

**TOWN OF LISBON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES**  
October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**SELECTMEN PRESENT:** Thomas Demers (T. Demers), Peter Nightingale (P. Nightingale), Matthew Yeramian (M. Yeramian).

Town Administrator: Dan Merhalski (D. Merhalski), Chief of Police Scott Pinson (S. Pinson).

**MEETING OPENED:** T. Demers opened the meeting at 5:32 pm.

The Board reviewed the minutes of Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>. Motion to approve the minutes of September 26<sup>th</sup> as amended was made by P. Nightingale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Demers. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed and signed the payroll manifests and requests for use of the Rail Road Station building.

A motion to go into Executive Session according to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and (c) to discuss personnel and legal issues was made by T. Demers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Nightingale. Roll Call vote: T. Demers – yea, P. Nightingale – yea, M. Yeramian – yea.

The Board went into Executive Session at 5:57 pm.

The Board returned to Public Session at 6:03 pm.

A motion to seal the Executive Session Minutes was made by M. Yeramian, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Nightingale. Motion passed 3-0.

The Board took a brief recess until 6:32 pm.

D. Merhalski presented to Board with the Town Administrator's Proposed budget. The Board reviewed each department's budget line by line with the Town Administrator and the Department Head, making amendments where necessary. The overall budget as presented was down 3% for Town operations and overall, with the water and wastewater departments included, was down 5.5% from FY 2016.

The Board agreed to try to appoint members to fill the Budget Committee and refer the budget to that committee, if it can reconvene. D. Merhalski will draft invitation letters to members of the public.

Jennifer Trelfa, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, reviewed the deeding issues with the trailer to be deeded on River Road. The issues included having it appraised, if there was a rent due to the landlord for the back rent of the land it was located on, and if it were going to be moved or sold. The Board asked J. Trelfa and D. Merhalski to have Stan Borkowski, Code Enforcement Officer, arrange to inspect the trailer and report back to them.

Audrey Champagne of the Life Squad met with the Board to review the account research she had done with regard to the Town's Comstar and revenue accounts for the Life Squad. She said that the account was set up to deposit funds directly from Comstar before the split in revenue sharing could take place and this needed to be corrected. The Board discussed the establishment of a new account or simply to use the Town's existing account for the receipt of these direct deposit funds

from Comstar, Medicare and Medicaid. After some discussion, the Board agreed to establish a new account for the funds to be directly deposited into and for the Town Bookkeeper, or for the Town Administrator, to make the split and deposit funds into the correct accounts. This duty to be taken on by the Treasurer when one is appointed. There was also discussion about the names of the accounts and changing them to be more accurate in the descriptions of their use. A motion was made by P. Nightingale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Demers to rename the account ending in 5046 to the “2012 Lisbon Life Squad Revolving Equipment Account 25/75”. Motion carried. A motion was then made to rename account ending in 4676 to “2014 Lisbon Life Squad Revolving Transfers Account 50/50” by P. Nightingale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Demers. Motion carried. A last motion was made by P. Nightingale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Demers to open a new account at Woodsville Guarantee Bank to be used for direct deposit of the funds from Comstar, Medicaid and Medicare. Motion carried.

The Board heard the request by the Police Chief to make a decision on the hiring of a third Full-time officer before the interview process begins later next week. Chief Scott Pinson said that he wanted to be able to have a decision before he went through the process of interviewing and selecting a candidate if the Board was not committed to hiring that third position. T. Demers said that the Board had only received the e-mail scheduling information from the Town Administrator this evening and that they need some time to digest it and then make a decision. S. Pinson said that he wanted a decision before the next meeting since he was making a decision about interviewing candidates at the end of the week when the posting period ended. Several members of the public spoke in favor of the police department hiring the position, citing the crime rate now as compared to what it used to be, the response time and cost of the state police responding and the value of the town’s residents’ safety. Several members of town staff also spoke in favor of hiring the position. Perry Gagnon asked if there were options for hiring part-time officers or if it was necessary to hire a third position in a town this small? He cited examples of other towns with smaller, or no, police forces and the fact that the state was required to respond. Doug Brown spoke about response times for the state police and the area that they have to cover. After substantial dialog, the Board said that they wanted to table the item for a later time to allow them to review the information presented to them and consider if they wanted to permit the hiring.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by P. Nightingale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Demers. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dan Merhalski, Town Administrator