

1 **BOARD OF SELECTMAN MINUTES**  
2 **August 22, 2011**

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4 Chairman Bruce Bowler called the meeting to order at 6:37pm. Selectman  
5 present: Tom Grella, George Infanti and Dwight Brew. Also present, Interim  
6 Town Administrator, Chris Rose and Minute Taker, Beth Penney.

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8 **Pledge of Allegiance**

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10 Mr. Gleason led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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12 **Citizen's Forum**

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14 No Citizens Present to speak.

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16 **Abatements**

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18 Richard Dorsett from MRI discussed the strip mall on 101A where Circuit City  
19 was and where Michaels is. He discussed why there was a drop in the assessed  
20 value of the property.

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22 Mr. Bowler and Mr. Dorsett discussed numbers on the value of the property.

23  
24 Mr. Infanti and Mr. Dorsett discussed the fairness in the evaluation of the  
25 property and how comfortable Mr. Dorsett is with the new value.

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27 **Mr. Infanti moved to approve the abatement for Map 002 Lot 035-000, in the**  
28 **amount of \$12,017.66, Mr. Brew seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous.**

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30 **Mr. Infanti moved to approve the abatement for Map 002 Lot 038-000, in the**  
31 **amount of \$421.89, Mr. Brew seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous.**

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33 **Mr. Infanti moved to approve the abatement for Map 002 Lot 041-000, in the**  
34 **amount of \$32,116.74, Mr. Brew seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous.**

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36 **Mr. Infanti moved to approve the abatement for Map 002 Lot 045-000, in the**  
37 **amount of \$3,328.00, Mr. Brew seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous.**

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39 Mr. Infanti stated that if anyone has questions the board has documentation.

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41 **Mr. Infanti moved to approve the abatement for Map 005 Lot 139-012, in the**  
42 **amount of \$198.66, Mr. Brew seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous.**

47 **LUCT**

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49 **Mr. Infanti moved to approve the LUCT change for Map 004 Lot 157-003, Mr.**  
50 **Grella seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous.**

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52 **Amherst Anti-Litter Campaign**

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54 George Coddington showed the board a mock up of the Anti-Litter sign. He  
55 stated that he needs approval for a fine to be placed at the base of the anti-litter  
56 sign, using a small secondary sign so they could easily be changed in the future.  
57 He hopes to have the signs up by September or October.

58  
59 Chief Lyon stated that the state law is a fixed fine of \$288.00. The other option is  
60 for the town selectman to set an ordinance, which would need a public hearing.

61  
62 Mr. Bowler asked Mr. Lyon to do some research to move forward in looking into  
63 creating a town ordinance.

64  
65 The board discussed that the state changes their fine periodically, which would  
66 mean changing the secondary signs. They also discussed a town ordinance and  
67 what the fine should be. Mr. Bowler stated that he would like to see a fine of  
68 \$300 or \$350. Mr. Brew stated that even \$200 would send a message. The  
69 board determined they would like to make a town ordinance. The board gave  
70 approval for the secondary sign showing the fine for littering.

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72 **Administrative Business**

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74 **Approval of Minutes for August 15, 2011**

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76 The minutes were tabled till the next meeting.

77  
78 **Approval of Payroll Register and Approval of Accounts Payable Register**

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80 **Mr. Grella moved to approve the manifest for August 18<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Infanti**  
81 **seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous.**

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83 **Town Administrator Report**

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85 Mr. Rose stated that the wastewater improvements at Baboosic Lake are going  
86 into Phase 5, but the engineers let Mr. Berry know they had not yet been paid for  
87 Phase 3 or 4 because the approval for Phase 3 is missing even though the work  
88 was completed in 2008.

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90 **Mr. Brew moved to have the current chair re-sign the application originally**  
91 **signed in 2008 to approve Phase 3, Mr. Infanti seconded the motion. Vote:**  
92 **Unanimous.**

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Mr. Rose stated that he had received a letter from the NH Big Tree Program and the Steward of Hillsborough County. Amherst has a NH Big Tree in town, a Black Cherry, tree #604 in the database. The Cooperative Extension sent the town a certificate.

**Discussion Items**

**New Town Ambulance**

Mr. Bowler thanked Mr. Gleason for giving the board a tour of the new ambulance.

**Action Items**

**Approve**

**2012 Budget Timeline**

Mr. Rose stated that the budget timeline in the past started in early September. Mr. Rose took the timeline from last year and updated the dates for this year and suggested the timeline be adopted at the next meeting. If the board wants to make changes the changes need to happen now.

Mr. Bowler asked Mr. Rose clarifying questions. The regular board meetings are not included in the timeline; it is only for the budget.

Mr. Brew stated that he would like to fine-tune the timeline. Perhaps at the next meeting the board should have a conversation on how to address the budget in order to have fewer meetings. Mr. Brew suggested getting feedback at the beginning of process. He would like to start with the budget they already know and the projections. He stated that maybe the board should determine parameters and have departments and the town administrator add and remove line items rather than the board.

The board discussed how they agree with Mr. Brew's ideas. Mr. Infanti would like to see the board give the departments stronger guidelines this year. The board discussed finding out the projections and costs that are already known. The board discussed talking with the schools about health insurance.

Mr. Rose stated that he spoke with Primex last week, and they are putting together a program in early September about how to seek proposals for health insurance. Mr. Rose stated that this is a good thing to help the town find new insurance. He hopes to send a few people to the class. Mr. Rose will let the board know about the class as he learns more.

139 Mr. Bowler asked the board to work on goals for the Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.  
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141 The board discussed setting goals before knowing numbers and increases.  
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143 Mr. Bowler asked Mr. Rose to get together budget numbers.  
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145 Mr. Grella stated that he would talk to Mr. Berry about projects for the coming  
146 year and financial needs.  
147  
148 The board discussed some of the already known road projects including Mack  
149 Hill and Boston Post, as well as, the suggestions from the road study committee.  
150  
151 Mr. Rose stated that the budget discussion will be on the next agenda and he will  
152 get information to the board ahead of the meeting.

### 2012 Town Goals

156 Mr. Rose stated that he would like to see the board set a variety of goals,  
157 including goals for departments that may or may not impact the budget. All of the  
158 goals should mesh together, and strive for accomplishments within each  
159 department.

161 Mr. Bowler and Mr. Infanti discussed goals set in May by the board.

163 Mr. Brew suggested to focus on the budget know and goals related to the budget  
164 and to move forward with the other goals later.

### Old Business

168 Mr. Bowler asked Mr. Rose about the Wage and Salary survey.

170 Mr. Rose stated that he would possibly have information for the next meeting,  
171 because department heads just gave him feedback today.

173 Mr. Bowler asked for an update on assessing.

175 Mr. Rose stated that the letters would go out Friday. The letters discuss that  
176 hearings will start the day after Labor Day, but people must schedule the  
177 hearings next week. The hearings will meet in the basement conference room.  
178 Citizens will be notified with their new values and the information will be wrapped  
179 up by Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. New assessments will be available on the Vision website starting  
180 next week.

182 Mr. Bowler and Mr. Brew discussed that even though assessments go down, the  
183 tax rate could increase, so taxes may not go down because the tax rate may  
184 increase the same amount as the decrease in the evaluation.

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Mr. Infanti stated that the Milford Rotary celebration and pancake breakfast on September 11<sup>th</sup> is open to all. Emergency services will run the celebration. There will be information on Patch and in the Cabinet.

Mr. Infanti Stated that tomorrow night the recreation department is having their last concert and cook out at SHS from 6-8pm.

Mr. Rose stated that department heads looked at the vacation proposal and it is out to the lawyer for approval.

**Non-Public Session under RSA 91 – a:3II (a) Personnel**

**Mr. Infanti moved to go into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-a:3 II(a) Personnel, at 7:24pm, Mr. Grella seconded the motion. Roll Call: All Yes.**