

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
June 29, 2009**

Present: First Selectman Scott Lingenfelter, Brian Fitzgerald and Timothy Reynolds.
Absent: John Smith and Vicki Spellman, First Selectman Lingenfelter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall lower level conference room on Monday, June 29, 2009.

Executive Session:

Selectman Reynolds made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. The Selectmen went into session at 6:01 p.m. (Present was Town Counsel, Ed McAnaney).

Selectman Fitzgerald made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. The Selectmen came out of session at 6:26 p.m.

Possible Vote on Addendum to Lease with 230 Mountain Rd, LLC:

Selectman Reynolds made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign an addendum to the Lease with 230 Mountain Road, LLC, to settle the outstanding balance for common maintenance charges. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Discussion and possible vote on the expenditure related to the Fire Department SAFER GRANT. Present: Lt. John Leahey and Chief Bellmore.

Chief Bellmore stated that this grant application was approved by the Selectmen, but the Fire Department was denied in December of 2008. A week ago, he received notice asking if the Town would accept the Grant, if offered. This was due to the fact that many other municipalities did not accept the grant awards due to budgetary restrictions. The Grant's Federal Share is \$39,000, the Town's share is \$29,000 for a total of \$68,000. Over the 5 year period, the federal share is \$108,000, the Town \$285,000 for a total of \$393,000 for having a firefighter for 5 years. By the fifth year it is 100% paid by the Town and thereafter. The Town must keep the position for 5 years.

Mr. Lingenfelter said that during the budget process, the Selectmen and Board of Finance agreed that no new positions would be created. Selectman Fitzgerald asked if we may need another full time firefighter within the next 5 years, and if so, then this is an opportunity to get one now and have the federal government pay 90% for the first of the five years. Mr. Lingenfelter feels this is an extremely difficult decision right now since the Town has been pushing the entire budget process not to create any new positions, however, public safety is a major concern. The Selectmen felt that it would be best to wait on this Grant and apply again in a year or so, if the Town feels that it will need

another full time paid firefighter. In the interim, the Fire Department is looking at new ways to recruit more volunteers.

Selectman Reynolds made a motion to recommend to the Board of Finance to approve the application of the Fire Department's 2008 SAFER Grant for an additional firefighter. A vote was taken and all Selectmen voted opposed. Motion failed.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Selectmen, Selectman Reynolds made a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Next Meeting:

July 15, 2009 at 7 p.m., Town Hall, lower level meeting room

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Koren, Recording Secretary