

~~Unapproved~~ Approved
Candia Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 28, 2009

Attendance: Chairman Fred Kelley, Vice-Chair Rick Lazott, Selectman Joe Duarte, Selectman Carleton Robie, Selectman Richard Snow, Selectmen's Assistant Cheryl Eastman, and Administrative Assistant Andria Hansen

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

Solid Waste Committee Chair Al Couch to discuss contract for new waste hauler. SWC Chair Al Couch was present. He explained to the Board that there are three parts to shipping something out of the Recycling Center. There is a container rental, a fee for shipping material, and there is a landfill fee. The landfill fee is the most expensive. The comparison from what the Town currently pays to the new contract would be a savings of \$13,000. SWC Chair Couch explained the savings on the rental would be \$3,700. There is no rental under the Waste Management contract. The savings on hauling would be \$1,700. These estimates were based on annual figures that Facility Operator Whitcher worked up. SWC Chair Couch noted the numbers would vary seasonally and from year to year. There was some discussion on hauling. Selectman Duarte asked if Atty. Mayer reviewed contract and if all of the issues have been resolved. Chairman Kelley replied that they have. Selectman Robie asked about the proposed 2010 budget for landfill and it might have been something worth reviewing. SWC Chair Couch replied that Facility Operator Chuck Whitcher budgets the numbers and is good at it. He added that if there are any questions they can raise it at the Solid Waste Committee meeting, but they usually let Facility Operator Whitcher handle it. Selectman Robie replied that he was making sure the number fit with the 2010 budget. Chairman Kelley noted he has been to all of the SWC meetings and they spent a lot of time making this decision. Selectman Duarte moved to accept the new solid waste hauling contract with Waste Management. Seconded by Selectman Lazott. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Kelley mentioned the money for the gutters and ice guards at the new recycling center should be encumbered. It may not get done this year. SWC Chair Couch noted they need a warm day to install the gutters and ice guards. Selectman Robie mentioned the concrete pad for the used oil collection tank. Chairman Kelley noted \$1,500 will be encumbered for the concrete pad as well.

Selectman Duarte noted as of last week the Recycling Center picked up \$4,583 from Hardy Metals, \$3,835 from Advanced Metals, and \$967 for a load of batteries. They have another \$3,000 to \$4,000 more that might not get in by the end of the year.

The Board to vote on encumbering items from 2009. Chairman Kelley referred to a list of items to be encumbered (see attached). Some of the items that should be encumbered are as follows: 3 computers for the Selectmen's Office, batteries for power back-ups, BMSI training for the Accounting/Payroll Clerk, and a new police cruiser.

Chairman Kelley noted that Administrative Assistant Hansen's computer would go to the Administrative Assistant Carrier since it has recently been rebuilt. Selectman Snow asked if he could see the quotes on the new computers and what would they be purchasing. Selectman Robie replied the Board has already decided they will be purchasing new computers. Selectman Snow asked if he could be involved with the purchasing of the computers. Selectman Robie stated he had a chance a couple of months ago. Selectman Snow replied he doesn't recall discussing this issue. Chairman Kelley replied they went to three different companies and got quotes. Selectman Snow asked what kind of computers would be purchased. Selectmen's Assistant Eastman replied they were purchasing HP's. Selectman Robie stated she doesn't have to decide what kind right now. They are only trying to get the money encumbered. Selectman Snow stated in order to encumber the money they should have a purchase order. Selectman Robie replied Selectmen's Assistant Eastman will purchase the computer once they have the funds. They have already gone over what they will be purchasing. Selectman Snow replied that he didn't remember and it was not made available to the Board. Chairman Kelley stated the information was made available and he would like to move forward. Selectman Robie noted they will encumber \$2,400 for office computers and \$16,200 for batteries for power back-ups. Selectman Snow asked what they are getting for \$16,200. Selectmen's Assistant Eastman replied 18 batteries. *Selectman Robie motioned to encumber \$19,000 to include 3 computers for the office, back-up batteries, and BMSI training. Seconded by Chairman Kelley. All were in favor. Motion carried.* Selectman Robie noted if there was any money left over it would be turned back to the general fund. He asked Selectmen's Assistant Eastman to provide Selectman Snow with the quotes for the computers and the battery back-up. Selectman Robie noted there would be some lines that these items would be subtracted from (in the 2010 budget). Selectman Snow stated another option would be to put them in as warrant articles and see how the people vote on it. Selectman Robie replied they need the batteries and the computers. Chief McGillen noted he found out recently that the Police Department was not including for the new computers. Chairman Kelley replied that one of the better computers in the Selectmen's Office would be going to Administrative Assistant Karen Merchant. *Selectman Lazott motioned to encumber \$24,500 for a new police cruiser. Seconded by Selectman Duarte.* Chief McGillen mentioned that he received a quote of \$23,240 for a new cruiser and they would need to swap over the equipment to the new cruiser. This would cost about \$1,000 and about \$500 for the lettering. Selectman Robie stated that he and the Budget Committee were not in favor of a new cruiser in 2010 and were not in favor of two cruisers in 2009. He thought they should put \$10,000 to \$12,000 in the maintenance line and try it for year without purchasing a new cruiser. Selectman Duarte asked what the mileage was on the cruisers. Chief McGillen replied that one has 132,000 miles and the other one has approximately 107,000 miles. He noted that one has a rusted floor board. Selectman Robie stated that he wasn't going to argue about the cruiser purchase either way. Selectman Snow noted that he supported the purchase of a police cruiser every year, but he hasn't heard any discussion about it. He would like information from Chief McGillen i.e. how many cruisers do we have, how many miles on each one, when they were bought, if they have time meters on them, and is there a standard maintenance plan on the cruisers. In addition, he would like to see a maintenance history. Selectman Duarte felt it was a lot easier to replace a cruiser once a

year than spending a lot of money on maintenance. He felt it comes down to the safety of the officers. Chief McGillen mentioned that if they get to a point where the cruisers have low enough mileage maybe they can skip a year where they don't need to purchase a new one. He felt they weren't at that point yet. He would like to improve the fleet instead of going the other way. Chairman Kelley noted this will be the second purchase of a new cruiser in 2009. Selectman Lazott clarified the purchase of the 2010 cruiser is being purchased in 2009. There was further discussion about the maintenance and purchase of a cruiser. Selectman Snow stated he would still like to see the numbers from Chief McGillen. There was some discussion about the warranty. Selectman Snow asked if there were time meters on the cruisers. Chief McGillen noted the new cruisers have them. Chairman Kelley called for a vote on Selectman Lazott's previous motion. *Chairman Kelley, Selectman Lazott, Selectman Duarte, and Selectman Snow were in favor. Selectman Robie abstained. Motion carried on a vote of 4 to 1.* Selectman Lazott motioned to encumber the amount of \$2,091.40 to include ammo for the Police Department and equipment for the Police Department from Worcester County Police Equipment. Seconded by Selectman Snow. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Robie asked Selectmen's Assistant Eastman to explain the new IT company contract and server upgrade. Selectmen's Assistant Eastman explained that it's a service contract for an IT company to manage our computer systems similar to the current IT company, but with better service. Selectman Robie motioned to encumber the \$7,200 with the intent that they look at the 2010 budget and back out what we can from the computer maintenance line. Selectman Snow asked to see the contract. Seconded by Selectman Lazott. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectmen's Assistant Eastman explained the server they are using right now is a dinosaur with a temperamental tape backup system. This would be an upgrade to the server and the tape backup system. Selectman Robie motioned to encumber \$1,425 for the server upgrade and the new IT Company will set that up. Seconded by Selectman Lazott. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Robie stated the total amount encumbers so far was \$60,016.40.

Selectman Robie mentioned the Fire Department was present to discuss encumbering funds. Fire Chief Young noted that there is \$18,756 left in the Fire Department budget. He went over a list of items to be encumbered. Fire Chief Young explained 6 firefighters passed their ADL tests which will cost \$750 (paid to the State). They had a firefighter (a Candia resident) pass his Firefighter 1. He will need to be reimbursed \$610. They need to by an air compressor for Engine 1 at a cost of \$650. Some gear needs to be purchased at a cost of \$1,650. There are some repairs that need to be done at a cost of \$750. They had a firefighter pass his Firefighter II, which costs \$250. They would like to purchase 10 pair of gloves at \$1,450 and 4 pair of boots at \$600. They need 2 portable chargers costing \$200. They would like to purchase 500 feet of hose at \$2,500. They need 2 more pagers at \$1,100. The total so far is \$9,610. Fire Chief Young explained they still have a December electric bill and one more propane fill by the end of the year. Fire Chief Young thought approximately \$10,000 should be encumbered. This will leave \$9,000 in the Fire Department budget. Selectman Robie motioned to accept the Fire Department's encumbered funds. Seconded by Selectman Lazott. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Robie commended the Fire Department for having money left in their budget.

Selectman Robie asked Selectmen's Assistant Eastman if the projected number was \$183,000 as of December 23rd. Selectmen's Assistant replied that was correct. Selectman Robie clarified if they take out \$69,262, there will be \$113,619 left. There will be a buffer of \$50,000 for the Highway Department. Road Agent Lewis went over his expenditures. Selectman Robie explained they would take \$50,000 out of the \$113,000 for the Highway Department. Road Agent Lewis noted they shouldn't touch the Warrant Article if possible. Selectmen's Assistant Eastman gave the projected year end balance amount of \$62,616.62. Selectman Lazott would like to see the amount of the Highway Department's warrant article cut down next year.

The Board to discuss and possibly revise Selectmen's 2010 proposed budget.

Selectman Lazott felt there was some discrepancies between the Budget Committee's and Selectmen's budget and would like to discuss them. Selectman Robie thought they should wait for the Budget Committee's public hearing on January 5th. Selectman Lazott stated in past years they have always reviewed the Budget Committee's recommended budget and revised it before the public hearing. Selectman Duarte mentioned that the Budget Committee was cutting some items that shouldn't be cut. He reviewed the Fire Department's budget first. He felt the protective clothing shouldn't be cut by \$4,500. The water has been cut by \$3,243. Fire Chief Young stated the gear is going to be used and if it wears out they have to replace it. He noted that Firefighter George May does a good job keeping track of the gear and felt the protective clothing line shouldn't be cut. Selectman Lazott mentioned that last year they budgeted \$15,500 for protective clothing and spent \$13,663 year to date. He felt budgeting \$11,000 was too low, but maybe keep it at \$14,000. Selectman Snow asked what the Budget Committee's rationale was to cut back on protective clothing. Selectman Robie replied that Deputy Fire Chief Davis spoke to the Budget Committee about using the gear and it was going to be used for training. Deputy Fire Chief Davis clarified when they send guys to training they don't send them in new gear. They try to use gear that still meets specs, so they don't beat up the new gear. Deputy Fire Chief Davis explained the gear is a firefighter's only line of defense for safety. Selectman Robie noted they should be discussing this at the public hearing for the Budget Committee. There is no sense in doing this twice. Selectman Robie noted the Budget Committee cut the Fire Department's budget by \$15,000 and he got it back up to where it was. Selectman Snow asked if Fire Chief Young should go to the Budget Committee's public hearing to discuss this. Selectman Robie stated if they go to the Deliberative Session with a number they all agree they'll get the budget passed. Selectman Lazott replied the problem is we don't all agree on the budget. Selectman Robie stated that's why you should go to the public hearing. Selectman Snow thought they should wait until after January 5th before making any decisions. Selectman Robie felt they should come to some type of an agreement on the budget. Selectman Duarte stated the Budget Committee makes cuts and they don't realize what their cutting. He referred to the Recycling Center for an example. There are items they are in need of and the budget gets undercut. Selectman Lazott stated he would like to see the \$1.00 put back into the cruiser line and didn't want to see the line zeroed out. He would like to see the gasoline line bumped up from \$17,000 to \$18,000. The bottom line budget for the Police Department would stay the same. The ammunition is encumbered, so they can lower that line item for the 2010 budget. He would prefer to move the money if they could. He

added \$500 to books and printed material bringing it back up to \$1,000. Selectman Lazott added that the electric and telephone should be bumped up under town building expenses. He thought that Welfare Director DelRosso's stipend should stay at \$10,000. He noted the Budget Committee isn't authorized to change someone's salary only the Selectmen can do that. Selectman Robie clarified it's not a salary, it's a stipend and all the Budget Committee does is make the recommendation. Selectman Lazott stated that Welfare Director DelRosso is doing an outstanding job. Selectman Snow asked if the decrease in the stipend was because the Health Officer part was dropped from the position. Selectman Robie noted there were no more discussion on the position and these questions should be discussed with the Budget Committee. He further noted if they decided on \$10,000 instead of \$11,000 back in September there wouldn't be any discussion on this. Selectman Snow asked why the budget stipend was decreased to \$7,000. Selectman Robie explained years ago the stipend for the Health Officer was \$2,500 and Welfare Officer's stipend was \$7,500. He further explained that since BI Hallock had taken on the Health Officer position, the Budget Committee subtract a third of Welfare Officer's stipend. Selectman Robie stated that he would agree with the Board at the public hearing to leave the stipend at \$10,000.

Selectman Lazott thought he should have been given a heads up by Selectman Robie on the Budget Committee's changes. He felt being the Selectmen's Rep to the Budget Committee Selectman Robie should have brought the information back to the Board. Selectman Robie replied when the Budget Committee turned over their budget (in December) that's when the Board should have reviewed it. If he came to the Board with weekly reports it would have been chaos. He has watched the budget closely, because the Board has allowed him to do so. Selectman Lazott reiterated he wished he gave the Board a heads up when the changes took place. Selectman Robie replied it's the Budget Committee's recommendation. He added everyone was welcome to come to the Budget Committee meetings when they met with the department heads. There was further discussion about the budget and the Highway Budget. Road Agent Lewis noted he would like to keep the warrant articles for next year and if he needs to dip into them he will. This year they had to hang on to what they had. Selectman Robie noted that's what they did. Selectman Lazott noted the Highway Department had \$63,788 added to their budget this year. Selectman Robie replied the Highway Department will just make it this year with out using the warrant article. Selectman Lazott felt they could drop the warrant article next year from \$75,000 to \$50,000. Selectman Robie noted it doesn't matter what they raise their going to give it all back to him. Selectman Lazott stated he's looking at lowering the tax rate. Selectman Robie said for six months they talked about level funding the budget. He noted the Budget Committee is only looking to lower the budget by \$8,000. Selectman Lazott felt there should be a 2% cushion. Selectman Duarte stated if you cut it down to the wire we'll be in trouble. He added if there is money left over it goes back into the general fund anyway. Selectman Robie stated the reason the Budget Committee does this is because years ago the Selectmen were spending there budget down to the last penny. Selectman Duarte and Selectman Lazott stated they were in favor of forming the Budget Committee years ago. Selectman Duarte felt the Budget Committee doesn't work with the Selectmen. Selectman Robie noted he had worked with the Selectmen all summer long.

Other Business

Thibeault Sand & Gravel: Selectman Robie recently reviewed the facts and findings report that Selectman Snow sent to the Raymond Planning Board. He noted that he hadn't seen it until recently and questioned why the Board didn't have any input on this. Selectman Robie stated that the Board didn't discuss this and he wasn't sure he would recommend denying it. Selectman Lazott added he wasn't in favor of denying the project and felt they should be able to run the quarry. Selectman Robie would like a consensus from the Board. Selectman Snow review what he talked about with the Raymond Planning Board. There was some discussion about what was sent to the Raymond Planning Board. Selectman Snow explained the facts and findings are the legal response from the Attorney. Selectman Robie replied he didn't agree with that as a member of the Board. He added these issues should have been brought to the Board. Selectman Lazott stated as long as Thibeault meets all of Raymond's criteria and requirements they can do what they want to do. Selectman Robie agreed. Selectman Lazott added this is not for Candia to decide, its Raymond's issue. Selectman Snow stated we had enough information that Candia felt that Raymond should deny the application. He added this document was in the sign folder. Selectman Snow felt the Town should have concerns with this.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Public meeting minutes of 12/21/09 and sealed non-public meeting minutes of 11/9/09. The minutes of 12/21/09 was deferred to the next Selectmen's meeting. Selectman Lazott motioned to accept the sealed non-public meeting minutes of 11/9/09 (1 & 2). Seconded by Selectman Duarte. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andria Hansen, Recording Secretary