

**FINAL**



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 11, 2007**

**PRESENT:** JOSEPH M. FIALA, VICE CHAIRMAN; DONNA M. OSBORNE, SELECTMAN; TOM CLOW, SELECTMAN; CRAIG SLATTUM, SELECTMAN

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:** Fred Ventresco

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Fred Ventresco & Amy Osborne

**GUESTS:** James Carney, Robert Harvey, Jocelyn Harvey, Andrew Shortt, Frank Hebert, Robert Peterson, Kenneth A. Cox, Greg Begin, Amy Osborne, Brenda Lashway, Cara Bellerose, Shira Schoenberg, Joseph Kelley, Lou Chatel, Mark Bodanza

**6:00 p.m. Vice Chairman Fiala called the meeting to order.**

**Selectman Fiala moved to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a and d) at 6:00 P. M.**

**Selectman Osborne seconded the motion; A roll call vote was taken: All present Board Members voted in favor.**

In Attendance: Vice Chairman Fiala, Selectman Osborne, Selectman Clow, Selectman Slattum and Town Administrator Fred Ventresco.

**Selectman Osborne moved to seal and restrict the minutes of this nonpublic session, pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A: 3 II; Selectman Clow seconded the motion; A roll call vote was taken: All present Board Members voted in favor.**

**Selectman Osborne moved to exit nonpublic session at 6:17 P.M.; Selectman Clow seconded the motion; A roll call vote was taken: All present Board Members voted in favor.**

**Vice Chairman Fiala opened the Public Hearing @6:30pm for the purpose of hearing public testimony and comment on the proposed Police Officers Contract between the Town and the Police Union.**

The current proposed contract between the town and the union matches the way things are already done by the town.

The town agreed to pay 100% of the health benefit for current officers and anyone being hired after April 1, 2007 will receive 85% of their health benefit paid for leaving them with a 15% co-payment.

Uniform costs are up due to the need to purchase new uniforms for new officers. Chief Begin said any unused portion of the amount for uniforms in his budget goes back to the general fund. \$42,745.75 is the increase in pay for officers including retro amount back to October 1, 2006. \$28,488.00 increase for 2008.

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Negotiations will begin for the next contract after the March 2007 vote. This will be done because the current contract expires in one (1) year.

The Union went with a six (6) month retro-pay due to the town receiving a 3.5 pay increase last year.

Mr. Richard Butt asked about the resource officer degree program. Officer Peterson said to encourage continued education you receive a yearly bonus (after you pay for your own school) if you stay with the department. Associate Degree = \$500.00 and Bachelor Degree = \$1,000.00. Officer Carney said due to individuals leaving after their schooling was paid for by the town by offering the master 1500 bonus because it keeps them here.

Mr. Butt said that clothing is covered in two spots in the union contract if it passes and that amount is \$5,200 for 2007. It is then covered in the proposed police department budget for \$7,000 for uniforms and \$3,300 for dry cleaning and Mr. Butt wants to know why it was in both spots.

Chief Begin responded that he needs to be sure he has a budget for this if the union contract does not pass. If the money is not used it will go to the general fund. Chief Begin said the contract is a package deal and cannot be broken into pieces.

Mr. Butt asked if anyone that works 32 hours or more, would they receive benefits and Vice Chairman Fiala said yes, if they work 32 plus hours on a regular basis.

Mr. Butt asked why there was a cut off date on the health insurance because he thought that it was designee that after April 1, 2007 new officers would need to pay 15%. When he asked Selectman Osborne why this was, she replied that this was a negotiation with the union and they all had to meet in the middle. Officer Peterson said yes, everyone had to meet in the middle and everything is up for re-negotiation for the next contract.

Chief Begin said the officers that he has now understand that their health benefit being paid for is part of their pay, and the younger ones just coming out of the academy are all about the money.

100% = extra pay of \$20,000 for a family plan and 85% = extra pay of \$17,000 for a family plan (leaving the amount of \$3,000 to be paid by employee).

It was said that this is a 3 year. Brenda Lashway of the Finance Committee said vacation is 2-5 weeks. Chief Begin said that is true but it is put into hours not weeks because some of the officers work a 10hr shift and some an 8hr shift.

Selectman Fiala closed the Public Hearing at 7:50 PM.

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**Selectman Slattum made a motion to allow the Fire Chief to purchase a new Forestry Vehicle for no more than \$35,000 to be taken from the Fire Equipment Fund; the motion was seconded by Selectperson Osborne; All present Board members voted in favor.**

Town Administrator Ventresco informed the Board that there was only \$9,500.00 in the Computer Fund Capital reserve account and that he had just discovered that we may possibly need a three new computers soon, as the ones he has been trying to have repaired may not be repairable. He reminded the Board as well that the server is getting old and we have to be prepared to possibly have to replace it this year.

**Selectman Osborne made a motion to add \$10,000 to the Computer Fund CIP; the motion was seconded by Selectman Slattum; All members voted in favor.**

**Vice Chair Fiala made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM; the motion was seconded by Selectperson Osborne. All members voted in favor of the motion.**

## ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

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Fred Ventresco & Amy Osborne, Recording Secretaries