

~~Unapproved~~ **APPROVED**
Candia's Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2015

Attendance: Chairman Carleton Robie, Vice-Chair David DePuy, Selectman Dick Snow, Selectman Boyd Chivers, Selectman Amanda Soares, and Administrative Assistant Andria Hansen.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Public meeting minutes of 12/22/14. Selectman DePuy made the following corrections:

- * Page 4, 10th line from the bottom, change "attaining" to "intending".
- * Page 6, 4th line, second paragraph, changes "\$350,000" to "\$250,000".
- * Page 6, 20th line, second paragraph, Selectman DePuy clarified after the word fine, that it would be fine if someone else buys it.

Selectman Snow moved to accept the December 22nd, 2014 Selectmen's meeting minutes as amended. Seconded by Selectman DePuy. Chairman Robie, Selectman DePuy, Selectman Chivers, Selectman Snow were in favor and Selectman Soares abstained. (4-0-1).

The Board to open the sealed bids for the fire rescue truck. Selectman DePuy announced the first bid in the amount of \$3,350 by James Garczynski out of Goffstown. Chairman Robie noted this amount didn't meet minimum bid. Selectman Chivers opened the bid from Marc Dube of Manchester. He submitted a bid for \$4,500. Selectman Snow moved to accept the bid for \$4,500. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Departmental Reports: Highway, Police, Fire, Building, Solid Waste, and any other departments.

Highway: Road Agent Lewis read from the attached report. He mentioned back during the budget season they mentioned the plowing rates and equipment rates. Candia currently pays the state rate. For an average 6 wheel plow truck its \$68 per hour Deerfield is \$78 per hour which is state rate plus \$10. The Town of Epping is \$98 per hour for a 6 wheel truck. The Town of Chester is \$90 plus they pay the fuel. The Town of Kingston is \$95 per hour. He said he would give Board those numbers in writing and they can think it over. They are quite a ways behind. They've had one raise in 20 years. The rates they are using now are from 1999. With the equipment rates, a lot of the towns own their own equipment. Candia pays \$80 per hour for the grader, but other towns pay \$125. Candia pays \$57 for backhoe rates and other towns pay \$70 to \$75. They have a good plow crew he would hate to lose them for the sake of the plow rates. Selectman Chivers asked if Road Agent Lewis could do a little spread sheet so they could see what other towns are paying. He also asked if he could give them a recommendation. Road Agent Lewis said he would. He noted that trucks are getting pretty expensive and the guys aren't upgrading their trucks because of the rates. They don't want to have to go out and buy our own fleet. Chairman Robie asked how many 6 wheelers they have on now. Road Agent Lewis said they have four 6 wheelers on. They have 4 one tons and one pick up for parking lots. Selectman Chivers asked how the one tons were priced. Road Agent Lewis said other towns about \$70 and our town it's in the \$40 range. He noted the town has always paid the state rate since the 1940's and they don't update the rates. They don't use as many hired trucks and equipment as they used

to, so that's why they don't change (the rates). It's a totally different plowing for the state than it is for the town. On average the state will go out 4 or 5 times in 24 hours. They (the town) don't stop in 24 hours and the state doesn't have the hills and the gravel and the obstacles they have. Selectman Chivers asked if the state pays these trucks just to standby down at the shed. Road Agent Lewis explained they get paid whether they go out or not. Selectman Snow asked if he was suggesting that they weren't going to have enough money in this year's budget. Will they have problems hiring people at the end of the year? Road Agent Lewis said he wouldn't have a problem. He wants to keep the same guys he has. Selectman Chivers asked if they would incorporate the new numbers in next year's budget. Road Agent Lewis thought maybe next meeting they could discuss it. Chairman Robie would like to get through the first quarter of this year with the rates they have. If there is money left in the budget in the spring, they can consider this next fall. Selectman Chivers said let's see what the spread sheet shows.

Police: Selectman Chivers from the attached report.

Fire: Selectman Chivers read from the attached report.

Building: Building Inspector Murray read from the attached. Selectman Soares said even though the budget hasn't passed, starting in January the Building Inspector's full time position was active. Chairman Robie said that was correct. Selectman Soares noted looking at the Building Inspector's time card, he had 35 hours. She asked how he got 35 hours filled. Building Inspector Murray said he was doing stuff for the Health Department such as going to conferences and addressing emails which take time. He is now going back and doing permits that weren't renewed. Selectman Soares asked if was keeping track of all of his information to justify his full time position. Building Inspector Murray said that he was. He isn't keeping a log. It's hard to find the time to write down everything that he is doing all day. Selectman Soares thought that would be a very good idea. Building Inspector Murray said he could do that.

Solid Waste: Selectman DePuy read from the attached report. He noted that Chuck has been making calls on the baler. The bids they got from all of the companies said there would be an increase in the price. It could be anywhere from 3% to 8% after the first of the year. In addition to what Chuck is doing he is going to call them to see what the price would be after the March town meeting. Selectman DePuy thought the number in the budget would cover two or three of the balers. They are looking at four outfits with good machines. Selectman Snow asked if this would be by the next meeting. Selectman DePuy wasn't sure if he would have all of the pricing by the next meeting. One outfit said by February. Selectman Soares thought they could give them a ball park price. Selectman DePuy thought there might be a little negotiating they might be able to do.

Building Inspector hours: Chairman Robie said they have 13 full time employees and none of them have to document what they do every minute of the day. They all do numerous tasks at different times. He didn't think they should scrutinize the full time Building Inspector. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee approved a full time Building Inspector for our community. If he should happen to miss his log book for a day or two he thought it could be excused. Selectman Soares said how are they going to know if he was justified for a full time position or not. They need to have facts and proof. It's called a basic job description and

meeting the needs of the job. Chairman Robie told her to write a job description for all of the numerous tasks he has to do for us. Selectman Soares said it is called a plan and goals. Chairman Robie said he didn't want to argue but they don't scrutinize their other 13 employees or the contracted employees.

Review possible abatements for property taxes and interest. Chairman Robie said they had a resident that wanted his property taxes abated. They abated him his taxes for 2014. He would like the Board to abate his taxes back to December of 2010. The RSA says the Selectmen can abate up to one year and after that it is the Selectmen's decision to go further back. He felt if they go back for one resident then they will have to do it for everyone. Selectman Snow said the abatement itself is evidence saying we thought we made a mistake and we'll pay you back your money. Chairman Robie clarified for the one year which we are entitled to do. Administrative Assistant Hansen gave the amounts for each year if the Board decided to abate them. It would be 2012 - \$391, 2011 - \$379, 2010 - \$195. Selectman Chivers said it was the precedent they were setting more than anything. He thought they should just abate for 2014. Selectman DePuy said this must have been apparent to him on his tax bill. Administrative Assistant Hansen said the resident told her that he paid his taxes out of escrow and he didn't catch the mistake until recently. Selectman Snow said if they only abate him one year then he could go to the Board of Tax and Land Appeal. Selectman Chivers said they agreed to abate the 2014 taxes. Selectman DePuy didn't think he could go back. Selectman Chivers didn't think that BTLA wouldn't even hear the case; the statute isn't in his favor. Selectman Soares motioned that they leave the 2014 abatement as paid and the remainder of the abatements Mr. Gregory Girmard is requesting is denied. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The second request was from Jeannine and Daniel Giovagnoli. They own property located at 676 Old Candia Road. They said they didn't receive a tax bill and didn't know when the Town of Candia sent out tax bills. The approximate amount of the interest is \$150 - \$160. Selectman Snow moved to abate the interest for Mr. and Mrs. Giovagnoli. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. Chairman Robie, Selectman DePuy, Selectman Chivers, Selectman Snow were in favor and Selectman Soares was opposed. Motion carried on a vote of 4 to 1. (4-1-0)

Selectman DePuy to give update on tax deeded properties. Chairman Robie recused himself from the conversation. Selectman DePuy said he met with the Tax Collector and looked at the records they have. They looked at what notices have been sent in the past. The records are kept in two folders. One contains the notices and the other contains other documents. He is continuing to work on the history of these things. He has a draft of what he has done to date. The first thing was a summary of notices that went out by certified mail by the Selectmen. They were also sent regular mail. The next document is the summary of tax deeds which is numbered 1 - 7. It is a description of the account which he got from the Tax Collector. It is the owner's name on record and a little bit of history and there is a history of the notices that went out in a chart form. He would like to send this to town counsel. It summarizes all of the notice information that the Tax Collector has in her files. There was a tax deed in the file for 308 Raymond Road to the Town of Candia dated May 21, 2004. The town then deeded the property to the present owner in January of 2006. So the meaning and intending clause was correct. He would like to review this information before it goes to town counsel. He would suggest that the Tax Collector, in the future, keep a record of the notice when it goes out so this type of

information will be summarized for future Boards. This will make the process easier. He also drafted a letter to go to Atty. Mayer. He was asking for his opinion or guidance for issues that are being addressed by the Board. The first was about the "meaning and intending" clause in the deeds. Some or most are incorrect, so does this invalidate the deeds or is it a title defect. He told him that they are planning on selling the properties at auction and thought a title search should be done and if he concurs would he assist us with that. He gave a history of the notice and asked if this was sufficient and would it give the town good title. The other question was about the substantial tax lien on the 308 Raymond Road and would he help us with that issue. He also added the issue regarding any members of the Board bidding at a public auction when the properties are sold. He also asked about the property on Depot Road and whether or not it is a buildable lot and what the duties of the Board were. Selectman Snow said the only thing he would add is does the Chairman have a purchase and sales agreement which is a legally binding document and does that affect the sale. Selectman Chivers said that is was extinguished by the tax deed foreclosure. Selectman Snow said he didn't agree with that and he's not a lawyer. Selectman Chivers said if he wants to ask the question go ahead. Selectman Snow said in his mind there was a valid contract on the property, whether it was the Chairman of the Board or someone else he thought they should ask the question. Selectman DePuy said he mentioned it in the letter so he would expect that town counsel would weigh in on it. Selectman Chivers addressed 308 Raymond Road and now that the tenant was deceased should they go over there and ensure no one else moves in. This is town property wouldn't it be appropriate now to pull that meter out and drain the pipes. Building Inspector Murray thought there was somebody already in there. Selectman Soares said then they are trespassing. Selectman DePuy suggested posting the notice they mailed on the door of the building. Selectman Chivers asked if they could put up no trespassing sign. He couldn't see any reason why they couldn't lock that place up. Selectman DePuy said in light of the former resident passing, someone may want to retrieve their belongings. He would expect to give someone access to retrieve personal belongings. Selectman Soares said they would have to ask the Board's permission first to be allowed on the property. Selectman Chivers said if the property is open they could have people squatting in there. Selectman DePuy said if they post the notice on the door and also post a second notice saying entry is permitted with the permission of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Soares suggested that they change the lock. Selectman DePuy asked for permission of the Board to send the letter to town counsel mentioning the deceased tenant issue and the other issues. Selectman Snow moved to give Selectman DePuy permission to contact Atty. Mayer regarding the deceased tenant issue and any other such changes he sees necessary to expedite this process. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Board to review remaining warrant articles. Chairman Robie noted the Board reviewed most of the warrant articles three weeks ago. They have three more to consider this evening. He noted they counter offered on the Fitts property at \$359,000 and Mrs. Fitts accepted their offer. They had Atty. Mayer draft a warrant article. **ARTICLE --:** *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$359,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing the property of Lorna Fitts, described in deed recorded in Rockingham County Registry of Deeds at Book 5211 Page 1143, and identified in the Town of Candia tax records as Map 409 Lot 091, using \$130,000 from the undesignated fund balance, and \$229,000 raised in taxes.* Selectman Snow said he would add the wording "December 31, 2014" before the word "undesignated". Chairman Robie said it is the only one they have. He noted Atty. Mayer wrote this warrant article for us and it is

his wording. He asked him to include closing costs and tax stamps, which he said they couldn't do because it had to be a certain amount (for the warrant article). Atty. Mayer told him the town doesn't have to pay state tax stamps on property closing. Selectman Snow clarified if the \$359,000 includes closing costs. Chairman Robie said no, but Upton and Hatfield would do the closing for them through their legal fees. Selectman Chivers said he would like to raise two issues. First, the property is owned by Irene Dean, Lorna Fitts, and Richard Fitts, Sr. If they are going to describe this property it should be accurately described. Secondly, he didn't understand where the structure of this payment came from. Last meeting they agreed to offer \$359,000, but he didn't think they talked about splitting it up this way. Chairman Robie said they did and it was Selectman Snow's recommendation and he agreed with him. They can write the warrant article anyway they wish. Selectman Chivers said he wouldn't support taking money out of the fund balance to buy property. If this idea has the merit they think it does and if they propose it to the residents of Candia, the people of this town would be more than happy to pay \$359,000 for this property and not take it out of the fund balance. They don't know what the fund balance is. They know it is 1.2 million dollars, but they don't know what their cash position is. Some of it is uncollected property taxes. He thought it would be imprudent to take out \$130,000. If this idea has some strength that they think it does, people in the town will pay \$359,000. This is his position. Selectman Snow said it is a perfectly normal thing to decide at the town meeting where the revenue is coming from and politically they are saying we are not going to put this all on your tax bill next year. They could use some of the unreserved fund balance for this. This would also reduce the amount of money they have available next year to reduce the tax rate. The people would understand that. Selectman Chivers didn't agree. One way or another we are going to pay \$359,000 whether do it all in one year or take it out of the fund balance. By taking it out of the fund balance they are exposing themselves. They have vulnerability; if something happens in town and you need to get your hands on money you won't have it. Selectman Snow replied you can't get to the fund balance during the year except at the point in time where you set the tax rate or you have a special town meeting for an emergency. Selectman Chivers said if that is true why are we proposing to spend \$130,000 out of it. Selectman Snow said if they know what it was as of December 31st, 2014. They will have that number. It was whatever they had going into it, minus the tax rate. Instead of using tax dollars they are going to take some out of the unreserved fund balance. They are going to give it back to the town. Selectman Chivers said this looks like an attempt to circumvent the whole Budget Committee by setting it up this way. Selectman Snow said any of the warrant articles could be construed that way. The Budget Committee is going to have the opportunity to recommend or not recommend based on that. It makes sense to him to say they are going to ensure that part of the money that's used for this property comes out of the unreserved fund balance. Selectman DePuy said they set a policy on how much the fund balance should be. They drained it down to that limit at the end of the year and now we're saying for next year we're going to further reduce that fund balance by \$130,000 knowing \$500,000 is unpaid taxes. They are reducing that cushion. He would be in favor of asking the town if they want to pay \$359,000. Selectman Chivers said they already have reduced the taxes with \$120,000 of that. Chairman Robie explained they brought the unreserved fund balance to what they have written in the policy. It's a good idea to have it in case they have a use for it. In his opinion this is a use for that money. It keeps us under the 10% rule when they go to Deliberative Session. If the Budget Committee doesn't recommend the \$359,000 expenditure that is null and void, because you are over 10%. The 10% is \$288,000. The amount of \$229,000 will be under the 10% rule. He thought the Budget Committee would recommend

this warrant article. He is going to pitch this to the people that this isn't for us. It just isn't about us sitting here, it about future generations. Does the public want to invest in the future of our community? He thought this was the right choice. Selectman Snow said they have brought the fund balance up and they are going to do the same thing next year. Selectman Chivers asked how much cash was available in the fund balance. Chairman Robie said it was around \$500,000. Selectman DePuy said he was concerned about the 10%. Chairman Robie said they discussed this at the last meeting and he thought he explained it. Selectman Snow said either way the tax payers are going to get the money back. Chairman Robie said 7 years ago when he came on the Board they had the minimum amount. They were at 5%; they only had \$486,000 in the unreserved fund balance. They brought it up to a reasonable number, they're at 1.2 million. Before setting the tax rate they had 1.4 million. Selectman Soares thought they set the minimum at 1.3 million. There was discussion about the tax rate setting and the unreserved fund balance. Selectman Chivers questioned what was wrong with putting \$359,000 on the warrant article and see if the people want to buy it for that amount. Selectman Snow said the answer is the 10% rule. Selectman Chivers said if the Budget Committee supports it they don't have a problem. Chairman Robie clarified on the 10% rule, but they'll have a problem generating \$359,000 instead of \$229,000. They already generated the \$130,000. Selectman Snow said it can all be addressed with a recommendation of the Budget Committee. At the Deliberative Session it can be changed to \$359,000. When people vote they are voting on the \$359,000, it's just where are they getting the money from. He wants to ensure that the next Board of Selectmen gives him that \$130,000 back. Selectman DePuy said the fund balance is going to have to be made up by the end of the year. Chairman Robie said it will be, if the money is there to do that. Selectman Soares said it was a big "if". They are going to base this on an "if". They don't generate a significant amount of revenue. The people expect that money to offset their taxes not to be buying property. Chairman Robie said they are going to get a chance to vote on that. Selectman Soares thought they should put the \$359,000 in whole without taking it out of the unreserved fund balance. Chairman Robie said it was too much to ask all at once. Selectman Soares said if you are afraid it's not going to go through for \$359,000 then don't put it in. This fund balance is to offset the tax rate. If your "if" doesn't happen you're not going to be able to lower the tax rate and people are going to wonder why the tax rate is up. Chairman Robie said 7 years ago they were at \$486,000. If the school and the town spend their budget 100% they are not going to have any money to increase the fund balance. The turn in \$400,000 to \$500,000 each year combined. This past year they turned in \$380,000. Selectman Soares said you're basing it on "if" not on facts. Chairman Robie said it is all based on "if". Selectman DePuy said he wants to see this go to the town and he is concerned with the 10% rule the town might not have the opportunity to vote. He didn't want to offend the Budget Committee; the town seems to have a lot of faith in the Budget Committee. If the only way to ensure this getting on the ballot is to do it this way, he would be in favor of this. He has talked with some people and there seems to be some interest. *Selectman Snow moved to go with the warrant article the way that it's written.* There was discussion about the names on the deed. Chairman Robie said they will check with town counsel to see if they need to change the name on the warrant article otherwise is this acceptable to the Board. *Selectman DePuy motioned to adopt the warrant article as written subject to checking with town counsel regarding the proper ownership. Seconded by Selectman Snow. Chairman Robie, Selectman DePuy, Selectman Snow were in favor and Selectman Soares and Selectman Chivers were opposed. Motion carried on a vote of 3 to 2. (3-2-0)* Chairman Robie read the next proposed warrant article. **ARTICLE ---:To see if the Town will vote to raise and**

*appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be deposited in the **Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund**, established under RSA 35:1 at the March 1991 Town Meeting, for the future purchase of the fire apparatus and equipment with the Selectmen appointed as agents.* Selectman Soares asked how much was left in the capital reserve fund after purchasing the new rescue vehicle. Chairman Robie said he didn't have a number, but he would guess around \$175,000. Selectman Snow thought they should remove the wording "fire apparatus" because then it is specific. Chairman Robie said this is the same way that it is written every year. If they want to change it at Deliberative Session they can. *Chairman Robie moved to approve the warrant article as submitted. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. All were in favor. Motion carried.* It was noted that the Selectmen are recommending this warrant article as well. Chairman Robie read the next proposed warrant article. **ARTICLE ---:** *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty Three Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Five dollars (\$123,695) for the operating expenses of the **Smyth Public Library**. Funds are to be expended under the direction of the Smyth Public Library Association. (Submitted by the Smyth Public Library Trustees) Selectman Chivers moved that the Board support this warrant article. Seconded by Chairman Robie. All were in favor. Motion carried.* Chairman Robie said one petition warrant article was submitted. **Article - -:** *To see if the Town will vote to establish, for the purposes of reducing cost and/or increasing revenues, a recycling/energy committee, consisting of five (5) residents appointed by the Selectmen, initially for three (3) year staggered-terms. Subsequent vacancies shall be appointed by the Selectmen upon the recommendation of the committee.* Selectman Chivers said this is a petition, so they don't have any choice in the matter.

Cemetery Trustees: Chairman Robie asked if they were going to have Cemetery Trustees on the ballot. Administrative Assistant Hansen said they were going to be on the ballot. Chairman Robie asked if they were going to appoint a couple of them. Selectman Snow said they should plan on discussing that at the next meeting. He has an announcement out and if anything comes in he'll bring it to the next meeting. Chairman Robie said they are running out of time, they need to do it before the election. It was noted that the filing period is from January 21st, 2015 to January 30th, 2015. It was also noted that there is a notice on the website soliciting Cemetery Trustees. Selectman Snow said they are looking for people to run, but they also need to appoint two people. The announcement says to send the letters of interest to the town office. If anything comes in it will go in the sign folder. Chairman Robie said the notice should say they are soliciting for Trustees of the Cemetery not volunteers. They may get better feedback. Selectman Snow said the announcement is pretty specific on what the criteria are. He reiterated they are going to elect three and appoint two. If someone is interested in being appointed they should send a letter to the Board of Selectmen.

The Board to discuss 2014 Town Report. Selectman Soares asked if the printing cost was the same as last year. It was noted the cost is slightly higher. Selectman Snow asked about the dedication. Selectman Chivers noted Shirley Irving passed away last year. He thought she would be an appropriate person to recognize in the town report. Chairman Robie thought that she would be an excellent candidate. He added they may want to dedicate the town report to all of the town volunteers over the years. It would be anyone who has volunteered their time to the community. It was the consensus of the Board to dedicate the town report to Shirley Irving. Selectman Chivers moved to dedicate the town report to Shirley Irving. Seconded by Selectman

Snow. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Soares thought they should include both. It was the consensus of the Board to also dedicate the report to the all the volunteers.

Chairman Robie to nominate an Employee of the Year. Chairman Robie made a recommendation to nominate Chuck Whitcher from the Recycling Center as Employee of the Year for 2014. The guys at the Recycling Center don't get a lot of recognition. Selectman Snow said he would support that. Chairman Robie motioned to award Facility Operator Chuck Whitcher as the Employee of the Year for 2014. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. Chairman Robie, Selectman DePuy, Selectman Snow, Selectman Chivers were in favor. Selectman Soares was opposed because she didn't think they should single people out. Motion carried on a vote of 4 to 1. (4-1-0)

Selectman Snow to discuss State Representative Brian Dobson's resignation: Selectman Snow presented the Board with a new article. State Rep. Dobson resigned the day after he was sworn in. They should do everything in their power to hold a special election. There is another town that is also considering it. He said they could contact the other towns and see if they want to do it as a joint effort. The Board should take a position that they want to hold a special town meeting. If the other towns don't want to they can go to Governor and Council and ask for it. Selectman Chivers said they already have representation up there, they have three people. Selectman Snow said they need a special election. Selectman Soares thought that would be a waste of money. Selectman Snow said they would be abdicating their responsibility. This is a task for the Board to do; they should make an effort to replace him. Selectman Chivers said it sounds like they have an option to do it; they don't have a mandate to do it. Selectman Snow said it is mandatory to represent the people. Chairman Robie asked why don't they check with the other towns and see if they are going to move forward with it. Selectman Snow said if one town does it, we will be included. Chairman Robie said then we will have to spend the money on the special election. Selectman Snow said he wants to go on record saying that they want to have a special election. Chairman Robie said if they say yes they are going to make everyone else do it. Selectman Snow said all they have to do is ask Governor and Council that they want to have a special election. Chairman Robie said if another town wants to do this, he is in favor voting otherwise he isn't going to push it. Selectman Snow moved that the Town of Candia request from the Governor and Council the calling of a special election to replace the recently resigned representative. Motion failed do to a lack of a second.

The Board to discuss the Davis property (406-018-1). Chairman Robie read from Atty. Mayer's comments (see attached). Selectman Snow said he sent Atty. Mayer an email with a chain of title regarding this property. He thought they should do whatever is necessary to take that property. Selectman Chivers thought this issue would settle itself and it would come back to the Board. They shouldn't spend any more time and effort on it.

The Board to authorize payment of payroll checks and accounts payable checks. Chairman Robie announced the grand total of payroll and accounts payable checks for January 1st, 8th, and 15th was \$556,242.20. Selectman Snow motioned to accept accounts payable and payroll checks for January 1st, 8th, and 15th in the amount of \$556,242.20. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Other Business

Chairman Robie noted the Budget Committee meets on Wednesday. Selectman Snow asked if they were discussing the operating budget. He would like to know what the anticipated revenues are. Chairman Robie said he was sent the revenues. They produce the revenues report every month out of the Selectmen's office. They have the comparison from 2013 to 2014. The Budget Committee only asked about revenues once the entire time he has been a rep to the committee. It was because no one was buying new cars and the revenue was way off because of that. Selectman Snow said that was one of the concerns he had. According to the statute they are supposed to provide, vote on, and discuss anticipated revenues. Chairman Robie said they do. Selectman Snow replied tell him what the anticipate revenues are coming out of the Trustee of the Trust Funds. Selectman Chivers said they are approximately what they were last year. Selectman Snow said it wasn't included last year. It's not the same as last year. Selectman Chivers said it is all they have to go by, what are they going to do make up numbers. Selectman Snow said they decided as a Board they were going to get the interest for the cemetery for this year and last year. Last year it was unanticipated revenues which means when it came in it generated an appropriation. The appropriation was over and above what they voted at the town meeting. Right now they are booking those as "due ins" from Trustees not as a charge against the appropriations. When the Budget Committee looks at these spread sheets which are not the same as our accounting records, they don't know that we spent over what was appropriated in the operating budget. He wants to know what money is coming in that is anticipated from the Trustees. He said they could look at the account numbers and they would know what was going on with the expenditures against the revenues opposed to a spread sheet. Sometimes the spread sheets are wrong and sometimes they are not. They need to vote on what are their anticipated revenues, it's statutory. They need to incorporate in their accounting system the actual budgets for revenues as well as appropriations. He wants to be able to anticipate what next year's tax rate is going to be based on our appropriations and our revenues. Chairman Robie said you could do that but it is a big "if". You still have to appropriate the money; you can't go on if we get this money. All of the revenues that come in go into the fund balance. Selectman Snow replied no. Chairman Robie said unless it has a specific direction like the Moore Highway Fund. Selectman Snow told him that he didn't understand the concept of gross budgeting. Chairman Robie said that wasn't true and they figured this out 4 or 5 years ago and it works out very well. They can use the revenues to offset the tax rate or replenish the unreserved fund balance. Those are the only two things you can do with them. You have to appropriate even though you can anticipate revenue. Selectman Snow said you appropriate the money, but you look at all of the revenues first. This is money that has to be raised by taxes. Chairman Robie said that is why we produce it so we can look at it, it's a guideline. Selectman Chivers said if we appropriate money to plow the roads, you can be pretty sure we're going to plow the roads with it. He asked Selectman Snow what the issue was tonight. Selectman Snow said he wants to know what the anticipated revenues are. He is going to ask the Budget Committee and if he doesn't get answers there he start moving to other places. Chairman Robie said its working. Selectman Snow said the revenue is already incorporated in Allenstown's budget. Selectman Chivers said after they receive it. Selectman DePuy suggested he put together a procedure he thought it should be. Put it in writing what he thinks they should be doing. Chairman Robie said there is no guessing Donna produces a spread sheet every month. Selectman Snow said this was something they should have done in September. You do an operating budget, you do anticipated revenues.

Selectman DePuy said there isn't anything they can do about it now, so why not do a proposal of what you think it should be. They can address it at the next meeting. Selectman Snow reiterated that he wanted an estimate of unanticipated revenues. Chairman Robie said he's given him all of the information from the office and that is going to be the end of this discussion.

Selectman Soares' resignation. Selectman Soares announced she will be resigning effective immediately. She and her family will be moving to Switzerland in a month. Her position will be on the ballot for a one year position. Selectman Chivers presented Selectman Soares with a plaque for her five years of service on the Board. Selectman Snow moved to accept Amanda Soares' resignation with deep regret. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. All were in favor. Motion carried. Chairman Robie would like to leave the position vacant and he will recuse himself, if needed, so there isn't a tied vote. The Board agreed with his suggestion.

Chairman Robie motioned to adjourn at 9:00 am.