

**Town of New Haven Selectboard Budget Meeting**  
**7:00 pm**  
**Town Offices**  
**Tuesday, December 30, 2008**

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

**Agenda Results:**

1. **Road Crew Job Application** – After reviewing all of the applications, and conducting an interview, Road Commissioners Roger Boise and Pat Paquette feel they have found the right person for the job. Pam Marsh made a motion to hire Brent Wells for the Road Crew position with the expectation that his drug test comes back clean. Hourly wage will be \$13.50. He will be on probation for a period of 6 months, and after which he is eligible for health and dental benefits for a single person. Date of hire to be effective on January 5, 2009. Motion seconded by Lowell Nottingham. 5 yes / 0 no
2. **FEMA Money from summer storms** from July 21 to August 12, 2008 – This paperwork is to help secure disaster funds from FEMA. Keith Hall signed for the board.
3. Letter to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns stating that the Town of New Haven will no longer be receiving the health care plan through VLCT as of January 1, 2009. Pam Marsh made a motion to sign the letter, seconded by Keith Hall. 5 yes / 0 no
4. Liquor and Tobacco License for the Village Green Market – Pat Paquette made a motion to approve the licenses, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no
5. Payroll – Lowell Nottingham made a motion to approve payroll, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no
6. Pay orders – Lowell Nottingham made a motion to approve the pay orders, seconded by Roger Boise. 5 yes / 0 no

**Work on Road Budget:**

- Discussed moving the road crew from salary to hourly wage to comply with state and federal overtime laws. Sherman Jewett is presently paid to work hourly; Philip and Scott Busier are paid by salary. Road Commissioners Pat Paquette and Roger Boise presented to the remainder of the board what they considered to be a fair hourly wage.  
 Philip Busier - \$18.35 per hour, plus health and dental benefits for 2 people  
 Scott Busier - \$17.00 per hour, plus health and dental benefits for 2 people

Sherman Jewett - \$ 16.00 per hour, declined health insurance. He will receive \$1,000 stipend in lieu of insurance.

Katie Reilley - \$17.00 per hour

- Tentatively approve the Road Budget –Treasurer, Barb Torian will proceed with the numbers the Selectboard has given her to work with. The road Budget will be discussed again at one of the upcoming budget meetings in January.
- Discuss Campground Road from Route 7 to the RR Crossing. There is an agreement between Pike Industries and the Town that states Pikes is to maintain that portion of the road. Pike Industries is under new ownership and the Town wants the new owners to acknowledge the agreement.
- Roger Boise said the Town Garage uses clean used motor oil in their specialized furnace, but it is getting increasingly hard to find people willing to donate oil. Mr. Boise asked if the Town could offer to pay for some of it. The rest of the board agreed, a dollar amount is yet to be determined.

#### **Discussion of General Fund Budget:**

- Cris Messerle, Zoning Administrator - \$17.00 per hour
- Discuss switching Town Attorney's from Jim Ouimette who charges \$180 per hour verses Cindy Hill, an attorney from Middlebury who offers a Municipal rate of \$6,873, unlimited hours for a year of service if paid up front, excluding complex litigation as defined in her letter of December 14, 2008. Additionally she would charge \$125/hr for "complex" litigation. Lowell Nottingham made a motion to go with Cindy Hill for municipal legal work, paying her up front at a cost of \$6,873 for the year 2009. Seconded by Pam Marsh. 5 yes / 0 no \*\* This motion is approved subject to a phone call to Cindy Hill by Pam Marsh to confirm that we have correctly understood the terms of her proposed services.\*\*

#### **Other Business:**

- Keith Hall looked into whether the Town could tax Peter Norris, Sr. for a duplex he was never taxed on for three years. The Listers inadvertently overlooked the duplex, listing it as a vacant lot. Mr. Hall got a legal opinion from Town Attorney, Jim Ouimette who advised Keith Hall that according to §32 VSA 4261 Correcting Omissions from the Grand List, you must make the change within the same tax year. This was overlooked for 2005, 2006 & 2007. The bill for 2008 included the duplex and was paid in full.

Adjourn: 9:40 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved:

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Keith Hall, Chair

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Roger Boise

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Pam Marsh

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Lowell Nottingham

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Pat Paquette