## Unapproved APPROVED Candia's Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Attendance: Chairman Carleton Robie, Vice-Chair Susan Young, Selectman Mark Laliberte, Selectman Russ Dann, and Administrative Assistant Andria Hansen. Absent: Selectman Scott Komisarek.

**7:00 p.m.** Chairman Robie called the Public Meeting to order and immediately followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Previous Minutes: Public meeting minutes of 12/11/17.** Selectman Dann moved to accept the Selectmen's Public meeting minutes of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 as written. Seconded by Selectman Laliberte. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Laliberte moved to accept the Selectmen's Non Public meeting minutes of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. as written. Seconded by Selectman Dann. Chairman Robie, Selectman Laliberte, Selectman Dann were in favor and Selectman Young abstained. Motion carried on a vote of 3 to 1. (3-0-1) Selectman Dann moved to accept the Selectmen's Non Public meeting minutes of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 9:00 p.m. as written. Seconded by Selectman Dann would like to resolve the outcome of the second set of minutes. He referred to the last sentence of the minutes. Selectman Dann said it should be published and discussed at the next meeting, so people know what they are talking about.

The Selectmen will hold a public hearing as part of the cable franchise renewal process. Chairman Robie explained that two weeks ago Bryan Christianson was here from Comcast with a contract for our cable franchise in the Town of Candia. We needed to have a public hearing on this. He didn't know if there was any public input. He did let the Board and the public know that Comcast paid us \$48,572 last year as revenue. Chairman Robie opened the public hearing. He asked if anyone from the public had any input. Resident Dave Desilets of High Street said Comcast seems to be a monopoly as far as cable and we are at their beck and whim as far as packages and all of that stuff. He considers it excessive for what they get. Is there any chance of another company coming in, like Verizon Fios or anything like that? Chairman Robie said they have not been solicited by anyone. Mr. Desilets asked if they had to come to the town or did they go out and look for them. Chairman Robie said they didn't have the need for that. Selectman Laliberte didn't believe that Fios services this area anyways. He thought it serviced some parts of New Hampshire like Nashua and Bedford, but he didn't believe they serviced up here. When he worked for the City of Manchester there was talk about that and they had said they hadn't served this far north. He doesn't know if anything had changed since then. They don't have a local one like in Chester and Wilton. Mr. Desilets said so they are stuck with Comcast. Chairman Robie thought if there was anyone else out there that could serve our community as they do he thought they would solicit us for their business. This was the impression he's had over the past ten years here. Selectman Young said that Selectman Laliberte was right, because she has called them because she was upset with her cable bill. They don't service up here. She doesn't know if they have the lines or capability at this point. Mr. Desilets noted that Direct TV has it draws backs because of weather conditions. This wouldn't be

bettering our condition it would be making it worse. Selectman Laliberte noted they have the wifi services so you could do Netflix or Amazon Prime as well. There are more options outside of cable. He has Netflix and thought about cutting the cord. Mr. Desilets said this is why he was down here. He doesn't know how it works and Comcast appears to be the only show in town. It is what it is. Since we do pay a lot per month for what we get, they are paying us \$48,000 maybe we can say this is what we want, take it or leave it. Maybe they can make it \$50,000, he didn't know if they could do anything like that. Selectman Laliberte said we negotiate up to 5%. This is money that is coming out of your pocket anyway. It doesn't change your bill. Selectman Young added they will probably pass it along to the consumer. Selectman Laliberte said it would be essentially be a tax increase. Selectman Dann asked if they could negotiate on the packages. There are so many stations that nobody watches. Selectman Laliberte said they are a town of 4,000 and even if the City of Manchester or a bunch of cities got together, they have the same package as all of those other towns. He didn't think they had negotiating leverage on them if they were to say they don't want them. He didn't think a loss of 1,000 households would necessarily be skin off of Comcast's nose out of 60 million subscribers in the US. These are the plus's and minus's of living in a small town. Al Hall of Adams Road asked when does the contract expire or is there one. Chairman Robie said they are right on schedule to resign. Selectman Young said there are no other options that she knows of if they want cable service in Candia. Al Hall asked if the Board had talked to NHMA about this. Selectman Young said she talked Verizon and Comcast personally. She hadn't talked to NHMA. Al Hall said they aren't going to come looking for us because we are so small. They are going to have to be a little more aggressive and go after them. Selectman Laliberte said if he wasn't mistaken FairPoint until they were bought, the way they solicited was they have phone service and by the way they have deals on Dish Network or Direct TV. They had deals on the satellite and he didn't know if that had changed any. He thought if they were offering cable services in the town he has a feeling they all would have heard about it in the paper. Al Hall said there seems to be a feeling of we can do better. Selectman Young said there aren't any choices and there seems to be some frustration there because there aren't any choices. Al Hall said his sense is the Selectmen can do more with someone representing. Selectman Dann said if we don't sign this contract what ends up happening. Chairman Robie said they probably won't get the revenue that they pay. Selectman Dann asked if our residence could go to them and get cable if they wanted to. Chairman Robie said they will always get the service we just won't get the revenue. He didn't think there was anyone else. You talk about FairPoint, but he doesn't think they offer cable service. This is why they have Comcast and they have been solicited by anyone else. Selectman Dann said it may be something they want to look into next year. Chairman Robie said people can use the Dish and drop the cable if they choose. Selectman Dann said he was just wondering if they didn't sign this would it affect their service. Chairman Robie said it won't affect the service. Al Hall said the town pays NHMA dues and he thought a simple call to NHMA to state our case and see if they are on the right track or if there is anything else they can do. Selectman Young said she would make a phone call if this can be postponed. Chairman Robie asked who she was going to call. Selectman Young said the NH Municipal Association. Chairman Robie asked what can they do for us. Selectman Young said she didn't know but Al is saying we need to ask them. Selectman Young said she did call Verizon and the lines are not up this far. She said she could call NHMA if it is going to breed a little more confidence. Selectman Laliberte said this isn't due until the 14<sup>th</sup> of January and they have a meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup>. They have one meeting that they could do this. This is part of why they did this two weeks ago so they would have time incase a hitch happened. Selectman Young said this is public hearing and she will gladly call them up and they can take a vote on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Robie said they will table the Comcast contract until January 8<sup>th</sup>. He asked if there was any further public input. If not he will close the public hearing and they will reschedule this for January 8<sup>th</sup>.

The Board will consider encumbrances for 2017. Chairman Robie explained after this week's payroll they had \$161,452.77 left in the operating budget. They had \$48,100 in outstanding invoices which leaves a balance of \$113,352.77. At the bottom of the page there are some encumbrances that total \$42,294.39. The will leave a balance of \$71,058.38. If they would like they will go over the encumbrance. Smyth Memorial Building: The Smyth Memorial Building Trustees have two outstanding invoices from Dennis Vincent for painting. He started both of those painting projects and hasn't finished them. One of the invoices is for \$750 and the other invoice is for \$875. Also Dave Bowers from Olde Window Restorers was going to paint windows when he installed the sashes and the sills, but it did not get done because of the cold weather. So those three encumbrances for the Smyth Building came to \$1,875. If anyone would like to make a motion to encumber those funds out of their 2017 budget he would accept that motion. Selectman Dann asked if the work from the Olde Window Restorer still needed to be done. Chairman Robie said that was correct, it still needed to be done. Selectman Dann said it could be taken out of next year's budget, because he won't be able to do it until spring time. They are looking at needing \$80,000 and they are about \$9,000 short. Chairman Robie said they are going to make this work out. Selectman Dann said there is money in next year's budget that \$240 isn't going to hurt them. Selectman Laliberte said he was wondering about that too. He was wondering if they could put off the Smyth Memorial Building bills until the 2018 budget opposed to paying it as an encumbrance. He knows they committed to the Police Department on these things. Chairman Robie said they haven't committed to anything. Selectman Laliberte clarified they discussed these things for the Police Department but the Smyth Memorial Building is new. Selectman Young said her concern is that they are putting off things that they had in this year's budget. From what she understood they are not overdrawn. So they are within what they asked for in this year's budget. She didn't know about the Olde Window Restoration and she didn't know if it has been started. To make a long story short from what she understood from the budget, they are not over their budget line. This \$1,875 that they are asking us to encumber it does not bring them over their budget that they budgeted for this year. She would recommend leaving that alone, because next year's budget they have accounted for already, so when you push \$240 into next year you are taking from things they had planned for 2018. Selectman Laliberte said they want to get to \$80,000 and this is a way to get there. Selectman Dann noted Chairman Robie said they won't be able to get the Olde Window Restorer to do it until next year. This work hasn't been done and they would have liked to have gotten it done this year but it can be put off until next year. And \$240 in their budget is not that much. They are nickel and diming to get to \$80,000. Selectman Young said they are looking at \$240,000 instead of \$40,000. Chairman Robie said let's move along and he'll go along with Selectman Dann. He asked if they could encumber \$760 and \$875 for the two bills that Dennis had started, the new total being \$1,635. Selectman Laliberte moved to encumber \$1,635 for Dennis Vincent for work on the Smyth Memorial Building. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried. Police Department: Chairman Robie said they spoke with the Police Chief about several weeks ago about his vehicle being in bad repair and they said maybe if we have money left in the budget they could encumber enough money out of the 2017 budget

to get him a new cruiser. In the 2017 budget there was \$15,000 appropriated for a new cruiser with the speculation that 2018 they would appropriate another \$15,000 and they would get a new car. By the looks of our budget and Chief McGillen's invoice, Londonderry Ford has a cruiser for \$30,705. He also needs some radios and he would like to encumber the funds from his budget. His budget at this point is \$49,000 unexpended for the year. The Police Department needs to be commended on their effort. He would like to have a motion to encumber those funds; the only thing that would change is that they are going to wait three weeks before they authorize the Chief to purchase that car. The average needs for the end of the year is \$80,000 for the first three weeks in January. The numbers show \$71,000, but they accounted for some of that stuff in the \$48,100. They know the highway budget is over and they expended our highway warrant article by \$25,000 to \$30,000. He reiterated that some of that money is in the \$48,000 as outstanding 2017 invoices. If they could encumber those funds for the Police Department, go ahead and order the radios. If they wait three weeks to make sure they cover all of the bills for 2017. They could get a car out of this year's budget and be half a year ahead in the 2018 budget with another car already in line. They got to the point where they did a car every two years for three years now and it caught up to them. They will need to purchase a car this year and next year. Selectman Dann asked if the lights will need to be put on that cruiser too. Is that in next year's budget? Chief McGillen said they can take it out of that budget or they can take it out of the revolving fund. Chairman Robie said they may consider his car for a trade which would reduce the cost by \$3,000. Chief McGillen thought it was more like \$2,500. Chairman Robie said if they could reduce the cost by \$2,500 that money could be used to outfit the new car. Plus he has some money in his budget to outfit the car. He is going to get a new car either way. Selectman Dann said he understood he just wanted to a make sure he had some money budged for next year for some lights or outfit the car. What type of vehicle is it? Like the one he has now or the one they purchased earlier this year. Chief McGillen said it was a police utility. Selectman Laliberte said we need \$30,000 for the new car and then you mentioned something about \$15,000 already being set aside. If they already budgeted \$15,000 do they need to be encumbering \$30,000 or \$15,000? This is where he is confused. Chairman Robie said they can do it either way, but there is \$15,000 in this budget for the police cruiser in the 2017 budget. Selectman Laliberte clarified so that is part of the remainder. Chairman Robie said they encumber that \$15,000 and another \$15,000 to get to that number. Just because they encumber the funds doesn't mean they have to spend them. This is why they are going to give it the three week grace period. To make sure we can cover all of our other expenses. Selectman Young said it appears that we are \$9,000 off. Chairman Robie said that number is just an average. The \$48,100 is outstanding invoices that we know about. Selectman Young said the statement she would like to make is that it appears on paper they are \$9,000 off then what we need to begin the year at \$80,000. It appears that we took \$240 out of the Smyth Memorial Building to try to get up to this \$80,000, yet we are going to encumber another \$15,000 for a police cruiser. You know that she is very supportive of the police. She felt that she was missing something. Is she not making sense of why they are adding that? Selectman Dann asked if some other outstanding invoice come in and we fall below that \$80,000, they can look not getting one of these other items. Even though they encumbered it, if they don't have the money they don't spend it. They are looking forward and trying to analyze what they need. They aren't going to spend more, they can't. Chairman Robie said he and Accounting/Payroll Specialist Donna Becker are both concerned they are not going to over spend this budget that is for sure. He would say when this all shakes out three weeks from now. There should be \$40,000 or \$50,000 to turn back to the

voters and put towards next year's tax rate. This is what he thinks is going to happen. Selectman Dann moved to encumber the Police Departments request to encumber \$39,969.39 with a three week stipulation on cruiser purchase. Seconded by Selectman Laliberte. Chairman Robie, Selectman Laliberte, Selectman Dann were in favor and Selectman Young was opposed. Motion carried on a vote of 3 to 1. (3-1-0) Conservation Commission: Chairman Robie said the third encumbrance was from the Conservation Commission. They have an invoice from Frank Sarra for a sign. He doesn't know where that sign is going to go but he sure it goes on one of their trails or one of the projects that they work on. He would entertain a motion to encumber the funds. Selectman Young asked if the sign was done. Selectman Laliberte said he wasn't aware of this and it is new to him. Chairman Robie said they had an invoice. Conservation Commission member Dennis Lewis said he didn't know if the sign was done or not. He didn't know where it was going to go. It was a project that Susan Wilderman had been working on. Selectman Laliberte said he would like to wait on this. Selectman Young motioned to not encumber these funds. Conservation Commission member Dennis Lewis added no matter what happens the money goes into our conservation fund whether they encumber or not. It ends up not being placed in the operating general fund anyway. Any excess money in our \$2,400 budget gets automatically put into our conservation fund. So he is sure Susan was just thinking that she needed to encumber it so the bill would be paid. Either way it doesn't go back to the general fund. Selectman Dann clarified that they had the money anyway if the sign has been done. Selectman Young said if they don't' encumber it, it won't make any difference. Conservation Commission member Dennis Lewis said they will pay it out of next year's budget. Chairman Robie said then the Conservation Commission will come to the Selectmen to expend the funds. He thought Mr. Sarra has been sick as of late and may have not got that completed in time. He doesn't believe the Conservation Commission asks the town for a whole lot. Selectman Young thought he should be paid, that wasn't the question. It doesn't seem consistent to her what they are doing tonight. It might just be her. Selectman Dann said it seems that no one knows there was a sign. Conservation Commission member Dennis Lewis said if a bill comes in two weeks it's not going to matter. The Board decided not to encumber the funds for the Conservation Commission sign. Fire Department: Fire Chief Young asked about the items he wanted to encumber. Chairman Robie explained his encumbered items were included in the first number they had talked about, the \$48,100. Fire Chief Young said he didn't know that and he didn't give anything in writing he just talked to Accounting/Payroll Specialist Donna Becker.

**The Board to approve the holiday schedule for 2018.** Chairman Robie asked if there were any questions. Selectman Dann said he was looking at Monday January 15<sup>th</sup>. The office is closed, but shouldn't it be a floating holiday for the Recycling Center. Administrative Assistant Hansen said they would add it to the schedule. Chairman Robie said there were a couple of things he noticed this past week. He didn't know if the Recycling Center needed to be open on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. They might deserve on Sunday off when it lands on that day. Selectman Dann said they are open this coming Sunday and they close at 2:00 p.m. He noted there would be some appreciation, but the part time people would be losing some hours. You are cutting hours that they are scheduled to work. He likes that idea. They got a lot of calls on Sunday asking if they were open, but he thought a lot of people were expecting it to be closed. If they close they will have to publicize it. Chairman Robie said it is something to think about, it's not going to happen for another seven years. Selectman Dann said he liked that idea. Chairman Robie called for a motion to approve the holiday schedule. Selectman Laliberte moved to

approve the 2018 holiday schedule for the Town Employees. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Robie will discuss increasing the legal line in the budget. Chairman Robie said he had a little concern with the legal line for the upcoming 2018 season with what has been going on with our Planning Board. They've have a couple of cases that are pending with applications and final plans. He thought a few thousand dollars spent on legal services above and beyond what they do might save them a lot of money. If they can keep themselves aware of what needs to happen through the process and make sure they don't end up in court. Selectman Laliberte asked how much they should increase it. Chairman Robie though they should increase the bottom line budget, and increase it by \$10,000 in our legal line in case they need it. Selectman Young asked what the total was under 3 million without any petition warrant articles. Administrative Assistant Hansen thought it was but she will double check. It was noted that they budgeted \$26,000 in the legal line. Selectman Laliberte asked if he was thinking of moving it to \$35,000. Chairman Robie said something to that effect. He doesn't know if they'll need it. Selectman Laliberte said with the things coming up it might be worth it. Chairman Robie explained the applicants had their attorney there (at the Planning Board meeting) and we had our Town Attorney at the meetings the last two times. It seems to him that it would be wise to have that person there for their expertise and advice. Selectman Dann asked what they were at the Planning Board meeting for. Chairman Robie explained he was there for the Crowley Woods Development. Chairman Robie said it was just a thought. Selectman Young asked if they could take any money from anywhere else or not and just add the money on to the budget. Chairman Robie said he was more interested with adding it on than taking it out. It is a bottom line budget and if they need to pay more legal fees they'll just have to find a place to take them from. This is just something he saw as their representative to the Planning Board and talking with their legal counsel on a couple of occasions. Selectman Laliberte said he is leaning towards this because they have spent most of their line item for the legal services this year and they haven't had any litigation. Chairman Robie said there has been a there has been a little work done on this already. Selectman Laliberte said if it does get big he is concerned about it. Selectman Dann said that is an extra cost to the Town of Candia which is in Chester. So is there some type of recourse because it is affecting us as a town. They are accruing a lot of costs on this and they are getting nothing out of it. Selectman Young thought the litigation is to protect ourselves against our own community members who are wishing to stop something that is really not stoppable. So if she is getting this correctly, this litigation is trying to protect the Town of Candia against our own residents, per say who think they can stop this. She believes some of these residents have an attorney and she might be wrong on that, but they might take legal action against the Planning Board. Is that correct? Chairman Robie said that might be coming down the road, but that isn't what he is talking about. They just need to do the right things at the Planning Board level that the applicant is clear for what he needs to do and what we need to do, so they don't end up in a legal suit with the applicant suing the town. If that happened and the town won they would get back their legal fees, if they lose they will have to pay. The goal is to not get into that situation with some legal advice moving forward. Selectman Laliberte said his feeling is there are a lot of uncharted waters leading into this. Chairman Robie said there is for all of us involved. Selectman Dann said there is an impact on Candia. They talk about impact fees and what have you. They can't collect them from Chester. Selectman Young said that is for the Planning Board. Chairman Robie said he is just asking the Selectmen if they would like to

increase the budget line of the legal expenses for 2018. Selectman Dann asked if they could legally do that, he didn't think they could change anything in the budget. Chairman Robie said they can just it the Budget Committee is going to vote on the budget in two weeks. They haven't made their final vote on the town budget yet. He noted they are going to vote on it on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Young said that was correct the 10<sup>th</sup> was the town and the 11<sup>th</sup> was the school. She asked if they could absorb the \$10,000 with what they have presented as a budget. Chairman Robie said they could if they had to. He would rather not. He would rather budget for what they anticipate. Selectman Dann said the attorney has been to two of the Planning Board meetings already. Chairman Robie said two meetings with numerous phone calls. He gets \$185 per hour. We get 10 hours a month with our contract fee. Anything over that is still \$185 per hour. The last few months they have been over by a considerable amount of hours. Selectman Dann said a four hour meeting will cost them \$700 to have the attorney there. So \$10,000 could be eaten up very fast. Chairman Robie said they won't need him for seven plus meetings. This is going to shake out in three or four meetings and they'll know what direction they are going. Then if they have to prepare for further litigation, it gets expensive. Selectman Dann moved to increase the budget by \$10,000 based on Chairman Robie's recommendation. Selectman Laliberte felt they should have a little more discussion on this. Selectman Young thought they had a fair healthy budget that they presented and she thought the Budget Committee was really good at accepting it and supporting it. She can't believe that they can't absorb \$10,000. She just can't believe with the budget they've asked the town to support, they can't absorb \$10,000, but maybe they can't. She would rather see some paving cut back. She said they added \$110,000 for paving, so she would rather see it come out of that. If the Board wants to add \$10,000 go ahead and add it. Selectman Laliberte didn't think any of them wanted to. He did want to say that the Crowley Woods thing does make him nervous. Chairman Robie said then \$10,000 isn't going to make that much of a difference. Selectman Laliberte thought it was a good discussion.

The Board to consider warrant articles submitted by the Tax Collector and Treasurer. Selectman Laliberte read the warrant articles that were submitted by the Tax Collector. The first article submitted "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a 5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to the Tax Collectors Stipend, said funds to be directed by the Board of Selectmen. RSA 41:33." Chairman Robie asked if Tax Collector Stamatelos had any comments on that warrant article. Tax Collector Stamatelos said she was there to answer any questions the Board might have. Chairman Robie asked the Board if they had any questions on increasing the Tax Collector's stipend by 5%. Selectman Laliberte asked how much of an increase that was. Chairman Robie said it would be her stipend by 5%. Her stipend is \$8,500 and it would be a \$425 increase. Tax Collector Stamatelos noted there is only one increase in the 9 years she has been here because of one COLA situation. Selectman Young said she supports this. Chairman Robie asked there was a motion to approve the Tax Collector's warrant article that will go to ballot in March. Selectman Young motioned to put the Tax Collector's warrant article for a stipend increase on the ballot. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Laliberte read the second warrant article submitted by Tax Collector Stamatelos "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate an agreement with the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of Property Taxes before they are accessed or due. (RSA 80:52-aTaxpayers may prepay taxes up to 2 years in advance of the due date of the taxes if voted on by the governing board, No interest accrues on any prepayment, nor will interest be paid to the taxpayer on any prepayment, which may later be subject to refund.)" Chairman Robie asked if this warrant

article is by law and do they need to put this in. Tax Collector Stamatelos said it is kind of a housekeeping thing. They never had it on the books excepting prepayments. She has accepted prepayments but it is not on the books that they do it. Selectman Laliberte asked if this was based on the article in Sunday's newspaper talking about people wanting to prepay their taxes. Tax Collector Stamatelos said it has become a big issue because of new tax laws that they are expecting that people can't itemize their property taxes. Selectman Laliberte asked if she would be able to sufficiently not comingle that money. That was one of the concerns that he had about it is that you aren't supposed to put it in for, if someone pays two years in advance you have to keep that money separate. Tax Collector Stamatelos said they enter it as a credit memo for the year it is intended for, not the current year. Selectman Laliberte said then it can be sufficiently kept separate. He asked if there were any issues with that with her software. Selectman Dann asked if it would go into the general fund the year that it was paid. Tax Collector Stamatelos said it goes in as a 2018 prepayment. Selectman Dann said it doesn't go into a special account collecting interest until that year. Tax Collector Stamatelos said she didn't know what the Treasurer does with it, because she does all of the deposits. Selectman Dann said the only reason he asks is because when you buy a gift card it's not an income to that company until it is used at that point. Tax Collector Stamatelos said the RSA is written so it protects the town, they don't have to offer any interest to anything that is prepaid. Selectman Young said it probably goes into a separate fund. Selectman Laliberte said the other thing he is concerned about is let's say he pays two years worth of taxes, now he does it based on the number that he uses right now. Say that is \$5,000, so he would by \$2,500 for six months. This would based on that would he get a separate bill once the rate is set to cover whatever is left over. Let's say the tax rate went up. Would he get another bill that would ask for the remainder of that? Tax Collector Stamatelos said yes because with the assessing program when they hook it up with the Tax Collectors software it calculates what's been paid and what is due. So if nothing has been paid then it comes up due. It will show the difference if there was already a payment. Selectman Laliberte said the only concern he has if someone pays up to two years in advance with inflation they are getting some sort of discount even if they are paying extra. Selectman Young thought that "x" amount of dollars was still going to be deducted from their bill in two years if their bill is \$7,000. Tax Collector Stamatelos said they aren't paying as if they were paying their complete bill; they are only paying a portion. They don't lose money if the tax rate changes. Chairman Robie explained you are paying money to hold in escarole, because you can't pay taxes until you have a tax bill. You are just giving the town money like you are putting it in the bank. Fire Chief Young said if you watch the new, \$10,000 is the magic number. So if your taxes are under \$10,000 you're probably not going to pay for next year. If you pay \$13,000 in taxes you're probably going to pay \$3,000 for the next year because you can't deduct it. It is all about deductions that is the way he reads it. Chairman Robie asked if someone would entertain a motion for that warrant article. Selectman Young moved to put the second warrant article submitted by Tax Collector Stamatelos on the warrant as written. Seconded by Selectman Dann. Chairman Robie, Selectman Young, Selectman Dann were in favor and Selectman Laliberte was opposed. Motion carried on a vote of 3 to 1. (3-1-0). Selectman Laliberte read the third warrant article submitted "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate and authorize the Board of Selectmen to contractually discuss, on annual basis during the budgeting process, any wage increases for the Tax Collector's yearly stipend i.e. COLA (Cost of Living Adjustments) or increases due to extended years of service." Tax Collector Stamatelos said this one basically covers the fact that the town is allowing you to discuss a change in her stipend like you would

any other employee, because now she is an elected official and they don't have the ability to do that. They would have to submit a warrant article every time. Chairman Robie said when they increase the COLA for the employees this would give the Selectmen the authority to increase her stipend also. Tax Collector Stamatelos said if they choose to or choose not to it can be discussed in the budget process. Selectman Laliberte confirmed that they weren't putting her on the matrix or anything like that. Chairman Robie said no, it is to address her yearly stipend. She is a stipend employee. Selectman Young said this does Candy's, but none of the other elected officials. It was noted that they will be addressing the Treasurer's next. Selectman Young didn't know you could supersede this. This warrant article will supersede this. Tax Collector Stamatelos noted that all towns are very different. Some have contracts with their elected officials and the contract is written up based on that person. So if they aren't elected again then they have to start all over again with a new person. There are towns that pay their person a salary. Selectman Young thought they all got a stipend and didn't realize that they did that. Tax Collector Stamatelos said a lot of towns have an elected official and then they'll have several clerks that are co-trained to do the Tax Collectors job and the Town Clerk's job. They will still have a Town Clerk and Tax Collector, but still have all of those clerks. Chairman Robie said he would entertain a motion for this warrant article. Selectman Laliberte moved to place warrant article #3 submitted by the Tax Collector on the warrant. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Laliberte read from the warrant articles submitted by the Treasurer. He read the first warrant article submitted "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a 5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to the Treasurer's Stipend, said funds to be directed by the Board of Selectmen. RSA 41:33." Selectman Dann motioned to move warrant article #1 submitted by the Treasurer to the warrant. Seconded by Selectman Laliberte. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Laliberte read the second warrant article "To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate and authorize the Board of Selectmen to contractually discuss, on annual basis during the budgeting process, any wage increases for the Treasurer's yearly stipend. i.e. COLA (Cost of Living Adjustments) or increases due to extended *years of service.*" Selectman Dann asked if they could incorporate this one with the third article submitted by Tax Collector Stamatelos. It was noted that they needed to be kept separate. Selectman Dann motioned to move warrant article #2 submitted by the Treasurer to the warrant. Seconded by Selectman Laliberte. Tax Collector Stamatelos said as far as the third one she put in, it would be helpful too, because if she was not to be reelected then the Board would be in a position where they could change that stipend for a new person. Depending on what their skill level was or knowledge of the present job. Chairman Robie called for a vote. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Board to accept the resignation of the Firefighter Joseph Flanagan and announce the retirement of Firefighter Ryan Marion. Selectman Dann read the letter of resignation. Selectman Dann moved to accept Joseph Flanagan's resignation with regret. Seconded by Selectman Young. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Dann moved to accept Ryan Marion's retirement with regret. Seconded by Selectman Young. All were in favor. Motion carried. Fire Chief Young noted that Ryan loved the Fire Department and he started out as an Explorer. He had an unfortunate motorcycle accident a few years back and bounced back a little bit. Unfortunately this is why he decided to retire.

**The Board to authorize payment of payroll checks and accounts payable checks.** Selectman Laliberte announced the grand total for accounts payable and payroll checks for December 21<sup>st</sup> and December 28<sup>th</sup> was \$166,073.23. Selectman Dann moved to approve the accounts payable and payroll checks for December 21<sup>st</sup> and December 28<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$166,073.23. Seconded by Selectman Laliberte. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Petition warrant article.** Selectman Laliberte said a constituent emailed him and asked him what the dateline was for a citizen's petition. The deadline is January 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. and they need at least 25 legible signatures of Candia residents.

Resident David Desilet's asked if Chief McGillen was going to hold off for three weeks purchasing a cruiser or will the dealership hold off for three weeks in the hopes they will purchase that vehicle. Chief McGillen said they will find a cruiser for them. They have a good relationship with the Londonderry Police Department. Mr. Desilet's said it would be a shame to lose a deal if they had to wait three weeks. Selectman Dann noted the Laconia Dealership has a number of cruisers sitting in their lot. Chief McGillen said he called Irwin and they weren't able to help them. Selectman Dann said he was there about a month ago and he was surprise at how many they had, but they could have been promised. Chairman Robie asked if this would get them a half a year ahead on cars. Chief McGillen said it would. Chairman Robie asked Chief McGillen to find out how much they could get on their trade and how much the car would be worth for an outright sale. Chief McGillen said he would get some numbers worked up. Chairman Robie asked if he could have that for the next meeting. Selectman Dann asked if the general public could by the old cruiser. Chief McGillen said they've sold their old vehicles the cruiser and will the dealership hold the cruiser. MM said they will find them before. one. CR find out about the trade and get some number for the next meeting. RD can the general public buy it. MM said they sold their vehicles before.

The next regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting is January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Selectman Laliberte moved to adjourn 8:08 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Andria Hansen, Recording Secretary