

# TOWN of OAKHAM

## *Board of Selectmen*

### REGULAR SESSION

January 03, 2011

#### **Present:**

*Clayton E. Rice, Chairman*

*Eliot G. Starbard, Vice Chairman*

*Dennis M. Bergin Jr., Clerk*

Lucy Tessnau, Chief Fred Gehring, Ellie Downer, Barre Gazette, Thomas McCaffrey, Kevin Currier, Peter Joyce, Diane Peterson, Jim Smith, Priscilla Johnson, Sherry Bergin, Edna Holloway, Christopher Sherblom, James Albano, Paul Rochette, Donna Couture, Susan Turnbull, Sharon LoRicco, Bruce Ware, Donna Sands, Jon Boucher, Susan Carpenter.

**Recording:** Catherine Amidio

Mr. Rice called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

#### **Motions**

- Mr. Bergin made a motion to approve the **Minutes of December 14, 2010** as written. Mr. Rice seconded, motion carries.
- Mr. Starbard made a motion to sign a change order for **Snow Bumpers** on the Oakham Center School Roof. Mr. Rice seconded, motion carries.

#### **Fire Department**

- Fire Chief Thomas McCaffrey said three students were attending EMT Classes. Mr. McCaffrey also informed the board that the Fire Department's Vehicle Repair budget is running low.

#### **Police Department**

- Chief Frederick Gehring informed the board that he is still trying to obtain a 3<sup>rd</sup> cruiser for the department free of charge from the state. The chief also said he currently has 4 part-time officers and one reserve.

#### **Finance Committee**

- Jon Boucher said he heard rumors that the town of Oakham was becoming what it was many years ago and he was concerned. Kevin Currier asked Jon Boucher where he was getting his information from, Mr. Boucher responded, "I have friends in dispatch and the District Attorney's office". Mr. Boucher had also heard from dispatch that the police department had been missing calls. Chief Gehring responded, all calls were being responded to in a timely fashion.
- Donna Sands asked the board if the fulltime police chief position had been posted. Mr. Rice responded "no" and said the board planned on discussing next week at their meeting. Ms. Sands also inquired as to why Rutland responded to one of the calls before Oakham. Chief Gehring said there was a motor vehicle accident at the same time and he was busy responding to the accident at the time the call came in.

### **Highway Department**

- Highway Superintendent Kevin Currier said his department is running on schedule and the sand and salt budget is where it should be at this time of the year.

### **Assessors**

- Peter Joyce said the tax rate had been set and the assessors would be signing abatements.

### **Town Collector**

- Susan Carpenter said the tax bills went out the week of January 1<sup>st</sup> and will be due February 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Town Treasurer**

- Edna Holloway said her new computer was working well.

### **Library**

- Sharon LoRicco said she is waiting for a decision on state aid. The budget for the Library is where it should be for this time of the year.

### **Veterans Agent**

- Bruce Ware said some of the veterans have been taking advantage of some of the services being offered in town.

### **Council on Aging**

- Lucy Tessnau said the number of seniors in town has increased from 300 to 344. Grant funding has been cut and the council will need to cut programs.  
Mrs. Tessnau also said the dishwasher in the senior center may need to be replaced soon.

### **Conservation Commission**

- Lucy Tessnau said members will be attending training.

### **Misc.**

Effective December 29, 2010, Thomas A. Tashjian has resigned as a member of the Quabbin Regional School District School Committee.

Paul Rochette said there was a recall on the late 1990 Crown Victoria cars. Chief Gehring said he would look into it.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Mr. Rice made a motion to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. Mr. Starbard seconded, motion carries.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the board of selectmen will be held on January 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.