

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
May 28, 2015 5:30PM

Quorum noted

A. 5:30 PM: Meeting called to order by Chairman Beckert.

B. Roll Call: Mr. Beckert, Mr. Hirst, Mr. Fernald, Mr. Murphy.

Absent: Ms. Davis.

C. Pledge of Allegiance recited

D. Moment of Silence observed

PUBLIC HEARING – Title 30-A 25.28.5 on May 28, 2015 at 5:30 PM to discuss the warrant articles to be voted on by secret ballot on June 9th. Copy of sample ballot and warrant articles are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

5:31 PM Mr. Beckert said that this was properly posted in the newspapers on May 20, 2015 and has been posted on the Town website. He discussed the rules for the Public Hearing and asked people to silence their cell phones. He added that this is an informational hearing to answer questions and clarify.

5:32 PM Public Hearing opened.

Ms. (Rose) Dougherty, Park Street, said that years ago we used to get a book in the mail and we could review all the articles in it when we had time at home. She added that now people have to come to the Town Hall and she was concerned that people might not have the information to be prepared for the Town Meeting.

Mr. Beckert agreed that the books are available at Town Hall. He added that it was decided a few years ago that the expense to print and mail out the books was getting out of control; that the entire warrant, article by article, is also available on the Town website. He said that they will be available at the Town Meeting on June 13th and at the polls on June 9th; that we have tried to make it as available and cost-effective as possible. He added that we used to find that we would mail them out on a Tuesday and that Saturday we started receiving them at the Transfer Station in the trash; that that's how effective they were going out to the households.

Mr. (Jack) Dougherty, Park Street, said that, regarding the Citizen's Initiative where we are going to move the money articles to a vote in the future, this year there are 22 articles dealing with raising money; that he took the time to sit down and see how much time it would take him just to read those articles, which was at least 7 minutes, adding another 5 seconds for each article to fill in the block and my total conservatively came out to 10 minutes. He asked if we were to do this in

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the future, do our folks want to be standing in line for at least 10 minutes waiting for the next person to vote, which to him was a long period of time. He said that, on Article the 28th, he saw that the BOS have recommended one amount of money and the Budget Committee has recommended a second amount of money, but \$10,000 higher. He added that it was his understanding that once the article was recommended by the BOS that we cannot exceed that.

5:37 PM Mr. Beckert clarified that the way that article is written – “to see what sum the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and transfer for salaries and benefits for the operation of Summer Maintenance” – is what is called an open article, which can be raised or lowered on Town Meeting floor. He added that the voters could take the BOS recommendation, the Budget Committee’s recommendation, or a totally different number. He further explained that a capped article is when the amount of the article is within the text of the article and cannot go any higher than the dollar amount.

Mr. Lee said that the Town Clerk has done a great job putting all this stuff out on a special elections board out in the hall he and urged everyone to pick up the information to become as prepared as you can before voting.

5:39 PM Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that the Public Works Facilities Capital posted \$21,000 as requested and recommended and that in the original paperwork the original request was for \$19,000 and asked for clarification.

Mr. Lee said that, off the top of his head, he did not know and wasn’t sure what changed, if anything.

Ms. Murphy said that she would send the paperwork to Mr. Lee so that we could reconcile that number.

5:41 PM **Public Hearing closed.**

E. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

5:42 PM Motion by Mr. Fernald, seconded by Mr. Murphy, to approve the minutes of April 23, 2015, as amended.

VOTE

3-0

Chair concurs

Motion by Mr. Fernald, seconded by Mr. Murphy, to approve the minutes of April 29, 2015, as amended.

VOTE

3-0

Chair concurs

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F. Public Comment:

5:55 PM Mr. (Denny) Lentz expressed his consideration and thanks to the Town Manager for the newsletter he put out; that he thought it was a breath of fresh air; that he couldn't vouch for the content but the intent to communicate was absolutely excellent. He asked if they could do that on a quarterly basis.

Mr. Lee agreed he would love to get to that point; that in the last town he managed they had a quarterly newsletter, the people loved it, and it was the best way to get information. He added that the argument always was, and it will be here, is it neutral; that it is very hard to write and he tries to stay with the facts. He thanked Mr. Lentz for his comment.

Mr. Lentz said that he read the profiles for the school board candidates in the paper; that one was of the opinion that they were having wonderful meetings with the officials of Eliot and South Berwick and it seemed to him, reading between the lines, that they were saying there were a lot of good accomplishments. He said that he wondered why we don't hear about those.

5:57 PM Mr. Lee said that we do have good meetings with South Berwick and the school officials. He added that most of what they have been talking about lately have been school issues – safety at one of the schools, turning lanes and working with DOT; that they also have an AVESTA Project (housing), which sits right next to it that we have covered. He said that in terms of things we are collaborating in ways to share services, etc. we've not had a lot of that; that recently there has been some effort to get each of several town managers together to talk about maybe doing something jointly with dispatch and that's the one thing, right now, he thought they were beginning to feel out. He added that there are a lot of dispatching centers around here with a lot of aging infrastructure and they may have some discussion about where it was best to consolidate those services. He said that much of what they are discussing doesn't have much bearing on Eliot at this point.

Mr. Lentz suggested putting this on the agenda once a month to update the Town on whatever may be happening.

Mr. Beckert said that Mr. Hirst and Ms. Davis are our liaisons for that; that they could make a better effort to put something out, maybe monthly.

5:59 PM Mr. Hirst said that, from his standpoint, any collaboration we can do with any entity – town, school district, or what have you; that if it makes sense and if it is going to help Eliot and be mutually acceptable, then he is certainly interested in talking with them. He added that we meet with the school and South Berwick once a month; that we vary where we meet, meet for an hour with an agenda, and

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we talk about anything and everything. He said that, so far, we haven't made too much inroad with the school but we have the mechanism in place, and the contacts, so that we can make contact if there is anything that needs to be done. He added that we are meeting, periodically, with Kittery, and separately with South Berwick without the school to see what we can do with those two towns.

6:01 PM Mr. Fisher discussed something he heard at the school budget meeting regarding how much more road and kids South Berwick has versus Eliot; that we pay more for the school than they do. He added that they admitted that they had more roads and picked up more kids in South Berwick than in Eliot. He said that the school system puts it out as a block; that they put it all together and that's what it costs to transport the kids. He added that he didn't think that was right and that Eliot should pay less for our kids' transportation than South Berwick does. Regarding the new garage the school wants to build, he asked if they came to the Planning Board (PB) for approval to build this garage, like anyone else has to do.

Mr. Beckert said that they have not come to the PB; that he would have to see what they had for a plan to see if they had to come to the PB or if it would strictly be covered by the CEO.

6:03 PM Mr. Lee said that the bigger issue is that they have to have a building permit, regardless, and they may need more than that; that he will follow up on that to check the permitting.

Ms. (Roseann) Adams said that, if the Town has a chance to input on that building being built there, then she would like to express her concern because the soils there have always been a problem; that they said they couldn't build up, anymore, because they are sinking, the seasonal flooding, they have problems right now with the wells, and the septic system is not great; yet, they are thinking of putting a maintenance facility where there will be toxic chemicals used and washes on that site; that that concerns her with it being right next to Sturgeon Creek. She added that they approved this last night, along with the whole school budget to go before the voters. She reiterated that she doesn't think that's a good location for that kind of a facility.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that the way that the school budget is voted upon on a Wednesday night at 7PM makes it very difficult for people to get there and that is when all the line items are voted on. She asked how that came to be that it's not broken down such as we do for our Town budget that gives people at the polls an opportunity to vote on it.

6:05 PM Mr. Beckert said that, unfortunately, the school department comes under the auspices of the State statutes that govern school districts; that the municipality really has no say over how they conduct their business other than you can go to

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the public meetings they have leading up to the budget; that you get to participate when they have those meetings and you get to vote on the final outcome. He added that, as municipal officers, we don't have any authority over the school budget and are just like private citizens with the rest of you; that we can talk to them, make recommendations, but it is the same thing that any general member of the public could do at their meetings.

Mr. Lee said that even in so far as the Department of Education specifies the exact warrant article language that everybody will use; that they are all very standardized across all school systems; that they have to do it that way and is really by statute.

6:06 PM Mr. Hirst suggested her best bet would be to go to your elected school board members who reside in Eliot and talk with them about it.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that she attempted that two years ago and was not successful.

Mr. Fisher said that he served on the school board a couple years and they think they are a town within themselves, just like Rome; that they are in Italy but (couldn't understand what he said). He added that the South Berwick school department does the same thing – no matter what you say it's run by them, they set the agenda and they don't talk about anything they don't want to talk about.

Mr. Beckert reiterated that the municipality had no authority over the school department and any changes would have to be initiated by the State legislature. He added that he certainly wouldn't give up trying to talk to them.

6:08 PM **1) York River Steering Committee Presentation**

Mr. Beckert said that we have Mr. Chuck Ott and Ms. Jennifer Fox present to talk to us about the York River Study and asked Ms. Fox to speak.

Ms. Fox, Drake Lane, introduced herself and Mr. Ott, who is from York; that we are Friends of the York River Steering Committee and would again like to thank Eliot for working with the River Committee to learn about a possible study project and to update everyone on the status of the project and outline a plan for going forward. She said that, in the past, this Board has provided letters of support to our Congressional delegation for a bill to provide, potentially, study money for the river; that we are happy to say that after close to six years a bill for the project passed the legislature in December, which was to "designate segments of the York River and associated tributaries for a study for potential inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System. She added that the purpose of this study is to determine if York is eligible and suitable for designation as a Partnership

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National Wild and Scenic River and, also, if the communities of Eliot, Kittery, and York would determine the designation is appropriate for each of the towns. She said that it's an opportunity for the towns to work together on a watershed scale, gather information about the river, and identify issues and goals for this shared resource, the York River. She said that, since January, the steering committee has been working to establish a study committee that would be responsible for overseeing the work of this study; that the steering committee would be phased out and replaced with the study committee; that they have also been talking about the mission of the study committee, the size, the decision-making process, and developed a timeline for moving this project forward. She added that they have had two community meetings, one in York and one in Eliot, and invited all the residents of the watershed to come to either of the meetings to get further information on the status of the project and to ask questions. She said that we have also developed an application form for anyone interested in joining the study committee with the goal of bringing together a range of interests and skills to form the study committee, which will be composed of local appointees and partners to oversee the study, with the goal of developing a watershed management plan for the river. She said that the residents of the three towns, with the National Park Service, will determine whether or not, at the end of this three-year study, if it's appropriate for the York River to be designated as Wild and Scenic. She said that, for next steps, we will be bringing a list of potential members for the study committee; that we have received applicants and the steering committee is reviewing them and their next step would be to bring to the Board a recommendation of names of interested applicants for the study committee. She added that the committee would have between eleven and fifteen members, with additional non-voting members made up of partner organizations, such as the National Park Service; that we are also seeking non-voting members from State agencies, such as the Maine DOT or, perhaps, the Chamber of Commerce, if they are interested; that members will be appointed to the committee for a three-year period. She said that we are meeting with towns, now; that Eliot is this evening, we have met with Kittery and York is to take place soon.

6:13 PM Mr. Murphy said that the map she provided includes a lobe of watershed which goes into South Berwick. He asked if they had declined or have they not been invited.

Ms. Fox said that they have not declined and they are going through a process right now. She explained that before the watershed map was developed there was a feeling that South Berwick didn't have a significant part of the watershed but the size of their watershed is probably comparable to Kittery's portion of the watershed. She added that we have already started conversation with South Berwick to have them participate in the project, as well. She said that we are doing our update meetings now with the goal that in June we will come back to the Board, or town councils, with a list of interested applicants and it is hopeful

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that the committee will be approved by the town boards. She added that we will also be asking each town to provide the name of a person to serve as a liaison to the town officials regarding the work of the committee; that Mr. Murphy has already expressed an interest in possibly serving in that advisory, liaison capacity. She added that, currently, it is our intent that the committee will be formed and, then, convene for its first meeting in early September.

6:15 PM Mr. Fisher asked if one town rejected the Wild & Scenic designation does the whole system go.

Ms. Fox said that, right now, it is a three-year study and at the end of that three-year study will be the recommendation whether the river should be designated, or not; that each town, at that point, will have the opportunity to say they want to be part of that designation, or not. She added that York has about 80% of the watershed and, if York said that they didn't want the designation then, in that scenario, the designation probably wouldn't go forward; that if any of the other towns opted out but York went ahead there is the potential that that section of the watershed could be designated and the other towns not, or, each town could say that they think this is a great thing for these reasons and the whole watershed could be designated.

Mr. Fisher said that he was concerned about building having a negative impact in that area for the next three years and asked if they had considered a moratorium by all the towns and stop any building for that three years.

6:17 PM Ms. Fox said that she didn't think that's on the agenda; that she didn't think that was the way the study was going to go forward for various reasons. She added that the designation is to be determined by the study so she thought it would be rather contentious to do. She said that Mr. Fisher's concern was interesting to hear; that this is the conversation and we're trying to have meetings and gather more information and have a conversation.

Mr. Fisher said that he was quite sure that she could get it signed, put it in the towns, and they would go for it because they don't want to have the developers rape it all the way up for the three years.

Ms. Fox said that development issues are only one aspect of the study; that you could go anywhere from education to looking at historical values of the river.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that in the Partnership Rivers News it states: "The costs and responsibilities associated with managing and protecting river resources are shared among all of the partners – local, state, federal, and non-governmental." She asked if Ms. Fox was able to speak to what those costs would be and what a typical community, such as Eliot, would have to raise, possibly, in taxes.

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6:19 PM Ms. Fox said that that is also something that would be determined by the study and would have to be outlined in a management plan. She suggested Ms. Murphy look at towns or watersheds that have adopted programs; that the closest example is the Lamprey River running through Exeter and those communities. She added that she could get more information to Ms. Murphy for examples of what they have spent but, again, it's all local control and the town's decisions. She said that, for example, a culvert replacement on Frost Hill – a study might show how that's impacting the river and transportation along Frost Hill so there might be an opportunity to have improvements of that culvert and the Town could decide whether they want to do that and do that through some type of funding through this type of program or not have that in the management plan. She said that the costs can be different depending on what the Town and the study develops in the next three years.

Mr. Hirst said let's assume that the study goes forward, is completed, and York agrees to do it and the other towns do not, asking if the National Park Service could impose on those other towns the designation, in their towns, of Wild & Scenic.

6:21 PM Ms. Fox said no; that the towns have to elect to be part of the designation. She added that, with the Lamprey River, Exeter wanted to go forward and they didn't actually have every town in the watershed participate; that currently all the towns in the watershed now participate, so they came on board at a later date. She said that we have anticipated that it would only be if York did not want to participate that it wouldn't go forward; that the National Park Service is providing assistance and they want to emphasize that it is local control and do not have the ability to impose the designation. She added that she thought this was a great opportunity for Eliot to understand how we interact with York River; that in York it is very visible and a large system there; that in Eliot some people might even ask where the York River is. She said that she thought, at a minimum, that it was important for us to learn how we impact it and how it impacts us. She added that she knows on Frost Hill, when we had those Mother's Day storms, the culverts blew out at Brixham, she thinks, and Frost Hill; that it's not just moratoriums on development, it's also how it's impacting us and how can we improve, perhaps, how we travel around and across the river.

6:23 PM Mr. Fisher said that the Highway Department put the new culverts out in Frost Hill Road and did an excellent job. He added that Eliot only owns maybe 100 yards of salt water that comes up into Eliot; that the rest of it is all fresh water; that York River is actually 100% in Eliot but the other part is brackish water that comes in and goes out all the time.

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Ms. (Rose) Dougherty, Park Street, said that she was wondering if all the properties in Eliot that will be on this watershed met the septic system, now, or is there going to be any check made whether they do or not.

Ms. Fox said that she was not sure but that she could put that question to the study committee.

G1. Department Head/Committee Reports

6:25 PM 1) TIF Alternative Committee Minutes

This is informational.

Mr. Murphy said that he thought that the TIF Alternatives Committee are, of course, in charge of their minutes; that the way they have described their plans, he thinks, leaves it open for, since we don't attend their meetings, ideas that might be useful to them. He added that, on page 2, there are seven bolded criteria and, in looking them over, he was sort of surprised that a dollar value wasn't considered; that he would hope that the committee would attempt to invest in a feature, or features, which have long-expected use supporting successive activities, or purposes, for some years; to look for the basic infrastructure that is good product for dollar rather than something that looks rather flashy but sort of blows away in a year – a solid product to make that money last.

Mr. Beckert said that he thought that he had seen within the last week, or so, that the committee has put out a request to all the Town boards and committees for input; so, there's our chance, your chance, anybody's chance to give feedback to the committee.

6:27 PM Ms. Lentz said that, as a member of that committee, we are also going to put out a survey, hopefully, to every home to see what people in Eliot truly want.

Mr. Fisher asked if a school could be in the TIF District.

Mr. Murphy said that it could be in it but they might not be participating in the TIF function.

Mr. Fisher was wondering about taking the high school part and making it a TIF District then, maybe, we could fund whatever we want to do down there, take it out of that and they could pay us back.

Mr. Beckert suggested he submit that as a question to the committee.

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Mr. Lentz said that he thought the survey was a very important element because, he thought if it is worded correctly, it could answer some of the questions about the Comprehensive Plan and updating that plan as to what people are really looking for.

Mr. Hirst said that nothing was more important than what the people think.

6:29 PM 2) Budget Committee April 14 minutes

This is informational.

3) Business Development Committee – Resignation – Steve Reiner

Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen accept the resignation from the Business Development Committee of Stephen P. Reiner and send him a letter thanking him for his services.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Lee said that we are dreadfully low in members on the BDC and could really use some other active members; that we have openings on others, as well, but he would say this one of the ones probably in the worst shape is the BDC.

DISCUSSION ENDED

VOTE

3-0

Chair concurs

Ms. Murphy said that she was looking on the Town web site and it appears, with this resignation, there are only six members available.

6:30 PM Mr. Lee said that we might need to update that; that Steve will come off and Mr. Place recently resigned.

Ms. Murphy said that Mr. Place is not listed; that she was just concerned that, if it got to the point that it did at one point, there wouldn't be enough people to hold a meeting.

Mr. Lee said that he would check that.

Mr. Murphy said that he thinks it is lacking his own membership; that he was elected a member and, in fact, is Vice-Chairman, but he doesn't see his name on the list.

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Ms. Murphy said his name is on the Town web site.

Mr. Hirst asked if we even have a quorum with those two resignations.

Mr. Lee said that we do, but just barely and it is getting fairly critical.

G2. Administrative Department

6:32 PM 1) Town Manager Activities Report and Financial Report

Mr. Murphy said that, where Mr. Lee shows the date he would love to see the day, as well.

Mr. Lee said that we had discussed raising fees at the Boat Basin and actually proceeded to try that the initial weekend we were open and there were howls of protest from both Eliot residents and non-residents. He added that, at this point, we have reversed it back to its previous fees and we need to figure out some other, different way to generate money down there other than simply doubling the fee. He said that the attendants down there came to him to tell him this was going over really badly – we are getting : “I’m not going to do anything here.”; “I’ll never come back here again.”; “I’m going over to this place.” He added that he didn’t know how serious they were, whether it was just shock value, or what, but they pretty much begged him to reconsider to see if we couldn’t stay with \$5 and \$10, for now, until we can come up with something where we break this in to people or go up more slowly.

Mr. Beckert asked what it was now.

6:35 PM Mr. Lee said that it was \$5 for residents and \$10 for non-residents.

Mr. Beckert said that that was to launch a boat and park there all day.

Mr. Lee said yes, with an attendant. He added that if the Board wants to do something and stand behind it but, as an administrative matter, he felt that right now he was going to let sleeping dogs lie and bring this to the Board on a future agenda to do something because he had the feeling that it was just one of those creeping issues that would just snarl.

Mr. Beckert suggested the Town Manager look at what other boat launch facilities in the area charge.

Mr. Lentz said that this is the best deal on the river.

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Mr. Beckert agreed, adding that he knew that the general public's feeling is that this is one of the easiest launch facilities to get your boat into the river; that he is surprised that there were complaints.

6:36 PM

Mr. Fernald asked if we knew how many Eliot residents compared to non-residents.

Mr. Lee said that he didn't get a head count.

Mr. Fernald said that, obviously, there are more non-resident people going on that boat launch than resident; that the idea of keeping the price down was for the Eliot residents.

Mr. Lee said that remembering back on the conversation it focused a lot on \$20 for a day so he was thinking it was the non-residents that were doing most of the howling.

Mr. Murphy suggested they inch their way into it instead of doubling it instantly; that each quarter they might increase it a bit or let people know it will go up next spring; that if we know what other places are charging we can let people know what those others are charging.

Mr. Fernald said that there is a certain amount we cannot go over with these charges regarding residents versus non-residents, asking if we are at that point.

6:38 PM

Mr. Lee said that he didn't think it was spelled out that it can be no more than double; that he thought it said that it was a 'reasonable' test; that it can't be exclusionary.

Mr. Beckert suggested the Town Manager look at that because, at one point in time, the formula was that we couldn't charge non-residents any more than 50% more than what we charge residents.

Mr. Lee said that we are charging them 100% more right now.

Mr. Beckert said that the language may have changed over the years but suggested Mr. Lee look at that because the State was very specific.

Mr. Fisher said that we have commercial haulers who use it quite often and it is the best place to launch a boat; that we should at least charge them more.

Mr. Lee said that we did administratively discuss that change; that the biggest one we have is Independent Haulers and they have agreed to \$50 per boat launch instead of the old \$10 because they do tie it up for a long time; that we did do that

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and that was by mutual agreement; that they see that as very reasonable and don't mind passing that cost off just for that very reason, Mr. Fisher. He added that, if the Board would like to stay with the \$10 and \$20, he is comfortable with that but he would appreciate having some backing here.

6:40 PM Mr. Hirst said that he continued to feel that this should be self-supporting; that the user fee should support every operation of the Boat Basin, itself; that people have been getting a great deal for a long time and that he felt they would just have to appreciate that this place is a good place to come.

Ms. Adams asked if we had also raised the fees on the rental of the pavilion.

Mr. Lee said that he thought they did go up in this most recent catalogue; that our ECSD programming did, as well. He added that the idea was that they all needed adjusting, including the Boat Basin. He said that he would like to bring this back to the Board with something more formal – the agreement, everything – so the Board can see it; that he didn't see that as being an unusual price and, by all accounts, there is no better deal around, even with the doubling of it. He added that they aren't as convenient; that with this place you have a place to park, a playground, and many other amenities.

Mr. Hirst suggested they agree to the rates before the fall ECSD catalogue goes out.

6:42 PM Mr. Lee agreed that was a good idea, which would give everyone advance notice.

Mr. Fernald asked if the fees collected were used to pay the attendants.

Mr. Lee said yes in very large part; that, in fact, the fees did not cover those last year and, in part, because Friday was a losing proposition; that we had a person there all day and we didn't take in as much as it cost to have the person there that day. He added that we have a drop box going it, which we hope will help; that it will be on an honor system. He said that he would bring all that stuff together, including the fall directory.

Mr. Murphy said that the comparison would help us.

Ms. Adams said that maybe there is some mechanism where people who want to use it are issued cards – like a credit card they could swipe every time they come in and it would go into an account and it would be paid immediately.

Mr. Lentz commented that, if you take a ride over to Pierce Island, they have an excellent set-up there with a lock-box that's been there for years; that he talked with the guy and they don't seem to have any problems.

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6:44 PM Mr. Fisher said that, if the Town put in a gate that opens and closes automatically, he would wire it.

It was the **consensus of the Board** for Mr. Lee to bring back more information on this at a subsequent meeting.

Mr. Hirst said that he would like to know how the Board felt about the Boat Basin being self-sustaining. He asked if the Chair would poll the members to see if they feel that we should give Mr. Lee the direction to make that as self-funding as possible.

Mr. Beckert clarified that, by self-funding, Mr. Hirst meant he wanted everything paid for by the fees collected there.

Mr. Hirst said that he was talking about the Boat Basin and the people who take the money.

Mr. Beckert said that that was the entire thing; that the park and the Boat Basin, if you make it self-sufficient, is the entire thing in his opinion.

Mr. Lee said that he thought that, if you go into the next item – the Boat Basin Management Change – in his mind and the way that he is structuring it, it is two separate entities; that one is a park that exists down there and one is a boat launch; that because our Harbor Master is also the attendant down there, he's collecting the money, turning it in to a Parks person, who then brings it to him (Mr. Lee); he then fills out his hours and turns that in to a Parks person, who then brings it down to him (Mr. Lee) and it's not a very stream-lined thing; that he thinks that the people that work there as attendants, to some extent, are much more tuned in with what needs to happen because the Parks & Rec folks are very busy and there's only a couple of them doing a lot of stuff. He reiterated to Mr. Hirst that he viewed it as two things and, if we were to make the Boat Basin, itself, self-sustaining, then he would view that as being the primary roadway in and straight down over, the attendant's building, the dock, the actual entry into the water, and the costs of those staff; that that was what he would say to make self-sustaining. He added that the second question is whether we can make the park self-sustaining, such as the rental of the pavilion.

6:47 PM Mr. Hirst said that that might be tougher.

Mr. Lee agreed and that is why he and Mr. Beckert hesitate to say yes on both. He added that he thought the boat launch piece clearly could be; that there's not many of those around, it is a valuable and desirable asset, and he cannot believe that we can't come up with clever ways to make that self-sustaining. He also said that we

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should do a study of process around the area for renting pavilions, etc. as he believed pricing was more than what we charge.

6:48 PM The Board members agreed that the boat launch and park should be separate entities.

Mr. Hirst agreed that there was no reason not to look at the park to see if those fees were adequate, as well. He added that we need to make sure that the bathrooms work.

Mr. Lee agreed, saying that they had to do better with that.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that, in line 138 and 139 (Town Manager Report), there was another officer released from the Police Department while still on probationary status. She asked because the department released him, if he is hired by another department, can we still recover our costs we paid for attending the academy.

Mr. Lee said that that law was still in place; that if we pay for somebody to go to the academy and he gets picked up by another town then they have to reimburse us a pro-rated amount. He added that we did pick up another full-time officer within a couple of days of this departure, who was a reserve officer in South Berwick.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy clarified that she wondered if the department chose to release him versus the officer choosing to leave, would that impact our ability to recover those costs.

6:50 PM Mr. Lee said that it is who pays for him to go to school.

a. Boat Basin Management Change

The Board members agreed they thought this was great.

Mr. Lee added that Ms. Muzeroll-Roy (ECSD) was in agreement with it, as well.

Ms. Adams asked who was managing the Boat Basin.

Mr. Lee said that it was the Harbor Master

2) Teamsters 340 PW Union Contract Amendment

Mr. Lee said that this was a requested amendment to their bargaining-unit contract; that it was omitted in error. He added that Public Works has a different

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health insurance plan than we do, which is called the Northern New England Benefit Trust (NNEBT); that NNEBT includes \$25,000 of life insurance with their basic health insurance; that Maine Municipal, that we have, includes 1 times salary as life insurance. He explained that, during negotiations, there was recognition that one plan was inferior to the other plan, in terms of life insurance, and it was verbally agreed to that the Town would agree to pick up the difference between \$25,000 and their total base compensation in the form of life insurance; that it never made it into the contract. He added that his initial reaction to the union negotiator was that it was his mistake, that he requested it and should have made sure it was in there; however, according to both the guys at Public Works, the union guy, and Mr. Moulton that was verbally agreed to and it was omitted by both parties by mistake; so he is running it by the Board to see if they will agree to it. He said that the financial impact from this is very small - \$363/year in additional life insurance benefits for the four people that are involved.

6:54 PM Mr. Murphy asked if the 'salary' was the employees' hourly wage added up for the year.

Mr. Lee said yes; that it is 2,080 hours; 52 weeks times 40 hours.

Mr. Murphy asked if everyone understands that; that that will not become a question in the future.

Mr. Lee said that they did understand that and it would not become a future question; that we were very clear on what it is and what it is not.

Mr. Hirst said that he thought we had talked about getting rid of the designation 'base salary' and those two words are part of this addendum. He asked if Mr. Lee wanted to do anything with those two words. He added that he thought there was a problem trying to pin down what base salary meant; was it base salary now, or when they were hired, or what.

6:56 PM Mr. Lee said that this was with regard to the police union negotiations that are currently going on; that he thought they had cleared that up in that base does not mean what you start with but what you are earning right now is your base salary. He added that the discussion was that when you get overtime...or one of the items – the educational incentive – is not part of the base salary, or when you are acting as a field training officer or on a shift differential, that is not part of base salary; that those are all add-ons and not subject to anything when we use the term 'base salary'; that you get \$20/hour, 40 hours/week, 52 weeks/year and that is all we are guaranteeing you, and that's your base salary. He added that, with all that other stuff, you get paid from week-to-week, depending on what you got; that he didn't think it went toward overtime, either.

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Mr. Hirst asked Mr. Lee if he was content with the use of this word and the fact that we haven't defined, specifically, what base salary means.

Mr. Lee said that this is in front of the Board for that very reason; that if the Board would like to make sure this is really tied down and change the language to say that base salary is defined as 2080 hours/week at the hourly wage that you are at for a year he could do something like that, if that would be the Board's pleasure.

6:57 PM Mr. Fernald said that that needs to be defined because one contract needs to be the same as the other when it is defined as base salary.

Ms. Dougherty asked if you should use 'current' base salary.

Mr. Hirst said that he thinks both parties need to know what base salary means.

Mr. Lee said that he would work on a better defined definition, send it out for the Board's review, and bring it back to the Board in two weeks.

Mr. Fisher suggested putting it at the time of date what the pay was – the pay at the time right after the June Town Meeting – that date would actually be the time you say that's the base pay; that if he gets something after that, that's tough, he'll just eat it up next year.

Mr. Lee said that that was a good idea.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy discussed that this year there are 53 pay weeks and if you define it by 2080 hours, then that is 52 weeks; however, 52 weeks is typical.

Mr. Lee said that that was a good point.

6:59 PM **3) Adoption of Selectmen's Policies – 1st Reading**

Mr. Lee said that we have had two workshops on this, he believed, and this is actually this is the first time this has come before the Board for approval. He added that, then, there were a handful – 4 or 5 – policies in there that were of dubious value; that he went out and checked all of those; for instance, one of them was the tide chart at Spinney Creek; so he believed these were very close if not completely ready to be adopted. He said that, again as he was talking to Mr. Murphy today, they may not be perfect but it is a policy, however, and they can be amended, as needed, without great peril, so, even if we are at 94% of what we ultimately want for perfection, the current Selectmen's policies are very dated and they refer to administrative assistant, etc.; that that is 5% accurate versus 95% accurate, which this would be. He reiterated that he would ask the Board to

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seriously consider adopting those Selectmen's policies, whereas we've had two workshops and, following those, he has had other subsequent comments from folks to clean them up and tighten them up. He added that he knows Mr. Murphy has some grammatical changes on some of them and he thought that was fine to do.

7:01 PM Mr. Beckert asked Mr. Murphy if he had any substantive change to the actual meaning of the policies.

Mr. Murphy said probably; that, for instance, each June we become a new Board and that whole new Board has to agree to things; that one of the things that was simply not done for many years, that he brought to the Board's attention back in 2006, was that there should be adoption of certain statutory requirements, which he read to the Board.

Mr. Lee said that we are working on that document of who needs to be reappointed and what needs to be done annually right now.

Mr. Murphy said that those are clear policies and should be right at the beginning because Selectmen sometimes don't understand. He added that that could be added later or, we could review these now and simply add them.

Mr. Beckert said that those were not changes to the existing policies but additions.

7:04 PM Mr. Murphy agreed, saying that they were also a reminder of things that we have done in the past.

Mr. Hirst said that, if we could adopt these as they are now and then make a change at the next time, then that would be fine with him.

Mr. Beckert said that the Board could adopt what is written with Mr. Murphy's additions; that the Board could adopt the whole thing tonight.

Mr. Murphy said that it would probably be better if they had words...he read things off and it may not be sufficient; that he would also like to get the statutory sections right and title correct, which he doesn't have.

Mr. Lee suggested they would be better off to adopt them, as is, tonight and let him and Mr. Murphy work on the details of his proposal.

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Mr. Fernald moved, second by Mr. Murphy, that the Board of Selectmen adopt the Selectmen's Policies, dated May 28, 2015 and marked G2-3.

VOTE

3-0

Chair concurs

Mr. Fisher asked if the people didn't have to vote on that.

Mr. Beckert said no; that these are Selectmen policies on how the Board operates and not an ordinance or Town rule.

7:06 PM

Mr. Murphy said that, in fact, we can vote to suspend them if something comes up, which isn't covered in our policies, and we need to do something and our policies seem to make it impossible to do that, then we could vote to suspend that policy in order to get the task done, and that suspension is good for 90 days. He added that it is like any legislative or executive body that is able to do that to get stuff done.

Mr. Fisher said that he agreed fully with what Mr. Murphy was saying that we need to put in but he didn't know that we didn't have to vote on it.

Mr. Beckert said that the Town's legislative body doesn't have to vote on the Selectmen's Policies.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said, regarding the Smoking & Alcohol Policy on page 10, the second paragraph says that all Town property is to be tobacco-free, yet, she looks at the paragraph above and there's no smoking in Town buildings but it doesn't say anything about the Town property here being tobacco-free; that she was wondering about the inconsistency of that and if the Board would consider that for the future.

7:08 PM

4) Unassigned Fund Balance Police – 1st Reading

Mr. Lee said that this would probably end up within our complete financial policies; that he was not in a great rush to get this through; that this really is a 1st reading for the Board and is to wet the Board's appetite for a future workshop. He added that, at this point, it is mostly informational; that it came from Ron Smith (auditor) and has been adopted, he believes, in almost every town and, so, he does believe this is very consistent with how people view unassigned fund balance. He added that what they have is a minimum fund balance (30 days of funds), a targeted fund balance (60 days of funds), and then a maximum fund balance (90 days of funds) and the policy spells out what to do in each case; that it seeks to define what the target is and how to get to that number formulaically. He said that, based on auditors and their level of conservatism, some say you should have

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30 days, some say 60, and some say 90; that then there is the definition of spending for what – does it include schools, a twelfth of county, etc. – and this attempts to spell that out and how many months is conservative enough for us. He added that he would ask folks to look it over and give him questions, comments, and feedback.

7:10 PM Mr. Murphy said that, regarding the 30, 60, 90, he is conservative enough that he wished the Town could afford to have even more in that unassigned fund balance as a greater protection in case something happens. Additionally, he said you provide more money to be invested and that money could be giving us some revenue once the world straightens out. He added that, in the bottom paragraph on the first page, it reads, "...the fund balance level, bringing it closer, or to the minimum level..." and he would say, closer to, or equal to, or exceeding the minimum level; that on the next page, the top paragraph, it doesn't close with the same line that is in the second paragraph on that page so he would add to the top one, However, we are talking about when the balance is above the minimum level but is under the desired target level. He said that, at the end of the top paragraph the sentence, However, such action should not result in a depletion of the UFB below the minimum level should be added, and that is the line that is echoed in the next paragraph.

Mr. Lee asked Mr. Murphy to share his notes with him.

G3. Public Works

There were no items under this.

G4. Public Safety

There were no items under this.

7:13 PM Mr. Fisher commented on Ms. Fox talking about big floods wrecking everything down on Frost Hill Road; that since that happened the Road Commissioner has put in two more drains; that the big problem at the time it happened was that a backhoe went down there to take out a beaver dam and, when they did, they squashed the culverts and reduced it by at least a third; that the new system they have in there looks like it's going to work just fine.

H. New Business:

1) Fire Dept. – Sprinkler Bid – CIP Surplus Disposition – No Correspondence

Mr. Lee said that Chief Muzeroll asked that we postpone this until such time as the project is complete because there may be change orders, and so forth. He

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added that the Chief doesn't anticipate it but he would like to have it complete before we determine what there is for surplus.

Mr. Beckert said that he thought that was a smart move on any project that you don't redirect funds until the entire project is done.

The Board agreed.

I. Old Business

7:14 PM 1) Personnel Policy Adoption – 3rd Reading

Mr. Lee said that, like the Selectmen's Policies, this one has been batted around a fair amount, has had workshops, and Selectmen Davis had some good catches the other night that have been included in this, now. He reiterated that, like the Selectmen's Policies, he would prefer to have a 95% correct Personnel Policy than to be working off something that really has very little bearing on how things are run now.

Mr. Murphy suggested the index be redone because, with almost every entry, the page reference is wrong. He added that, on page 4 under Nature of Employment, the last sentence in the first paragraph reads "No person is authorized or permitted to create an employment contract with you." He asked how that person would be hired, then. He asked if Mr. Lee was authorized to do that.

7:46 PM Mr. Lee said not an employment contract, no. He added that he can hire them but there is no contract; it's not a contractual thing; that Maine is an at-will State.

Mr. Murphy asked if Mr. Lee was hired by contract.

Mr. Lee said that he is but no one person can write a contract with you for employment; that you, as a Board, wrote a contract with him for employment. He added that this is just advising that if someone were to say – if he were to say to a potential PW Director that we are going to enter into an employment contract, he has the power to sign – he doesn't have the power to sign; that he can't do that. He said that the Board could enter into an employment contract, if that's how they want to handle it, like they did with Mr. Short.

Mr. Murphy suggested that that might want to be in here – that employment contracts may be done only by the Select Board

Mr. Lee said possibly.

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Mr. Murphy said that that would explain why no single person can; that otherwise it suggests that nobody can.

Mr. Hirst moved, second by Mr. Fernald, that the Board of Selectmen adopt the Town of Eliot Manual of Personnel Policies marked as I-1, Selectmen's Meeting May 28, 2015, Draft 5/1/15, and 37 pages in length, to include recommended corrections to the index.

VOTE

3-0

Chair concurs

Mr. Beckert said that now we can tweak those policies approved tonight.

Mr. Lee agreed; that from this point either on the Selectmen's Policies of Personnel Policies, if the Board has corrections, ideas, etc., please come to him and he will start version #2 for some later point.

The Board agreed.

7:49 PM 2) Investments Information – 5th Consideration

Mr. Lee said that he thought we had a very good meeting with Selectman Murphy and Selectman Davis, with two of the bank officials, for 1 to 1½ hours; that they walked us through bond maturities, yield-to-maturity, and why we weren't appearing to be making much money – market variations, not a guaranteed payout at the end. He added that he asked both Selectmen, when it was over, if they felt comfortable at this point allowing Key Bank to fully implement our investment policy now that we better understand that we are not losing money but seeing market fluctuations on the value of the coupon as it goes on and he thought that they were ready to move forward and let the bank invest our money and use that investment policy as the basis for it. He added that we are going to have them back in approximately four months to see where we are, overall; that we walked away with a much better, solid feeling that we are in the position to make money with these. He said that part of the reason we're not making a lot of money, by the way, is because instead of about 5% of our investments being in cash, which the policy calls for, 25% had been left in cash because we haven't pulled the trigger yet; that that doesn't help us earn money.

7:50 PM Mr. Murphy said that he would like the headings to be more complete; that as an example, he would like to see Scope say Scope of Town Funds Available for Investment.

Mr. Lee clarified that this policy has been adopted; that we just haven't allowed it to be implemented. He added that, tonight, what we are looking for is

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authorization to implement; that like the other policies we've been talking about, this will have a version #2 and, if Mr. Murphy would like better grammatical clarifications and better headers, he would be happy to do that with Mr. Murphy.

7:52 PM Mr. Murphy moved, second by Mr. Hirst, that the Board of Selectmen activate this policy marked I-2 and dated May 28, 2015.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Murphy said that, after that meeting, he went home and found in that day's New York Times a half page on the difficulties of investing and the status of bonds, and all that sort of stuff, and it was fascinating reading; that just reading that he could understand why our advisor was sort of trying to encourage us to be daring and yet he knew he couldn't promise tremendous returns; that it all depended on that world out there. He added that he read all that and provided copies of that to the Selectmen and the Town Manager; that he could make more copies. He said that it really made you understand the difficulty investors have in trying to find safe and profitable investments. He passed out an article from the current issue of Nation Magazine and is very-well written and, once again, sort of describes the kind of world in which investment is attempted.

DISCUSSION ENDED

VOTE

3-0

Chair concurs

7:54 PM **3) 2015 Paving Bid – Reconsideration**

Mr. Lee said that, as requested, we obtained a third bid and that they are in a similar format, as requested. He added that we have met the policy and have three bids, now. He said that the lowest bidder is Libby Scott and we would recommend awarding the paving to Libby Scott.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy said that she was at the last meeting when this was discussed; that Selectman Davis had said that she had spoken with Continental Paving and they were interested in bidding and, speaking as a resident, she wondered if they were contacted and a bid requested from them.

Mr. Lee said no, they weren't requested; that Mr. Moulton went to Bell & Flynn, first.

Mr. Moulton said that he was given the list of two and he only needed one; that he contacted the one he already had correspondence with, as did Ms. Davis.

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7:56 PM Mr. Fernald moved, second by Mr. Murphy, that the Board of Selectmen award the contract to Libby Scott, Inc. as listed on I-3 Correspondence.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Hirst said that Libby Scott was the third bidder, in a sense, but since we went to Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission (SMRPC) for bids; that we actually have several from them, which means we got three or more before this process started; that it turns out that Libby Scott is still the lowest.

Mr. Lee agreed, saying that the COG put out a bid and they sent it out to seven different paving vendors but only one responded to the bid; that that's been his argument right along is that, when you attempt to contact multiple bidders, you have fulfilled the intent of the policy, even if you don't end up with three bids. He added that there has been a more liberal translation of that that we cannot move forward without actually holding three bids, even if we have to beg for them. He said that we did go to one of the vendors Selectman Davis suggested; that they had a better price than the one that bid through COG, actually, in some ways, but still not as good as Libby Scott. He added that we did get to see another set of prices, at least, and it confirms that Libby Scott does offer us a pretty good deal.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy, speaking as a resident, said that she was a little troubled by the conversation. She added that we have Continental, who indicates that they are interested in bidding, and asked why we would limit ourselves to just three just because that fulfills it. She said that, moving forward, she would like to see consideration for more than that, in all interested parties, so that the taxpayers in this Town are getting all the information.

DISCUSSION ENDED

VOTE

3-0

Chair concurs

Mr. Hirst said that he thought that Mr. Moulton had indicated in the past that Continental would not be a good choice because the asphalt would be cool by the time it got here from Londonderry; that he thought that was the reason Continental was not considered. He added that it has to be a certain temperature but it wouldn't be that temperature if we had to wait for it to come from Londonderry.

7:59 PM Mr. Lee said that the other thing, quite honestly, was that this has been a fairly busy time of year and Mr. Moulton is a one-man shop over there in a lot of ways; that he has a lot of stuff that is already owed to him (Mr. Lee) so he doesn't want

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Mr. Moulton spending a lot of time going out to get extra bids; that we don't necessarily agree with the policy; that we understand we must follow it because we were told to do so but he wanted Mr. Moulton to spend the least amount of time he could getting the third bid so that he could get on with other work that is more important, in his (Mr. Lee) estimation.

Ms. (Donna) Murphy clarified that her comments were not directed simply at Mr. Moulton but across the board.

8:00 PM

Ms. Adams asked how much the amount of the bid award was.

Mr. Lee said that the big one is really what it cost for the pavement mix; that there is a lot of little stuff but there are really two big things, here; the unit pricing from Libby Scott is essentially \$72.50/ton, Pike Industries was \$100/ton, Bell & Flynn was \$95 for one type of product and \$78 for another type of product; Libby Scott was \$72.40 or \$72.50 for both products, Pike Industries was \$75 for the less expensive product. He added that the other one that adds up pretty quickly is reclaiming, which is grinding up the old pavement and using it as new road base – Libby Scott was \$.90/square yard, Pike Industries was \$.85/square yard, and Bell & Flynn was \$.25/square yard.

Ms. Lentz asked Mr. Lee if the organization that he used we paid for that use.

Mr. Lee said that we pay an annual fee to Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission (SMRPDC) for a number of different things that they do for us; that they do a lot of different bidding and you can get in on salt bids, sand bids, stripping bids.

Ms. Lentz asked if they were usually pretty good; that getting only one bid back is not...

Mr. Lee agreed that was unusual, really, and he can't explain it. He added that, in Androscoggin County, there is a similar organization and they usually get quite a few bids in; that a lot of those towns do use that format, so he was surprised. He said that he didn't know if they didn't have a very effective advertising process, or what, but seeing only one come in. He added that SMRPDC also does planning-type stuff; that they were going to attempt our TIF Alternatives Committee, to talk to us about how to do envisioning of a planning project.

8:02 PM

Mr. Beckert said that we pay annual dues for the municipality, which affords us a wide range of their services. He added that the Planning Board probably uses them more than anybody.

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Mr. Lee added that some of our stormwater work is contracted through them; that they do a lot and they are very helpful. He added if that type of bidding was fee-based, he wouldn't bother with it.

8:03 PM

Mr. Moulton said that he understands the last time that using them, that they put out a big bid to many different thing; that he also follows up, as he does in salt, through them; like Kittery, they had that discussion at the Town Council meeting; that he ended up with \$7/ton cheaper. He added that we use them as a basis and to meet the Town policy, it frees up a lot of his time but there are other alternatives that you do go out and seek; that Libby Scott has been with the Town for a while; that they came to him, again this year, saying that they would like to bid and we are not going with the COG, so, there are a multitude of different things. He said that the intent is to meet the policy and, like we've said before, you just can't get three, and we try.

Mr. Beckert said that we've asked the Town Manager to look into adjusting that policy, as well.

Mr. Lee said that that was coming up next actually.

8:04 PM

4) Purchasing Policy – 4th Reading

Mr. Lee said that this has been before the Board a few times and, each time, he asks for feedback; that he hasn't gotten a lot of feedback on it so he doesn't know if the Board is ready to adopt it; that this is one he thought they probably ought to have a workshop on. He added that, in speaking with Selectman Murphy, he's really interested in having those opportunities to discuss policies, and so forth. He added that he is not looking for any action, necessarily, on this and he would also like to have all five Selectmen in agreement on the Purchasing Policy.

a. Two Fire Dept. Grant Reimbursements – Same FY

Mr. Lee said that he did want to remind the Board of something with regard to Chief Muzeroll and his request of us. He added that back a meeting or two ago he asked to be able to take a reimbursement check from a grant he wrote, in the amount of \$840, with another for \$1,100. He explained that back on October 9, 2014 a reimbursement policy was adopted and it talks about what happens when we get back FEMA reimbursements and insurance reimbursements; that the policy differentiates between getting those reimbursements in the current fiscal year versus getting them in a future fiscal year; that in a fiscal year it would make no sense, in a lot of ways, to give that money after-the-fact, after the year has run its course, to give them reimbursement and add it to their budget. He said, however, if during the year you got FEMA money back, it does have provisions in here for what to do with those funds if it is in the same fiscal year; that things like

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labor and materials, for example, would be put back into the department's budget because that actually came out of the budget in the same fiscal year; that that made sense to everybody back in October. He added that, likewise, if we receive insurance reimbursements, if it occurs in the same year, all the funds received shall be credited back to the department's budget and to the appropriate line item; that we pay it first, then we get reimbursed and be restored to the budget. He said that he would contend that these two grants are exactly the same way; that they came whole-cloth out of Chief Muzeroll's budget, he did that expecting half of it would come back and not knowing that there would be some sort of hold-up with whether it should drop through to fund balance or what does gross budgeting mean, and all that stuff. He said that, if this had come back in a future year, then no; that maybe it would go into a capital reserve, or something, or drop through to fund balance but, if it comes back in the same fiscal year, then it is very similar to the policy that was adopted back in October of 2014. Mr. Lee said that he was not looking for any action on the Purchasing Policy but he would like to advance it over the next short period, the next couple of meetings, maybe, and try to get a workshop in on it, perhaps, so we can really go over it bit-by-bit and get some consensus around it. He did say that he would like to be able to advise the Fire Chief that the reimbursement checks that we are currently holding be allowed to go back into his operating budget because he spent the full amount of both of these grant requests expecting that to happen, that half that money would come back into his budget.

8:08 PM

Mr. Hirst asked if we could do this within the confines of the policy we've already adopted.

Mr. Beckert said that Mr. Lee just said that the policy we adopted in October allows it.

Mr. Lee clarified that it allows for FEMA and insurance reimbursements but how is that any different than grant reimbursements, necessarily, when all of them came out of your budget – you had a bad storm and you got FEMA money back; something ran into your truck and you got money back to fix your truck; you went out and got a grant and they are willing to give you half the money back on what you have to up-front the bill. He added that if this was one of those grant programs where they send you the \$1,100, you match it with your \$1,100, then go out and buy your \$2,200 item, then there would be no argument; that that is how we would do it but, in this case, you go out and spend the \$2,200, shows us you spent it, and we will give you half of it back. He added that he would contend that it is identical, really, to the thinking that went into this document.

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8:09 PM Mr. Hirst moved, second by Mr. Murphy, that the Board of Selectmen allow that money to go back into Chief Muzeroll's budget, as is requested, under Item I-4a and email dated March 2, 2015.

VOTE

3-0

Chair concurs

J. Selectmen's Report:

8:10 PM Mr. Murphy said that he wanted to include the practice of, at each meeting, reminding the public of the openings that are on committees. Current vacancies are: Shellfish Committee – one regular member term to expire 2016, one regular member term to expire 2017, one alternate member term to expire 2016; Sewer Committee – two alternate members one term to expire 2016 and one to expire 2017; Energy Committee – one regular member term to expire 2017; Harbor Commission – one member term expiring June 2015 and member does not wish to be re-appointed. He added that he would be reminding the public at each meeting which committees are still waiting for members to get their work done.

8:12 PM Mr. Murphy said that he has been concerned for several years that this Board sort of doesn't get together to talk about things in a general way; that we come to these meetings and, sometimes, it looks as though we just whisk through all the stuff without really discussing it and having all the alternatives brought forward, which some of us may have inside, and others, but we don't necessarily remember all of them at the time we come to make a decision. He added that he wanted it to become a practice of this Board to have a workshop on the 3rd Thursday between our two meetings every month in order to talk about things; that we won't have an agenda, it will have to be an official meeting, we won't be taking any votes, we will be discussing any issue that comes up, it has to be open to the public and the public will have a right to speak; that we could have a conversation with the public without formality, to go deeply into things and to feel free to kind of utter complaints, use common language, perhaps, depending whether we are on-air, or not. He added that this has itched at him for a number of years; that he had mentioned to the former Chair many times that we needed to slow down and talk about things; things that he needed to know more about what the other Selectmen were thinking about things and why they came up with what they came up with; that he felt they weren't talked about deeply enough. He proposed that we plan, as a regular thing, to have the 3rd Thursday be a workshop meeting at 5:30 PM, either here or out in the other room where there is a table we could all sit around.

8:14 PM Mr. Lee said that the Board of Appeals is in here the 3rd Thursday.

Mr. Beckert said that he did not have an issue with it.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
May 28, 2015 5:30PM (continued)

Mr. Hirst said that he thought it was a good idea.

Mr. Fernald said that he agreed it was a good idea but was concerned with not having an agenda.

Mr. Beckert agreed that he thought we needed to have some bullet points.

Mr. Murphy agreed so that we could be prepared for things and kind of know the major things that come up.

Mr. Lee suggested that there could be an agenda that has 'other business' at the end, too, that there might be one thing we did not discussed tonight someone might like on the next one is [item], you know.

8:15 PM Mr. Murphy said that that's exactly what he wants because conversation moves out, it spreads; that when you are on one subject it necessarily is in a world that interacts with other subjects; that that is how our brains work. He asked if we needed a motion to do that.

Mr. Beckert said that we could do that with the consensus of the Board.

It was the consensus of the Board to meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month in a workshop format, as discussed.

Mr. Lee will schedule a workshop meeting for the 3rd Thursday in June.

8:16 PM Mr. Murphy said that some months ago, when he was thinking about the percentage of sewer users and what percentage they were of the taxpayers, and so forth, the same question was on his mind with regard to the schools and schoolchildren. He added that we had talks with the school board, Randy Stewart and so forth, and the school board and school administration were extremely reluctant, which is understandable, to provide any information about who were students, in what families, and where they lived. He then asked if there was any way to know how many Eliot families, or something like that, just so we can get a picture of how many Eliot families use the MSAD #35 school. He said that March 31st Mr. Stewart got back to us saying that they had to write a special program to pull the data from their student information system but they finally got it; that there are 968 Eliot students in our school from 652 families and he hoped this was helpful. Mr. Murphy said that it was helpful; that he went to Ms. Painchaud to ask her how many residents, how many families, there were in the Town and she said that there were 2,494 improved residences or residences that are improved lots. He added that he assumed one family per residence; that there are special residences but he just considered single-family homes. He said that 652 families represent 26.14% of the residences in Eliot; that this doesn't go to 26% of the tax

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

May 28, 2015 5:30PM (continued)

base because there are a lot of businesses – Pike Industries is huge – but this is just 26% of the residences in Town; that this is a figure that had not existed before so this is new information.

8:19 PM Mr. Beckert said that that was good information.

Ms. Adams said that another question, which she thought she could find the answer for pretty easily, is how many students are there in MSAD #35 because the others would be from South Berwick. She added that you now want to know how many, in total, because that would give you South Berwick students.

Mr. Beckert said that there were the Rollinsford students, too.

Ms. Adams said that we know that number; that it's 110.

Mr. Murphy said that he was just concerned with Eliot's budgeting process.

8:20 PM Mr. Fisher said that, in the school system, South Berwick – the day person up on Route 236, with one of them down in South Eliot, they are included when they take their report to the State as students within Eliot; that they told him that back here 15 years ago that those students help us; that they don't go to school, here, but in the negotiations with the State, and the money they get back, they get back money because those students are actually students in Eliot.

8:21 PM Mr. Beckert said that he wanted to thank those that participated in the Memorial Day Parade; that he thought it was a nice parade and we had a nice contingent from the Air Force Reserves and the Air Force National Guard over at Portsmouth. He also said that the Fogg Birthday Party was good; that they had quite a crowd of people there throughout the entire day. He added that he made 6 gallons of hand-cranked ice cream and all about a little was sold.

K. Other Business as needed

There was no other business.

L. Executive Session

There were no executive sessions.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

May 28, 2015 5:30PM (continued)

M. Adjourn

There was a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 PM.

VOTE

3-0

Chair concurs

DATE

Mr. Grant Hirst, Secretary