Marcelle is concerned the Fire Marshall would fine the Town if those supplies are not taken care of. Wayne Marcelle said he needs to close down the gym for a few days over the school vacation so he can clean and wax the floor. He is concerned that too many people are bringing soda and / or sports drinks into the gym and they spill causing the floor to get sticky and taking the finish off. He would like to put up a sign saying no food or drink in the gym, but it is hard to supervise. Keith Hall said he will ask Suzy Roorda to talk to the basketball coaches about it.
 - 4. Representative Chris Bray** – He advised the Selectboard that there may be Transportation money available and if there were any road projects they were hoping to get help with the Town should have them “shovel ready.” Mr. Bray suggested compiling a list of projects to be ahead of the game, if the State should offer any money to the Town. Road Commissioners, Pat Paquette and Roger Boise said they would like help

from the State in regulating overweight farm vehicles; they don't want to stop the farmers but it would be nice if the State would help Towns keep the roads up. Some of these farm vehicles weigh anywhere from 90 – 100,000 lbs. and that is a lot of wear and tear on the Town roads.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Payroll – Lowell Nottingham made a motion to approve payroll, seconded by Pat Paquette. 4 yes / 0 no / 1 abstention
2. Pay orders – Lowell Nottingham made a motion to sign the pay orders, seconded by Pat Paquette. 5 yes / 0 no
3. Sign Bond Anticipation Note for January – This will take effect in January so all of the expenses will be in one year. Lowell Nottingham made a motion to sign the Bond Anticipation Note for the new office building, seconded by Pat Paquette. 5 yes / 0 no
4. Barb Torian said over the course of the last year she inadvertently overpaid Town Clerk, Claire Van Buren. She thought the Clerk's salary was \$25,000 for 2008. The Clerks salary for 2008 is \$21,000 plus an insurance stipend. Barb Torian said she had discussed the matter with Claire Van Buren and Keith Hall and it will be withheld from next years salary. [Note: see minutes from 12/18/08 for update]
5. Barb Torian – The Lister's have started their Town wide reappraisal. Kermit Blaisdell has been coming into the Office to work every Tuesday and he is unhappy with how slow the Lister's computer is. Barb Torian would like permission to purchase a new computer for the Lister's, she has gotten a quote from Mike Forte for \$750, which would be to change out the CPU; allowing the Lister's to use the same monitor and keyboard. Lowell Nottingham made a motion to approve purchasing a computer with money from the Computer Fund, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Road Crew Applications – Road Commissioners, Roger Boise and Pat Paquette will screen the applications and check references. Then they will set up interviews.
2. Health Care Plan – Tabled until more information on the two specific plans the Selectboard is looking at is obtained.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Roger Boise made a motion to approve minutes from December 2nd, 4th, and 9th, 2008, seconded by Pat Paquette. 5 yes / 0 no

*Because of the lateness of the hour, the Selectboard will revisit the remainder of the agenda at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Adjourn: 10:25 pm
Respectfully submitted:
Pam Kingman
Approved:

Keith Hall, Chair

Roger Boise

Pam Marsh

Lowell Nottingham

Pat Paquette