

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OCTOBER 29, 2013
APPROVED**

Present: Peter S. Cunningham, Chairman; Josh Degen, Vice Chairman; Anna Eliot, Clerk; Stuart M. Schulman; John G. Petropoulos

Also Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Mr. Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. Mr. Cunningham asked if there were any town related matters anyone wanted to discuss. Mr. Petropoulos said that he had received some feedback relative to the budget amendment articles. He said that they should keep in mind that some may not understand an amendment to a motion and the process. Ms. Eliot said that she thought the moderator did explain things well. Mr. Degen said that he too had received a couple of calls but thought that things were explained well.
2. Mr. Cunningham said that the fire in the Rocky Hill Conservation Area was the second major fire in that area in the past 2 years. He said that they should consider having a discussion with the Conservation Commission and Mass Audubon to help mitigate the risk of any potential fires in the future. He said that he would also like to discuss better access for fire apparatus. There were a number of rocks and fallen trees, etc. that needed to be taken down in order for the fire department to gain access. Mr. Degen said that maybe they should discuss annual maintenance of the trails and also talk about possibly policing of the area. Ms. Eliot said that land that is open to the public is self-policing. She said that the area was not open to things such as bicycling. Mr. Cunningham also pointed out the fact that because the fire was burning into the ground, there was also the risk of weakened tree roots. Mr. Haddad said that when speaking to Chief Bosselait he told him not to expend much on resources because of the very low risk of the fire threatening homes, etc. Mr. Degen asked how much was spent on various resources. Mr. Haddad said that he was trying to find out.
3. Mr. Cunningham said that he received the Lost Lake Water Quality Investigation report done by CEI from Tom Orcutt and asked if there was any reason it couldn't be released. Mr. Petropoulos said that it was requested that the report be put on the town's website. Mr. Haddad confirmed that the report had been placed on the town's website.
4. Mr. Haddad said that 2 of the rooftop heating units at the library stopped working and needed to be replaced. He said that the estimated cost to replace the units was between \$30,000 and \$40,000. Mr. Haddad said that they had received permission from DCAMM (Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance) to obtain 3 quotes without having to do an RFP. The 3 bids came in between \$29,000 and \$39,000. A reserve fund transfer for \$35,000 was being requested that night from the Finance Committee. The work was able to be completed within the next 6 days, following approval of the Finance Committee.
5. Mr. Haddad said that at the Board's meeting on November 4th, he would be asking the Board to ratify his appointment of Takashi Tada as the new Conservation Administrator.
6. Mr. Haddad said that James Luening of the Groton Lakes Association would be coming in on November 4th to update the Board on the weeds in Baddacook Pond. Mr. Degen said that this was different than the weeds and subsequent sonar treatment of Lost Lake/Knops Pond and would need to be vetted out with the water commissioners.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Degen moved to adjourn to Town Meeting at 6:50 pm. Mr. Schulman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved: _____
Anna Eliot, Clerk

_____ respectfully submitted,
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Date Approved: 11/18/13