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Board of Selectmen Minutes 03/06/2012

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes March 6, 2012

- Present: Selectmen Russell Galpin, Lou Ann Rousseau and Steven Venezia, Laura McCrystal, Larry Baker, Denise DeForest and Selectmen's Secretary Iris Campbell
- Mr. Galpin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- Mr. Venezia made a motion to accept and sign the contract from Orr & Reno for legal services related to the investigation. Mrs. Rousseau seconded the motion. The Board voted all in favor.
- Mr. Galpin asked the Board if they wanted to present the same article at town meeting as they did at the budget hearing.
- Mrs. Rousseau said she was fine with that.
- Mr. Venezia said he would speak to Mr. O'Keefe and Chief Roarick regarding the two unions because they have the most knowledge about them and ask them to be available at town meeting.
- Mr. Galpin said he had Mr. Stetser notice this meeting. Mr. Stetser asked if he had to be here tonight and I told him there was really no reason why he had to be.
- Mr. Baker asked if there was enough time to ask a few questions.
- Mr. Galpin said he had not intended to take any comments or questions. He asked the Board if they had any objections.
- Mrs. Rousseau and Mr. Venezia had no objection.
- Mr. Baker asked what the criteria was, as far as who you have chosen. After the research I have done this person doesn't seem to have the necessary skill set in the area as is posted on their public profile. So I am just curious as to the criteria used to choose this person.
- Mr. Galpin said basically if they had done this type of investigation in the past and she has, more than once. Also, cost figures and available time.
- Mrs. Rousseau said three people had been suggested by Town Council.
- Mr. Venezia said the Board had the opportunity to ask them direct questions on how to handle it and how they would go about the process. We based our decision off of that. We interviewed all three and she does have experience in this.
- Mr. Baker said he knows this may be something they may not post under their area of practice on their own individual legal sites.
- Mr. Venezia thought she did post this on her site.

- Mr. Baker said he didn't see it.
- Mr. Venezia said it maybe under something like employment practice or employment litigation.
- Mr. Baker said that was there.
- Mr. Venezia said that maybe where it is and this may fall under that realm.
- Mrs. Rousseau felt she was very comfortable to talk to and thought the employees would like her.
- Mrs. DeForest asked when the investigation would start.
- Mrs. Rousseau answered as soon as possible. She wouldn't be surprised if the employees heard from her by the end of the week. Mrs. Rice said it would be immediate.
- Mrs. DeForest asked if during her investigation will she be speaking to all the employees.
- Mrs. Rousseau said she will be making that determination.
- Mr. Venezia said there will be certain people she will be starting out with, just like any investigator and it will go from there depending who is necessary, that will be up to her. She is completely impartial, independent third party which is one of the things we really liked.
- Mrs. Rousseau said we assume she will start with the original list of people and then expand from there.
- Mr. Galpin said she will let everyone know when she will be meeting with you and I believe it has been arranged to use the police station conference room.
- Mr. Baker said people will feel more comfortable in a private place.
- Mrs. Rousseau said it is out of the work place which is important.
- Mr. Galpin said unless employees talk this is going to be pretty much a client type of thing with no publicity or publishing of anything until it is complete.
- Mr. Galpin said the Board had a conference the attorney and he would accept a motion to adjourn.
- Mr. Venezia made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Rousseau seconded the motion. The Board voted all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Iris Campbell Selectmen's Secretary