

MINUTES
Casco Board Of Selectmen
August 4, 2009

Members Present:

Calvin Nutting, Barbara York, Susan Witonis, Carroll Morton and Paul Edes

Staff Present:

David Morton and Lucille Griffin

Guests Present:

Holly Hancock, Lisa Williams Ackley, Wayne Ward, Wayne Baird, Colleen Cleaveland, Irene Morton, Darlene Morton, Larry Morton, Stephen Marcotte, Katie Marcotte, Hope Chapman, Gilbert Avery and Tammy Chapman

The Board of Selectmen approved bills and signed warrants.

The Board of Selectmen moved (York), seconded (Witonis) and unanimously voted to approve the minutes of July 28, 2009.

Old Business:

- Casco Community Center Update:

Town Manager David Morton updated the Board of Selectmen regarding the Community Center project. Town Manager Morton said the contractor is struggling to secure a performance bond and the project cannot go forward without the performance bond. The contractor is working diligently on this item and is also exploring letters of credit. Everything else seems to be in place. There was more discussion regarding the project. Town Manager Morton indicated that the Board of Selectmen may be asked to consider the possibility of doing the Community Center project in phases. Calvin Nutting asked if the contractor had a time frame to finish the project. Town Manager Morton indicated that the contractor could not start until two weeks from tonight unless he could come up with a performance bond. There was then discussion on the contractual agreement and if the agreement would prevent the Board from setting limits.

New Business:

- Stair Chair Purchase:

Rescue Chief Holly Hancock was present to request approval to purchase two stair chairs from the Casco Rescue Donation Account in the amount of \$5,107.44. There was discussion on the advantage of the new stair chairs, the warranties and if there were maintenance costs.

The Board of Selectmen then moved (Witonis), seconded (York) and unanimously voted to approve the request to purchase two stair chairs from the Casco Rescue Donation Account.

Public Participation And Comment:

- Wayne Ward commented on the Community Center project and suggested that it could be done in phases. Ward said the town would be able to co-sign on the performance bond if they wanted to do so.

On the Personnel Policy, Ward said that the discussion on nepotism is long overdue; however there should also be a conflict of interest policy.

- Barbara York commented that there should be a method to do a portion of the Community Center project and then the contractor would not have to have a \$500,000 performance bond. Town Manager David Morton said that was a possibility. He will get information on this to bring back to the Board in two weeks if the Board authorizes Town Manager Morton to work with the contractor to break the job into phases. The appropriate way to do that is to bring back a proposal for the whole board to look at. Calvin Nutting asked about the contractor's time frame for completion. Town Manager Morton said that it is an aggressive time frame and the contractor plans to have the project completed by the end of November. The contract is until the end of December.

- Katie Marcotte asked why the BulkyWaste/Transfer Station part time employees did not get raises. Town Manager David Morton responded that we were lucky to get raises for the full time employees with no layoffs. Town Manager Morton said he would be happy to discuss this for the next budget cycle and went over why he presented the budget to the Finance Committee as he did. Town Manager Morton told Ms. Marcotte that if she wanted to give up her compensation (raise) that we would be able to distribute that to others. Ms. Marcotte said she would gladly do that and noted that Eric and Dianne Hanscom, employees at the Bulky Waste/Transfer Station facility, said that they did not have to have an increase this year. (See CNTS minutes.) Town Manager Morton said he would need a letter from Ms. Marcotte stating her wishes regarding her raise. Calvin Nutting said that he doesn't object to the redistribution of Ms. Marcotte's raise as long as it does not affect the other employees. Nutting also stated that this should have been discussed prior to the finalization of the budget.

Other Business:

- Carroll Morton brought up Barbara York's request last week that he resign from his position as a Selectman because of a complaint that he was wearing a weapon while he was on duty as constable. In answer to York's request, Carroll Morton stated that he was not going to resign from his position as a Selectman. He stated that he had served on Casco Rescue for fifteen years, has served the town for eighteen years as Constable and Animal Control Officer and that he thought he had paid his dues for his mistake.

C. Morton then brought up for discussion that three members of the Board of Selectmen were in a meeting in the Central Station parking lot after their regular meeting last week. C. Morton handed out pictures to the Board of the three Selectmen meeting in the parking lot. C. Morton noted that was against the law and asked what the difference was between the two issues.

There was then extended discussion on C. Morton wearing a weapon while on constable duty, the three Selectmen meeting in the parking lot after their regular meeting and what the liability was for the town. Wayne Baird stated that breaking the law is breaking the law no matter who does it.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, the Board of Selectmen moved (York), seconded (Witonis) and unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Attest:

Lucille D. Griffin, Deputy Town Clerk