Present: John F. Fairbanks, Laila J. Michaud, Joseph E. Flanagan

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Fairbanks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Office at Town Hall. He announced that the meeting was being broadcast live and recorded by Ashburnham Westminster Community Access TV; he also confirmed with those present that no other party was taking an audio or video recording of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS/MINUTES

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board approve the regular session minutes of November 22, 2010 and November 29, 2010 as printed. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board members reviewed and approved the following warrants:

December 3, 2010	Sr. Tax Work Off #33S	\$ 19,156.00
December 6, 2010	Payroll #33	\$232,530.91
	Accounts Payable #34	\$878,612.73

RECOGNITION – TOM PADULA, EAGLE SCOUT

On behalf of the Board, Ms. Michaud recognized Tom Padula for his achievement in becoming an Eagle Scout. She presented him with a plaque which read: On the occasion of attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. We offer our sincere praise for your many years of hard work and perseverance in achieving this distinguished honor, and wish you all the best in health and happiness for many years to come.

Eagle Scout and Selectman John Fairbanks then presented Tom with a gift.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS – FRED SMITH POOR FUND

The Board signed an authorization which was voted on November 29, 2010 BOS meeting to authorize the transfer of up to \$10,000 from the Fred W. Smith Poor Fund to the General Fund to be used for the fiscal year 2011 Home Heating Assistance Program.

INTERFUND BORROWING

Treasurer/Collector Melody Gallant was on hand to request the Board authorize interfund borrowing in the amount of \$11,500 for engineering required for replacement of a stone culvert on Route 31 (State Aid project).

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board approve the request for \$11,500 as presented. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGREEMENT FOR LOAN OF AMBULANCE

Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board approve the Inter-municipal Ambulance Loan Agreement between the Town of Sterling and Westminster as written. Ms. Michaud seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION – CHANGE TOWN MEETING DATE

Ms. Michaud moved that the Annual Town Meeting be held on the last Tuesday in May before the Memorial Day Weekend. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion.

Mrs. Murphy reminded the Board that in order to change the date of the Annual Town Meeting the by-laws need to be changed at a Town Meeting.

Mr. Fairbanks moved that the motion be amended to add that this recommendation be brought to the next Town Meeting for approval. Ms. Michaud seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BOS MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board schedule the following dates for their 2011 meetings; January 3, 10, 24, 31, February 7, 14, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, 25, and May 2, 2011. Ms. Michaud seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TOWN HALL REUSE COMMITTEE

Mr. Fairbanks asked Mrs. Murphy to contact the Town Hall Reuse Committee and ask them to attend the BOS meeting for January 3 or January 10, 2011 to update the Board on the status of things and also present the results of the neighborhood survey. Mr. Flanagan stated he would inquire with the THR Committee and get back to the Board with a confirmed date.

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LETTER OF SUPPORT

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Ms. Michaud moved that the Board sign a letter of support for the funding of the FY11 Community Development Block Grant program. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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7:28 P.M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Mr. Fairbanks moved that the Board enter into executive session with respect to collective bargaining; further, that the Chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town, and to adjourn directly from executive session. Ms. Michaud seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned from executive session at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph E. Flanagan, Clerk (Prepared by B. Kazan)