JANUARY 8, 2001 SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Members: Don A., Steve L., Brian G. – Chair, Lee S.
Absent: Jim P.
Department Heads: Bill M., Bud G., Wally R., Richard K., Mary Ann W.
Guests: Linda Livingstone, Shaun Bryer, Jennifer Geary

RESCUE:
Lamoille Ambulance Service covered for five hours on 12/27/00. Rescue has met with the Explorer Post to assess issues and gather information. The Post was up for re-charter in December. Rescue is considering not sponsoring the Post in future, and will be meeting to discuss this topic on 1/14/01.

HIGHWAY:
The Department has been hauling snow in the Village. There has been water in the Village underground fuel tank. It has been pumped and a new cover and fill pipe installed. The loader has new wheel seals. Three hundred ton of salt has been received.

POLICE:
There were 85 calls in the last week, with no detox transfers. Officers have been experiencing problems with the key pass for gas purchases. It has not been reliable. Morrisville Mobil offers a Speed Pass, which could work well instead. Don A. suggested looking into switching to the Speed pass. Steve L. requested confirmation of price and billing practice before changing.

FIRE:
A new on-scene accountability system is in place. Training will resume on Tuesdays. Search and rescue ropes have been ordered for use with the new imager. Steve L. inquired about the computer used by the former Secretary/Treasurer. Wally R. stated it would be returned for use by the Department. An older computer will be provided to the Water Officer for use with the Dry Hydrant program.

HEALTH: No report.

ANIMAL: No report.

GENERAL GOVT:
Mary Ann spoke with School Superintendent Alice Agney for input on use of the voting tabulator. Alice agreed hand counting would be appropriate this year. The Selectboard agreed to vote counting by this method.

TA:
The Selectboard reviewed and revised the Draft Right of Way Policy. A final draft to be presented for approval on 1/22/01. George Cormier and Brad Limoge have been contacted regarding the deadline for Town Report. VOSHA policy training was held at the Highway Department. Henry Tottenham has forwarded the proposed Quit Claim deed

to his attorney for review. Richard Sargent is drafting an article for Town Meeting regarding resignation of the Cemetery Commissioners. The Side Judges sent a follow-up budget summary to the Selectboard. A request for reimbursement for a towing fee from the Village Garage lot on New Years Eve has been received. The lot is not currently posted. The Police Department attempted and was unable to contact the vehicle owner. Steve L. moved and Lee S. seconded for discussion a motion to update the parking ban notice to include Town parking lots to include "unless otherwise posted" language. The Board felt there would be problems distinguishing the different lots and Town owned properties. Don A. suggested simply posting No Parking Signs. Brian G. raised concerns over not having a policy to back them up. The motion failed – Brian G., Don A., Lee S. opposed, Steve L. in favor. Brian G. suggested posting No Parking signage at the Village Garage as a courtesy. Lee S. suggested at the Town Garage as well. Brian G. directed Julia C. to research the legal posting and enforcement issues. The topic will be re-visited before November 2001. Brian G. moved and Lee S. seconded for discussion a motion to issue a check in the amount of $65 to reimburse towing expenses. In light of the preceding discussion, the motion was unanimously denied. The Draft Employment Agreement for the Zoning Administrator was presented. Steve L. suggested moving the topic to executive session at the end of the meeting.

GUESTS:

Linda Livingston of Merchants Bank attended to discuss the Duhamel Account. Brian G. indicated that on March 19, 2002 the Town intends to pay off the debt on the Duhamel Pit. Linda Livingstone indicated that it would be prudent to begin moving the investments into conservative funds. She will also convert the dividends to a cash format instead of reinvesting in additional stock. Julia C. to follow up with a letter requesting account closure on or shortly after March 19, 2001 and the return of the funds to the Town. Linda indicated the remaining Copley Funds are doing well. She will send the Copley Fund warning for the newspaper and Town Report to Julia C. Jennifer Geary and Shaun Bryer were in attendance to discuss the July 4th committee request for a $6,000 appropriation. They acknowledged that in requesting the increase to $6,000 last year they had thought it would carry them for a two-year period. They now feel that to maintain the level of celebration as last year they will need $6,000. If this year's event does not equal or surpass last year's event, they will reduce the amount requested in future and scale back the event. Brian G. suggested seeking support and participation from other towns. He also questioned the total sum of $11,000 for the parade and fireworks. Jennifer Geary indicated they wished to continue offering the event at no charge so that no one is excluded. Don A. expressed concern over incorporating the Flag Project into the July 4th activities. He feels that a separate committee should handle it. He questioned the long-term plan/maintenance of the flags. Shaun indicated that the details need to be worked out. Water and Light has agreed to put up and take down flags. Shaun initiated the project with July 4th to get it started. Brian G. clarified the Selectboard's position with regard to the $6,000 appropriation. Steve L., Brian G. and Lee S. supported the amount, Don A. opposed it.