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APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

January 18, 2010

PRESENT: Tim Finan, Chairman
Gary Daniels, Vice Chairman
Katherine Bauer, Member
Mike Putnam, Member
Nate Carmen, Member
Guy Scaife, Town Administrator

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Finan called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

2. PEG REVOLVING FUND WARRANT ARTICLE:

Vice Chairman Daniels presented the Board with a proposed warrant article worded as follows:

Shall the Town vote, pursuant to RSA 31:95-h(II), to dedicate all income derived from franchise fees being collected from cable subscribers to the Cable Access Revolving Fund, for the purpose of funding the Public, Education, and Government (PEG) cable TV access program, such dedication of funds to commence on January 1, 2011, as more particularly described in Article ____.

Vice Chairman Daniels explained that the purpose of this warrant article is to dedicate cable franchise fees to the purpose for which they were intended (PEG Access). The warrant is worded such that it will not take effect until 2011, so that the Board has a full year to arrange for the transfer of the current PEG Budget into the revolving fund. The intent would be that the existing PEG Access budget would be moved out of the general fund and into the cable revolving fund.

Selectman Carmen expressed concern over the fact that the current PEG Access budget is about \$80,000, while the income from franchise fees is about \$120,000. This would mean there would be a \$40,000 impact on the general fund, which would have to be made up by the taxpayers. Guy Scaife indicated that after cross department charges such as benefits, administrative support, etc., were taken into account, that difference would be closer to \$20,000, rather than the \$40,000 mentioned by Selectman Carmen. Selectmen Bauer feels that this is the wrong time to be taking such a hit on the general fund. Selectman Putnam disagreed, stating the money should never have been going into the general fund in the first place, and we are taking an unfair situation and making it fairer.

Selectman Putnam moved that the Board support the warrant article as presented, seconded by Vice Chairman Daniels. Selectman Carmen stated that while he is concerned about subjecting the general fund to this \$20,000-\$40,000 expense makes him uneasy, he will support this warrant because he thinks it is more important to fix this situation now and dedicate the funds for what they were intended. Motion passed 4/1, with Selectman Bauer opposed.

3. AMBULANCE ACCIDENT UPDATE:

Ambulance Director Eric Schelberg was in attendance to update the Board on the Ambulance accident on Sunday and to answer any questions that the Board may have. Eric explained that the Ambulance involved will be out of commission for at least two weeks, possibly more, depending on the extent of damage which has yet to be determined. Eric explained that he had received an offer from Rockingham Ambulance to provide the Town with a loaner vehicle if necessary. Selectman Bauer expressed concern that the longer the town goes without a second vehicle, the greater the safety issue becomes if both vehicles are needed. Selectman Putnam agreed and suggested that the town begin making arrangements immediately to rent or lease a second vehicle so the town can act on it quickly once it is known for sure how long the vehicle will be unavailable.

4. MISCELLANEOUS:

Vice Chairman Daniels asked Jack Sheehy for a more detailed update on the makeup of the default budget. Jack indicated that he would get that out to the Board today. Selectman Putnam asked Guy Scaife if he could look into

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1/18/10**

1 the status of the damaged traffic light control box near Walgreens. Guy said that he would do this and get back to
2 the Board.

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4 **5. ADJOURNMENT:**

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6 There being no further business to come before this Meeting, Selectman Putnam moved to adjourn at 8:25 a.m.
7 Vice Chairman Daniels seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.

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12 Tim Finan, Chairman

Gary L. Daniels, Vice Chairman

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15 _____
16 Katherine Bauer, Member

Nate Carmen, Member

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20 Mike Putnam, Member