

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING**  
**Minutes of April 5, 2010**  
**5:35 p.m.**

**Selectmen:**

**Charles G. Palm, Chairman**  
**Colette Worsman, Vice Chairman**  
**Peter F. Brothers**  
**Miller C. Lovett**  
**Nathan J. Torr**

**Absent with Notice**

**Town Manager:**

**Phillip L. Warren**

**Recording Clerk:**

**Karin Landry**

Call to Order: Chairman Chuck Palm called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. He introduced the Board, Town Manager, and the Recording Clerk, and made announcements pertaining to fire exits, listening assisted devices, the use of microphones, and cell phones.

**ACCEPTANCE AND/OR CORRECTION OF MINUTES:**

**10 - 12 Minutes of the March 1, 2010 Workshop and Board of Selectmen Meeting and March 22, 2010 Workshop and Board of Selectman Meeting.**

*Selectman Brothers motioned to accept the minutes of the March 1, 2010 Workshop and Board of Selectmen Meeting; and the March 22, 2010 Workshop and Board of Selectman Meeting. Seconded by Selectman Worsman.*

All corrections and addendums previously submitted by the Board have been incorporated into the minutes.

*4-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:**

- The Greater Meredith Program (GMP) is willing to provide the Fourth of July Fireworks in the same capacity as the Chamber of Commerce did in previous years. As in the past, the Town will contribute \$6,000 towards the fireworks and the GMP will secure the insurance necessary for the fireworks display along with the barge. The Town Manager will extend thanks to the GMP for their willingness to take on the matter.

- The Town Manager received a request from resident Olivia Pendergast, age 8, requesting permission to sing or play the national anthem before the fireworks display. The Board likes the idea, and directed that the request be reviewed and coordinated with the recreation and fire departments. A note of thanks will be sent to Ms. Pendergast for bringing the matter to the Board's attention.

- The GMP beautification committee has agreed to plant a number of trees on Main Street in conjunction with the Tree City USA Award/Arbor Day Celebration that will take place on April 30, weather permitting. The Town Manager set forth the proposed locations for tree plantings in Phase I (2010) and Phase II (2011) of the beautification program. Most of the trees are disease-resistant elms. The plantings will take place on both public and private property. A few of the details for a planting at Sunshine & Pa's must still be worked out. The proposed plantings on Town property will fit in with the maintenance and irrigation schedules presently in place. The costs relative to planting and watering the trees will be borne by the GMP through the beautification program. A public hearing is not necessary on the matter. The Town Manager will email photographs of the locations to the Board and they will act on the matter at the next regular meeting.
- Brian Carroll has finished up his temporary position as Water & Sewer Superintendent. In his 18 months with the Town, he has performed admirably and accomplished more than many employees do throughout an entire career. Efforts at replacing Mr. Carroll have been unsuccessful thus far. The Town Manager is in the process of increasing the scope of the search. In order to comply with state law, the Town Manager has entered into an interim agreement to secure the services of a private firm that will provide eight hours of work a week by an individual with the expertise required to operate the plant. The cost for the services is \$65/hour, plus a weekly charge of \$100 a month to operate under the firm's license. The Town Manager read a letter to Mr. Carroll that he drafted on behalf of the Board expressing gratitude for his excellent service to the Town. The Board directed that the letter be sent and a copy be placed in Mr. Carroll's employment file.
- The Energy Committee held their first meeting, and will schedule a meeting to review the Request For Proposal submitted for some of the energy audit items. The Town Manager thanked John Edgar and Angela LeBrecque for their efforts in putting together the grant request in such a timely fashion.
- The Annex project should be done in a couple of weeks. Considerations are being made for the type of fencing that will be placed along the embankment for safety purposes.
- The Waukegan Interim Management Plan has been distributed by the state. In accordance with the Plan, the state is solely responsible for the management of the lake level. The dam is operated on the advice of the Dam Bureau. The Interim Management Plan will be posted on the Town website and at the kiosk on Lake Waukegan. The Plan, including the lake level, is subject to review at the conclusion of the 2010 recreational season.
- The Town Manager told the Board of the significance of contacting their senators and representatives in support of Senate Bill 492, extending the property tax exemption for telephone poles and conduits. The telecommunication providers claim that the exemption is necessary to maintain tax parity among competitors in New Hampshire. The Town Manager does not believe this to be the case, as private businesses and utilities are taxed. It is suggested that local officials contact representatives as soon as possible and urge them to vote against the bill. The bill will be heavily lobbied by professional lobbyists for the telecommunications companies. If the bill is killed, it will result in the collection of taxes for the real property located in the Town of Meredith. There was a general agreement among the Selectmen that they should contact their representatives and senators.

**VISITOR'S AND RESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

None

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS: (Reports on Committees 2nd meeting each month)**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:****10-13 Visiting Nurse Association Request**

Visiting Nurse Association Board member Tom Pryor reviewed the services provided by the Association to Center Harbor and Meredith residents in 2009. At year end, over 200 clients were serviced, for a total of approximately 7,100 visits that provided nursing services, therapies, and home health services. He told the Board that the Association's facility on Route 25 no longer meets their needs, and that there are flooding and ADA compliance issues with the building. In addition, it is believed that the services provided by the Association will be expanding in the future. The Association has entered into negotiations to purchase property on Waukewan street to build a new building. The Association is partnering with Meredith Village Savings Bank to apply for a United States Department of Agriculture-Rural Development loan guarantee to cover the construction costs of a new building at reduced rates and favorable terms. At the same time, the Association is applying for a grant from the USDA that will cover 100% of the costs of equipping the new building, if the loan guarantee is received. Each of the two grant applications require a letter of support from the local governing body to ensure that the project will not adversely compete with the mission of municipal or county supported organizations. The Association is the only Medicare licensed home health agency in this community. It is also licensed by Medicaid, and the state Department of Health and Human Services. A condition of the grants, if awarded, is to keep the Town informed on how the project is proceeding. Mr. Pryor provided a sample letter of support to the Board that can be tailored for each of the two grants.

The Town Manager made a recommendation to support the Association's request.

Dialogue ensued regarding whether Selectman Brothers should abstain from voting in view of his employment by Meredith Village Savings Bank. He does not see a conflict of interest, and accordingly wishes to vote on the matter.

*Selectman Brothers motioned that the Board send a letter of support for the Meredith Visiting Nurses Association to USDA Rural Development for the purpose of supporting the building of a new facility and also for supporting a grant that will equip the facility upon its completion. Seconded by Selectman Torr. 4-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

**10-14 Conservation Commission, ZBA, and Planning Board Appointments**

Conservation Commission: The following Conservation Commission appointments are supported by the Chairman of the Commission. Volunteer applications have been completed.

## Members:

Don MacFarlane	One year 2011
John Sherman	One year 2011
Bob Davis	Three years 2013
Ralph Pisapia	Two years 2012
Peter Miller	Three years 2013
Paula Wanzer	Three years 2013

## Alternates:

Bob LeCount	Three years 2013
Sandra Mucci	Three years 2013

*Selectman Worsman motioned to make the appointments to the Conservation Commission as presented. Seconded by Selectman Tor. 4-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

Planning Board Reappointments: Volunteer applications have been completed.

Louis Kahn  
Herbert Vadney

*Selectman Worsman motioned to make the reappointments to the Planning Board as presented. Seconded by Selectman Torr. 4-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

Zoning Board of Appeal Reappointments: Volunteer applications have been completed.

Michael Pelzar  
Warren Clark

*Selectman Torr motioned to make the reappointments to the Zoning Board of Appeal as presented. Seconded by Selectman Worsman. 4-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

**OLD BUSINESS:****10-15 Consideration of Sherman Conservation Easement**

The Board had the opportunity to thoroughly review the Sherman conservation easement at their last workshop, and that matter is now being brought before the Board for action. Under the easement, Mr. Sherman will retain ownership of the property, but the conservation commission will dictate what activities are allowed on the property. If the Board is inclined to grant the easement, the Town Manager must be authorized to sign miscellaneous closing documents.

*Selectman Brothers motioned to authorize the acceptance of the Sherman conservation easement by the Selectmen, and to authorize Town Manager Phillip Warren to sign all closing documents necessary to effect the easement. Seconded by Selectman Worsman.*

Selectman Worsman wants to be certain that the issues she brought up at the workshop are part of the public record, and thanked the Sherman family for their generous donation. The Chair expressed thanks on behalf of the entire Board for the conservation of the property.

*4-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

The Chair announced that following the adjournment of the Board meeting, the Board will move into a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(c).

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Selectman Worsman moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Torr. 4-0. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Phillip L. Warren, Town Manager

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Charles G. Palm , Chairman

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Karin Landry, Recording Clerk

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Colette Worsman, Vice Chairman

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Peter F. Brothers

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Nathan J. Torr