1	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S		
2	January 4th 2007 Meeting		
3	Meriden Town Hall		
4	Selectmen present:		
5	Judy Belyea		
6	Robert Taylor		
7			
8	The meeting opened at 6:00pm		
9			
10	Highway: Road Agent Ken Stocker reported that to date 575 yards of sand have been used for		
11	winter maintenance as compared to 2,900 for this time last year. Likewise, only 25 yards of salt as		
12	been used, compared to 170 at this time last year. The warm and relatively dry December helped the		
12	highway department complete its fiscal year in good shape. However, experience has shown that		
13	January and February are the most expensive winter months. All agreed that a lot of winter remains.		
14	January and rebutary are the most expensive whiter months. This agreed that a for or whiter remains.		
15 16	The Selectmen encouraged Ken to continue his research on loader replacement options. Pricing on		
10	several different makes and models will need to be available for a complete discussion at annual		
17			
	meeting. Ken is now working on a set of desired specifications for the machine.		
19 20	Hellener manufact that \$20,400 her some to the torner from the only of the torner to file		
20	Halleran reported that \$20,400 has come to the town from the school district as part of the		
21	arrangement made to have the Highway Department complete the connection to the Meriden Waste		
22	Water Plant. This money is intended to go to the town's Transportation Enhancement Fund for		
23	work on Willow Brook Road.		
24			
25	Police: Chief Gillens reported that his department has filed the necessary paper work with the		
26	District Court, asking a judge to compel Jason Downs to remove from the town's right of way a		
27	stonewall he constructed adjacent to his 427 Center of Town Road property. The highway		
28	department feels that the stonework is too close to the traveled portion of the roadway.		
29	Unfortunately, the town's efforts to reach an agreement with Mr. Downs for the relocation of the		
30	wall have not been successful.		
31			
32	Chief Gillens shared with the Selectboard accident data from around town. Again, this past year		
33	Willow Brook Road, Route 120, and Route 12A had the greatest numbers of accidents.		
34			
35	Town Office: Halleran reported that the property donation of approximately 10 acres of land		
36	directly adjacent to the town's gravel pit has been completed. At this time the town has no plans to		
37	expand the existing gravel pit into the new land. However, that certainly will be the case at some		
38	point in the future. The Selectmen expressed a desire to include abutters to the parcel in discussions		
39	about its future use. The existence of a municipal gravel pit saves our community tens of thousands		
40	of dollars each year.		
41			
42	Halleran reported that again this year Singing Hills has made a payment in lieu of taxes to the Town		
43	of Plainfield.		
44			
45	The Selectmen reviewed the status of the 2007 budget and warrant. The first of two budget hearings		
46	is scheduled for January 17th. Halleran reported that the town's financial audit begins on January		
47	15 th .		
48			
49	The Selectboard noted that the Lebanon Landfill Contract, the FEMA grant for Willow Brook Road,		
50	the KUA-French's Ledges easement and now the property donation adjacent to the town gravel pit		
51	are all important projects that happened in 2006 that will serve our community very well into the		
52	future.		
52	***		
53 54	The January 3 rd meeting adjourned at 8:30pm		
55			
55 56	Respectfully Submitted,		
50	Respectionly Submitted,		

- 2 Stephen Halleran

Judy A. Belyea, Chair

Robert W. Taylor Plainfield Selectboard

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S January 17th 2007 Meeting Meriden Town Hall

4 Selectmen present:

5	Judy Belyea
6	Mark Wilder
7	Robert Taylor
8	

The meeting opened at 6:30pm

11 Highway Department: Assistant Road Agent Richard Collins met with the Selectboard. A review 12 of the proposed specifications for the new loader followed. The goal is to replace the 1991 loader with a new machine of similar size. Editing the specifications proposed by the Highway Department, 13 14 the Selectboard added the following: A requirement that the new machine have a 24 volt electrical 15 system and come equipped with the necessary strobe lights. The Board felt it was important that all 16 proposals include both the cost of the new machine and the trade value of the existing toward the purchase of the new one. The department plans to have proposals in hand for the second budget 17 18 hearing.

19

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10

Town Budget Hearing #1: The Selectboard met with the Finance Committee, Chief Gillens, Fire Chief Best, Plainfield Library Trustees Anita Brown and Beth Williams to review the proposed town budget. No members of the general public were in attendance. See attached fact sheet and budget proposal. The new plan calls for \$43,000 in new taxes to fund town services, which is expected to add \$.19 to the tax rate.

25 The Plainfield Library Trustees explained that their 8% increase, which exceeds the Selecboard's target of no more than 3%, is due to the desire of the Trustees to expand the hours of 26 27 the library again this year by two per week. Last year the library began to be open from 1pm to 9pm on Mondays, the same is now planned for Wednesdays. The Trustees noted that further staff hours 28 29 would be needed once the basement portion of the facility is completed. The children's room will be 30 located in the basement. There was general support for the growing use the facility receives from 31 Plainfield Village residents, but also concern for the ever-increasing budgets. One suggestion for reducing costs was to completely shut down the Plainfield Town Hall during the winter months once 32 the new meeting room was available at the Plainfield Library. 33

Finance Committee members asked general questions about how the budget was constructed. The new contract for use of the Lebanon Landfill was noted as a significant source of saving in future years. Fire Chief David Best explained, that again this year his department was able to maintain a level funded request. Police Chief Gordon Gillens updated the finance committee on the operations of the Police Department over the last year, noting the significant increase for calls for service.

Following last year's talks the Selectmen discussed with the Finance Committee the need to enter into an agreement with a municipal wastewater treatment plant to insure capacity for Plainfield residents. See RSA 484:A. Claremont is accepting waste; the cost would be \$3,400/year

(\$1.50/capita) for the contract. The decision was made to include the new cost in the budget but to
seek other alternatives prior to entering the agreement. It was also agreed that efforts would need to
be made to educate Plainfield homeowners about this new arrangement. Haulers will need to remove
the surcharges that are currently being added to their invoices.

Halleran noted that the warrant contains a \$20,400 appropriation request from fund balance
to transfer the monies received from the school district for the sewer line hook up, to the
transportation enhancement fund. In addition, an article is planned to establish a fund for the
maintenance of the Townsend Bridge and trail system. Said fund to be funded from donations.
The budget hearing closed at 8:45pm.

52

53 Other Business: Halleran reported on the town report progress, the finished document is due at the 54 printer in early February.

55

56 The January 17th meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

1		
2		
3	Respectfully Submitted,	
4		
5	Stephen Halleran	
6	-	Judy A. Belyea, Chair
7		
8		
9		Mark H. Wilder
10		
11		
12		Robert W. Taylor
13		Plainfield Selectboard
14		
15		

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S February 7th 2007 Meeting Meriden Town Hall

4	Selectmen present:	
5	-	Judy Belyea
6		Mark Wilder
7		Robert Taylor
8		

The meeting opened at 6:00pm

10 11

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1 2

3

Highway Department: Road Agent Stocker shared with the Selectboard the four proposals received for the loader replacement. John Deere, Komatsu, Case, and Caterpillar all provided quotes. The range of replacement costs was from \$79,000 to \$95,000. Ken's next step is to try each of the machines and to follow up with the salesperson for each dealership with questions about their specific proposals. Halleran was directed to adjust the budget request from the \$110,000 proposed to \$95,000 to insure that any of the four could be selected if determined to be the best value for the town's needs over the next 15 years.

19

Police Department: Chief Gillens feels strongly that Sgt. Dore, Corporal Roberts and State Trooper Eric Brann should be given commendations for their efforts to save a young woman trapped in a burning car on Route 12A. The two car accident was horrible, and resulted in the deaths of two others. The Selectboard agreed and felt that annual meeting would be an appropriate place to acknowledge the extraordinary effort of these officers.

25

26 Budget Hearing #2: The final budget hearing and workshop with the finance committee was held. 27 The proposed budget stands at 2.5% above the previous year with a net amount to be raised from 28 taxes to increase by \$47,288. The anticipated tax rate impact is \$.22 on the current rate of \$4.13. 29 Halleran pointed out that with the professional audit now complete the town did, exceed the 30 authorized appropriation by about 9,200 or a little more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1%. Fund balance is used to 31 absorb the overage, which is mainly due to management decision made concerning legal representation, pending lawsuits, and the FEMA grant application (\$5,000 in engineering costs) and 32 the decision to overlay Methodist Hill Road. 33

Turning to the current budget, the only changes since the first hearing is the addition of \$3,400 to insure access to an approved waste water treatment plant for resident's septage and \$5,000 for the use of the Planning Board. The Planning Board request centers on plans to update ordinances and regulations and the board's desire to have some professional assistance with this work.

As part of the budget review, the Selectboard reduced the recommend amount for the sign project from \$5,000 to \$3,000. The board supports the idea for four new signs to signify the town's borders, but is not entirely in support of spending, at this time, additional funds on signs for the village areas in town.

43

Other business: The Selectboard expanded the Tax Collector discretion, when in her judgment
 circumstances warrant, to waive up to \$25 in interest charges without Selectboard authority. More
 than that will require Selectmen approval.

1 2	Selectman Taylor reported that he attended a meeting of the Meriden Fire Department where the department received a \$6,000 check from the Fireman's Association. The monies will be		
3	used to update turn out equipment for some of the new firemen.		
4	It was noted that the Plainfield Fire recently received a Federal Grant valued at more than		
5	\$56,000 to assist them in updating air packs for the fire fighters.		
6			
7	The meeting adjourned at 9pm.		
8			
9	Respectfully Submitted,		
10			
11	Stephen Halleran		
12	Judy A. Belyea, Chair		
13			
14			
15	Mark H. Wilder		
16			
17			
18	Robert W. Taylor		
19	Plainfield Selectboard		
20			
21			

1	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S	
2	February 21st 2007 Meeting	
3	Meriden Town Hall	
4	Selectmen present:	
5	Judy Belyea	
6	Mark Wilder	
7	Robert Taylor	
8		
9	The meeting opened at 6:30pm	
10	The meeting opened at on opin	
11	Highway Department: Road Agent Stocker indicated to the Selectboard that a	s part of the loader
12	replacement project a Komatsu and a Case loader would be demonstrated next v	
13	has eliminated the John Deere and the Caterpillar machines. The John Deere w	
14	wrong sized (too small) Caterpillar machine was proposed.	
15		
16	Selectman Taylor reported that he has received many favorable comments from	residents about the snow
17	removal work done by the Highway Department during the recent Valentines D	
18	more than 20" of snow on the Upper Valley.	j i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
19		
20	Halleran has now received an e-mail confirmation from Richard Verville of the	Bureau of Emergency
21	Services that FEMA has given final approval to the town's hazard mitigation gr	
22	make \$167,000 of federal monies available for Plainfield use on the worst section	
23	······································	
24	Police Department: Gordon updated the Selectmen on several ongoing investig	gations. The property
25	owner who constructed a stonewall in the right of way for Center of Town Road	
26	early next week. The town continues to hope that the owner will simply agree t	
27	need to move forward with enforcement action.	
28		
29	Town Office: The Selectboard signed the 2007 Warrant and Budget sheets for	posting around town. The
30	2006 annual report will be mailed to residents next Friday, 3/2. School Meeting	
31	be followed by the business portion of Town Meeting on Saturday March 17 th .	Voting for school and town
32	officers will be Tuesday March 13 th .	-
33		
34	The Selectboard determined that in cases where one home is being replaced by	another on the same lot, that
35	certificates of occupancy will not be issued until the home that is being replaced	l has been removed from
36	the property.	
37		
38	Halleran reported that the Planning Board is going to attend the Selectboard's n	
39	directly with the Selectboard their opposition to the Wetland Conservation Dist	rict zoning amendments. A
40	vote on these amendments has been pushed back one year.	
41		
42	The February 7 th minutes were approved as amended. The meeting adjourned at	8:15pm.
43		
44		
45	Respectfully Submitted,	
46		
47	Stephen Halleran	
48		Judy A. Belyea, Chair
49		
50		
51		Mark H. Wilder
52		
53		
55 54		Robert W. Taylor
55		Plainfield Selectboard
56		- miniera Ocicetooara
50 57		
58	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S	
20	MINULES OF THE SELECTMEN S	

2	Meriden Town Hall	
3	Selectmen present:	
4	Judy Belyea	
5	Mark Wilder	
6	Robert Taylor	
7	,	
8	The meeting opened at 6:00pm	
9	The meeting opened at on opin	
10	Drew Marrazzo Townline Equipment: Mr. Marrazzo met with the Sele	cthoard to go over the
11	proposal that he put together for the replacement of the town's existing C	8
12	Case 621D machine. The town has received proposals from four equipme	
13	Caterpillar, John Deere). The board reviewed the Case proposal and how	
13	specifications. Responding to an inquiry, Drew confirmed that the loader	
15	system and includes a full set of tire chains and a three-yard bucket. Drew	
15 16	proximity of the highway garage to the Townline facility will provide conti	
17	town to save money and time on machine upkeep and maintenance. The	
17		
18 19	his attention to the details in the specifications. The board hopes to be abl	e to complete the project
	immediately following town meeting.	
20	Wetland Concernation District Among descents Chairmannes Long Starl	Des Hedres Miles
21	Wetland Conservation District Amendments: Chairwoman Jane Steph	
22	Sutherland and Ron Liston met with the Selectboard to discuss their ongo town's Wetland Conservation District. Also in attendance were Conserva	
23		
24 25	Chairman Dave Grobe, Conservation Commission members Gordon Wile resident George Koehler. The Planning Board hopes to update the town's	
23 26		
	develop a required vegetative buffer from all wetlands greater than ¹ / ₄ acre	
27 28	definition for wetlands which will no longer be based solely on hydric soil	
28 29	in town classified as wetlands, will provide enhanced protections for the d natural vegetative 50' buffer will be required to be maintained around all w	
29 30	acre. Zoning Board approval will be required for any development within	
30 31	of the 2006 building permits was unable to locate any projects that would	
32	affected by the new regulation. Possibly two permits would have required	•
32 33	perhaps slight modification of the building location.	further review and
33 34		
	The need to established clear guidelines for the Zoning Board to	
35	applications for waivers of the Wetland Conservation District requirement	
36	Selectboard explained that their main concerns with the proposal are that	
37	and that it not place any unnecessary burden on landowners and treats all	1 2
38	Planning Board hopes to complete the work on the change in the next mo	onth or so and the measure
39	will be placed on the 2008 ballot.	
40		
41	Other Business: The Board reviewed correspondence and approved orde	
42	board member was given a booklet with pertinent materials for next Satur	day's town meeting
43	The February 21st minutes were approved as amended.	
44		
45	The meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.	
46	Respectfully Submitted,	
47		
48	Stephen Halleran	
49 50		Judy A. Belyea, Chair
50		Mark H Wildon
51 52		Mark H. Wilder
52		
53		Dobout W/ Taylor
54		Robert W. Taylor

March 7th 2007 Meeting

1

55

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S

1		March 21st 2007 Meeting	
2		Meriden Town Hall	
3	Selectmen present:		
4	•	Judy Belyea	
5		Mark Wilder	
6		Robert Taylor	
7			
8	The meeting opened at 6:	30pm	
9			
10			
11	0	ight met with the Selectboard to discuss vari	1 0
12	8	n the trails in and around French's Ledges.	
13	•	e has been doing the grooming and mainten	ē
14		t will be necessary. He envisions an organiz	
15	1 0	tain biking, cross country skiing and other no	
16	0	e. The three concepts discussed were creating	
17		(for local use of the trials), or getting Kimba	
18		ng club. The Selectboard expressed concern	
19 20		t. The board also encouraged Bill to talk to t	
20		activity they are comfortable with around th	ě
21 22	•	ment in the project seemed a good fit as the	school has expressed an
22	interest in assisting with t	hese types of community service projects.	
23 24	Highway Department	Road Agent Stocker updated the board on th	ne highway department's efforts
25	e i i	ud fully posted at this point and vehicles over	
26		comes less saturated with moisture.	er o tons are not anowed to use
27	them and the ground bee	somes less saturated with moisture.	
28	Police Department: Chi	ef Gillens noted that the new police cruiser v	would be ready for delivery to
29		To save money town forces are doing as mu	
30	possible.		···· ·· ··· · 1
31	Feeeer		
32	Compensation Issues: 1	Responding to the concerns expressed at last	week's town meeting about
33		yees, the Selectboard consulted with Road A	
34		ed that wage increases for April 1st would m	
35		w and July 1 st a complete evaluation of the t	1 P
36	0	addition, the annual employee evaluations wi	8
37		the most significant deficiencies that are dis-	
38	1 / 0	0	
39	Other Business: The Se	lectboard signed the necessary paperwork to	satisfy reporting requirements
40	with the NH Department	of Revenue Administration for actions take	n at town meeting.
41			<u> </u>
42	The meeting adjourned at	: 8:30pm.	
43	0 /	*	
44	Respectfully Submitted,		
45			
46	Stephen Halleran		
47			Judy A. Belyea, Chair
48			
49			Mark H. Wilder
50			
51			Robert W. Taylor
52			

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S April 4th 2007 Meeting Meriden Town Hall

4	Selectmen present:	
5	-	Judy Belyea
6		Mark Wilder
7		Robert Taylor
8		

The meeting opened at 6:00pm

11 Highway Department: The Selectboard and Road Agent Ken Stocker discussed a recent bank slide 12 on River Road near the Moynihan residence. About 400' of the bank has been impacted, however, a 75' section represents the worst of the damage. The town has been in contact with the Connecticut 13 14 River Commission and the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) to see if any technical assistance is 15 available. The SCS has not sent an engineer to the site, but had one of their engineers who is 16 working in Alstead New Hampshire look at digital photos of the slide and make some general recommendations. See attached. The repair will likely involve both the use of rock for stabilization 17 18 and vegetative plantings to help hold the bank during future high water events. Ken plans to meet 19 next week with Miller Construction to see if the use of one of their cranes might assist with the repair 20 and minimize damage to the existing roadway. Repairs will not be able to start until the spring high 21 water has receded.

22

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10

The new loader will be in-service by the end of this week. Townline equipment plans to deliver the new machine on Friday and will take with them the existing 1991 Caterpillar that is being traded.

25

Ken will use the small pick up trucks for plowing the spring storm that is forecasted for our areatonight and tomorrow. Five to as much as ten inches of snow is possible.

28

Nicholas Cohen: Mr. Cohen met with the Selectboard to see about converting the temporary permit he was issued in late 2005 for a shed on his 729 Stage Road property into a permanent status. The Selectboard explained that the current location, while out of the state right of way, does not meet the criteria for a permanent location. At a minimum, with ZBA approval, the shed will have to be moved back about 15' or moved to some other location. The temporary permit expired late in 2006.

35

The Selectboard also took the opportunity to make it clear to Mr. Cohen that the accumulation of
junk cars on this property, over and above the two allowed by statute, would not be tolerated.
Currently, the property is already out of compliance with this law. Mr. Cohen acknowledged this but
indicated that when the current tenant moves out two of the four would be leaving the property.

39 40

41 **Sign Hearing:** As noticed in the Valley News and the town's website, the Selectboard held a hearing 42 on the proposed new signs for Plainfield. Sign committee member Greg Davini was in attendance. 43 The Selectboard reviewed the final designs for the four "Welcome to Plainfield" signs to be located on each of the town's corners (Rte 12A and Route 120). The designs were approved as shown. 44 Turning to the Welcome to Plainfield Village Signs Greg discussed the details of these signs which 45 include several small "dangler" type signs to announce special events that occur during the course of 46 47 the year in the village. The committee's hope is that the signs will help with traffic calming efforts in the village. While the Select board's main focus has been on the four Welcome to Plainfield signs, 48 49 the board directed Halleran to have similar village signs made up for both Meriden and E. Plainfield villages. The order for the signs will be placed tomorrow. The group has a goal of having the signs 50 installed by mid summer. Each sign is hand painted by a sign maker in Farmington Me. 51

52

Other business: The Selectboard signed both septage contract with the City of Claremont and the
 ambulance contract with the Town of Windsor Vermont.

55

56 The April 4th meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

1 2		
3	Respectfully Submitted,	
4		
5	Stephen Halleran	
6		Judy A. Belyea, Chair
7		
8		Mark H. Wilder
9		
10		Robert W. Taylor
11		
12		
13		

1 2		MINUTES OF THE SELECTM April 18th 2007 Meeting	EN'S
3		Meriden Town Hall	
4	Selectmen present:		
5		Judy Belyea	
6		Mark Wilder	
7		Robert Taylor	
8	The section and the	(20	
9 10	The meeting opened at	5:50pm	
10 11	Highway Donartmont	/Police Department: Road Agent Ken	Stocker and Police Chief Cillons
12		d with a full report of damage and conditi	
12		m that featured sustained winds of over 4	
14		Hardest hit areas in town were Meriden V	
15		were widespread in these areas. Ken note	0
16		t except for a few remote areas most of th	
17		ould be back on by Friday. Chief Gillens n	
18		assist with this very powerful storm.	
19	-		
20		tarted repair work on minor washouts and	
21	cleaning up downed roa	dside trees in the next day or so. This wo	ork will be ongoing until completed.
22			
23		wn office should have its own dedicated g	
24 25	1 V	n Monday. The building was outfitted with	h a transfer switch some years ago.
25 26	Halleran and Gillens wil	l look into this in the coming weeks.	
20 27	The Selectboard express	sed sadness for the tragic accident at the C	Gardner and Kay MacLeav house
28		residents were hurt when a wood fired bo	
29		he house during a power outage. The Fire	
30	the accident.	01 0	0 0
31			
32		reported that requests for proposals are o	
33	1 I	Proposals are due at the town office by Ma	•
34	0 1	uests by several landowners, the Selectboa	
35		lvage clean up operations that resulted fro	
36		e board did back in 1999 when similar dan	
37 38		l approved the use of an image of the Par Commerce. This image will be used in co	
38 39	Plainfield.	Commerce. This image will be used in co	injunction with information about
40		inutes were approved as amended.	
41	ine upin + m	indes were approved as amended.	
42	The meeting adjourned	at 8:20pm.	
43	0,	1	
44			
45	Respectfully Submitted,		
46			
47	Stephen Halleran		
48			Judy A. Belyea, Chair
49 50			Mark H. Wilder
50 51			
51 52			Robert W. Taylor
53			

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S May 2nd 2007 Meeting Meriden Town Hall

4	Selectmen present:	
5	-	Judy Belyea
6		Mark Wilder
7		Robert Taylor
8		

The meeting opened at 6:00pm

11 Gibson Fence: The Selectmen visited the property of Margaret Gibson, 143 Colby Hill Road, to 12 view a newly installed replacement split rail fence. Road Agent Stocker feels that the fence is too close to the road and is not in conformance with the letter the town sent Ms. Gibson last April. At 13 14 that time, too, a replacement fence had been installed directly adjacent to the road. The town asked 15 that the fence be moved back away from the road at least as far as the original, preferable, back to 16 the existing tree line. That fence was never moved, but was damaged during winter plowing. This latest fence is moved back from the road further than the first replacement, but still not back as far as 17 the original. The Selectboard showed Ms. Gibson the holes from the original fence and again 18 19 requested that the fence be moved back at least to that location. The board requested that the 20 relocation be completed no later than mid summer.

21 22

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Back at the Meriden Town Hall

23

Highway Department: Ken reported that he has hired for one of the town's two open positions.
The new hire has experience with heavy equipment and seems to be fitting in with the crew. Ken
sought Selectboard approval for rehiring Jerry Serum to a part-time position for the summer. Jerry is
familiar with the town and the department. The board approved this request.

28

Ken reported that storm cleanup will be completed in the next couple of days. Spring grading
rounds are just now beginning. Most of the roads are no longer posted for 6 tons. All the postings
will be off by week's end.

32

Ken and Steve will attend a meeting with representatives from the Meriden Congregational church
 to discuss the church's plans to improve the travel surface of Mitchell Drive and to create several
 new parking spaces. The church has no plans to request a change in the existing class VI status of
 Mitchell Drive.

37

Police Department: Chief Gillens reported on department activities over the last two weeks. Patrol efforts have been increased to help deal with the usual spring speeding concerns. Calls for service are at or exceeding the previous year for this same time period. Chief Gillens has positively reported to the state on their plans to relocate the speed zone signs in Plainfield Village, effectively expanding the 30 mph zone north and south of the village area.

43

Responding to complaints from other residents on the street, the Police Department is attempting to
have much of the junk and general debris at 208 Methodist Hill Road cleaned up. The tenants have
agreed to clean the property up to avoid enforcement action. The Police Department will follow up
with them again in a few days.

48

49 Town Office: The Selectboard directed Halleran to have town appraiser George Hilbum review the 50 MacLeay's tax assessment taking into consideration the damage that occurred to the building from 51 the burst boiler. As the damaged occurred after April 1st the town is not obligated to do this, 52 however, the Selectboard felt that such a review was consistent with other assessment adjustments 53 that have been made when homes have been damaged

that have been made when homes have been damaged.

54

55 Responding to a request by Cora Gilson to replace one of their two mobile homes. The board agreed

that this could be done through the building permit process as long as the property taxes on the unit

- 1 that is being removed are fully paid and all permit fees and necessary inspections are passed. Tax
- 2 Collector Ruth Wheeler explained that state law requires that taxes on mobile homes be paid in full
- 3 prior to the unit leaving the town.
- 4
- Halleran reported that recycling coordinator Hillary Sundell, Solid Waste Committee Chair Susan
 Williams and himself would be meeting on May 15th with representatives of the NHDES to address
- 7 operational deficiencies with the recycling shed. It is expected that the outstanding issues can
- reasonably be addressed. The small shed has had a difficult time complying with state requirements,
 which are more typically designed for larger transfer station type facilities. By example, the volunteers
- 9 which are more typically designed for larger transfer station type facilities. By example, the voluntee 10 are not level 1 certified and the facility is not access restricted during hours when the facility is not
- 10 are no 11 open.
- 12
- 13 The Selectboard expressed an interest in seeing the town road map project started a year ago
- 14 completed this summer. The goal of the project is to update the town road map that was originally 15 done by the Conservation Commission.
- 16
- 17 The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm
- 1819 Respectfully Submitted,
- 2021 Stephen Halleran
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27

Judy A. Belyea, Chair

Mark H. Wilder

Robert W. Taylor

1	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S
2	May 16th 2007 Meeting
3	Meriden Town Hall
4	Selectmen present:
5	Mark Wilder
6	Robert Taylor
7	
8	The meeting opened at 6:30pm
9	
10	The Selectboard reviewed their correspondence file, building permit applications and signed orders
11	for vendor payments. The board asked Halleran to get additional documentation for the septic
12	system serving Kevin McNamara's planned new residence.
13	
14	Highway: Ken Stocker provided the board copies of the highway department employee evaluations.
15	The Selectmen will perform evaluations for the Road Agent, Police Chief, and Town Administrator
16	in the coming weeks.
17	Road Agent Stocker sought board authorization to have the southern section of River Road
18	(just south of 825 River Road to the intersection with Ferry Hill Road) reclaimed and returned back
19	to gravel. The pavement condition is such that it is near impossible to patch. The board approved
20	the request, which has been under consideration for several years.
21	The board determined that it would hold a public site visit to the Beauty Hill Road project
22	on June 6th at 6pm to discuss the details of the project with Ken. Project abutters and the public will
23	be invited to this meeting
24	Based on his research, Ken has determined that the use of a long reach excavator may be the
25	best way to stabilize and repair the damaged riverbank area. Ken hopes to have an estimate for the
26	work from Morrill Construction in time for the next meeting.
27	Halleran reported that the town is seeking about \$12,000 in FEMA reimbursement for
28	debris clean up related to the April 15th windstorm. President George Bush declared nine counties in
29	NH as eligible for disaster relief.
30	As part of the planning process for Willow Brook Road, the Selectboard will start at their
31	June 20th meeting making site visits and work sessions to Willow Brook Road. The goal is to develop
32	a scope of service document to be used to obtain bids for the work. The project could begin as early
33	as next summer.
34 25	
35	Police: Selectman Wilder inquired as to the status of the emergency generator project for the
36	Meriden Town Hall. Halleran and Gillens updated the board on project research to date. The
37	building had previously been fitted with a manual transfer switch. The Selectboard needs to decide
38	whether the use of a portable unit is acceptable or whether the generator should be permanently
39 40	located at the facility. Both Wilder and Taylor expressed a desire to see the generator be permanently
40	located at the Meriden Town Hall and be propane fueled as opposed to gasoline. Halleran will get
41	quotes for a propane unit.
42 43	Gordon noted that he has received several negative comments from motorists about the 30 mph sign
43 44	relocation in the Plainfield Village area. The Planning Board, as a result of resident comments
44 45	received at a community forum held last fall, spearheaded the sign relocation project.
45 46	received at a community forum new last ran, speameaded the sign relocation project.
40 47	Town Office: Halleran reported that Hillary Sundell, Sue Williams and he had a very positive
48	meeting at the recycling shed with the NH Department of Environmental Services concerning the
48 49	recycling shed permit status. Based on this meeting, Halleran is confident that the permitting and
50	operational issues raised by the state concerning the recycling shed can be addressed. The most
51	difficult part will be better policing of the scrap metal bin, which often has non metal items deposited
52	in it.
53	
54	The Selectmen authorized Halleran to apply for a grant from NHDES to fund a tank replacement
55	for the used oil collection facility.
56	,

- 1 Monday is the deadline for the town to receive proposals for the 2008 assessment update. To date,
- 2 two proposals have been received.
- 34 Appraiser George Hildum is in town working on pick up work. The goal is to have the major
- 5 changes accounted for in time for first billing.6
- 7
 8 The May 2nd minutes were approved as amended.
 9
- 10 The meeting adjourned at 9pm.
- 11 12
- 13 Respectfully Submitted,
- 1415 Stephen Halleran
- 16
- 17
- 18 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23

- Mark H. Wilder
- Robert W. Taylor

1	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S
2	June 6th 2007 Meeting
3	Meriden Town Hall
4	Selectmen present:
5	Mark Wilder
6	Robert Taylor
7	
8	
9	The meeting opened at 6pm at the intersection of Old County Road and Beauty Hill Road.
10	
11	Beauty Hill Road: In keeping with past practices, the Selectmen held a meeting with Road Agent Ken
12	Stocker and interested abutters to discuss the details of this year's road reconstruction project. The project
13	has now begun with the removal of the old pavement. The group walked along the roadway discussing
14	drainage issues. Present at the meeting were Jennifer Fredrick, John Grout, Brian Keating, Wendy James,
15	and Francis Torrey. Road Agent Stocker explained that the goal of the project is to rebuild the road with
16	proper drainage and road base, no major changes to the roadway are expected. The new road will be 20'
17	wide and will have to be elevated about one foot on average over the current grade. Ditches will be cleaned
18	and established, all existing culverts will be replaced and upsized. Resident Francis Torrey requested that
19	if there is to be a ditch line along his lawn that it be constructed in a way that will allow it to be mowed.
20	Brian Keating indicated that while he is willing to have trees removed from his land, he does not want a
21	concentration of storm water onto his property. He is concerned that this could lead to erosion problems on
22	his land away from the town road right of way.
23	The work on the roadway should be completed by mid summer with paving to follow before the
24	winter season, likely in late September.
25 26	The Calasthe and many the the Diver Deed alide site that will need as a inlater this summer. The alide
26 27	The Selectboard moved next to the River Road slide site that will need repair later this summer. The slide,
27	which is located just to the south of the Moynihan residence on River Road, occurred in late March. Morrill Construction has prepared an estimate for the work of \$45,000. The town has a stockpile of large ledge
28 29	pieces that it hopes to be able to use to stabilize the bottom of the slide. The establishment of a vegetative
30	cover on the slope will be a key part of the repair. The slide seems to have gotten worse since the April
31	15 th storm that brought a lot of wind and rain to the region.
32	15 Storm due orought a fot of while and fail to the region.
33	Meriden Town Hall: The Selectmen returned to the Meriden Town Hall where orders were signed,
34	building permits approved and correspondence reviewed.
35	
36	Resident Brian Chapman met with the Selectmen to express frustration about how a case against him was
37	handled by the Police Department. Mr. Chapman faced several charges in connection with an incident
38	involving his snowmobile. Due to an error in the town's paperwork, the court did not allow two of the
39	charges. Mr. Chapman was found guilty on the third and ordered to pay a fine. Mr. Chapman explained to
40	the Selectmen that this whole matter, which cost him a lot of money to defend, was unnecessary and in his
41	view should not ever have been allowed to go forward. The Selectboard agreed to talk with Chief Gillens
42	about the case and to respond back to Brian about his stated concerns.
43	
44	Based on the three proposals received (see attached) the Selectmen accepted the Avitar proposal for the
45	2008 assessment update. Halleran will notify Avitar and ask them to prepare the necessary contract
46	documents.
47	
48	The board reviewed, amended and approved a letter to the Federal Marshall service asking for an update on the plane for dealing with convicted felore Edward and Eloine Proven
49 50	the plans for dealing with convicted felons Edward and Elaine Brown.
50 51	
51 52	
52	

1	The Selectboard appointed William Knight to the Conservation Commission replacing James Taylor wh	10
2	has decided not to seek reappointment.	
3		
4		
5	Respectfully Submitted,	
6		
7	Stephen Halleran	
8	•	
9		
10	Mark H. Wilder	
11		
12	Robert W. Taylor	
13		

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S June 20th 2007 Meeting Meriden Town Hall

4 Selectmen present:

Mark Wilder
Robert Taylor
Judy Belyea

8 9

1 2

3

10 The meeting opened at 6pm at the intersection of Willow Brook Road and Main Street. The Selectboard 11 met with Road Agent Ken Stocker and Assistant Road Agent Richard Collins to discuss the needed repairs 12 to the first section of the Brook Road. The town has been awarded \$159,000 in FEMA mitigation monies to 13 assist with this difficult portion of the larger Willow Brook Road project. Board members viewed a slide 14 area and several section of the road that have slumped. Ken hopes to use an existing road that was built to 15 reach the old mill that was on the site to gain access to the bottom of the slide and to stabilize the bank in accordance with the adopted mitigation measures for the project. The Selectmen will revisit the site once 16 17 the old access road has been opened up.

19 Meriden Town Office 6:30pm.

The Selectmen signed orders; building permits, approved minutes and reviewed correspondence. The board
 determined that it would meet next on Tuesday night July 3rd, rather than the July 4th date of the 1st
 Wednesday in July.

24

18

20

The Selectmen reviewed a new hand drawn map done by David Smith with research help from his wife Susan. The new map looks like the existing Vernon Hood map, but incorporates road name changes and other information since the last update of this local map. The new maps will be sold beginning early this fall. All proceeds will go to the town's service memorial project.

29

The board reviewed and approved George Hildum's recommendation for the 2006 abatements. Halleran
 will notify the four taxpayers of the results. Two abatements were granted two were rejected.

32

Avitar Associates has provided a contract for the 2008 update. DRA and town appraiser George Hildum are
 reviewing the draft document.

35

The Selectboard approved a request by the Meriden Library Trustees to have paintwork done on the library
 building. The established building reserve fund will be used to pay for the work.

38

Halleran reported that DRA has, after approving article 10 of last year's warrant, now indicated that the
\$5,000 in donations cannot be transferred to the reserve as part of this article, see RSA 35:5. The
Selectboard indicated their desire to see the \$5,000 deposited into this fund in whatever manner is possible,

42 either from existing or current funds. The donor and the voters of our community made it clear that this

money is for the future maintenance of the Ira and Sarah Townsend Bridge. Halleran will work with the
 town's professional auditor to complete the transaction.

45

46 Bernie Bastian and several other Ed Brown supporters met with the Selectboard to encourage the

47 Selectmen to protect Ed Brown from federal authorities. Supporter Joe Haas had been scheduled to make a

48 presentation to the Selectboard, however, he was arrested by the Plainfield Police on his way into the 49 meeting on an outstanding warrant from Lebanon where he is accused of sending threatening electronic 50 mail to a City Councilor.

50 51

Mr. Brown is convicted of tax evasion and is currently a fugitive from justice who has refused to leave his home. Randy Weaver from the Ruby Ridge incident in Idaho is now in town visiting the Brown's. The entire incident is taking a lot of local police time and has developed into a serious matter involving Federal, State and local law enforcement. The Selectmen will look into the information provided by Mr. Bastian, see attached as well as RSA 123 and will respond back to him at their first meeting in July.

- 1 **Police:** Chief Gillens entered the meeting and informed the Selectboard that Mr. Haas was taken to the
- 2 Lebanon Police Department for processing. The Chief thanked the county attorney's office and the NH
- 3 State Police, all assisted in the arrest to insure that all went smoothly.
- The Selectboard indicated to Chief Gillens that he has their full support in dealing with the Brown situation
 and that he should increase officer and patrol time as he deems necessary. The main concern is that
 supporters of the militia movement and supports of Mr. Weaver will come to Plainfield to participate in Ed
 and Elaine Brown's showdown with the Federal Marshalls.
- 9
 10 The Selectboard expressed their appreciation for the residents who also attended tonight's meeting to show
 11 support for our local government and police department in the handling of the Brown situation.
- 1213 They're being no other business the meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.
- 14 15
- 16 Respectfully Submitted,17
- 18 Stephen Halleran

19	
20	Mark H. Wilder, Chair
21	
22	Robert W. Taylor
23	
24	Judy A. Belyea
25	

1	
2	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S
3	July 3rd 2007 Meeting
4	Meriden Town Hall
5	Selectmen present:
6 7	Mark Wilder Robert Taylor
8	Robert Taylor Judy Belyea
9	Judy Delyea
10	
11	The meeting opened at 6pm at the Meriden Town Hall.
12	
13	
14	Police: Chief Gillens reported that the calls for service to his department were up
15	substantially in June. Gordon stressed that these are calls unrelated to the Brown's
16	situation on Center of Town Road. The Selectboard has asked the Town Administrator
17	and the Chief to log all expenses related to the Brown's case so that an invoice maybe
18	submitted to the Federal Government to help cover the local cost of this federal issue.
19	The Selectboard is in full support of seeking reimbursement. Senator Gregg and Senator
20	Sununu's offices have been asked to assist with this request.
21	The Selectboard approved the Chief's request to provide one final opportunity to
22	all owners of unregistered dog to, without substantial penalty, register their canines. After
23	this the Police Department will go directly to issuing citations to appear in court. Gordon
24	feels strongly that available officer hours are just too limited at this time to spend a lot of
25	time chasing down unregistered dog owners.
26	
27	Other Business: Bernie Bastian and three other supporters of Ed and Elaine Brown met
28	with the Selectboard to learn the board's reaction to RSA 123 and the lack of a required
29	filing to do business in New Hampshire, by the Federal Government, with the Secretary
30	of State's Office. The Selectboard indicated that the provided information has not
31	persuaded the board to direct the Police Chief to protect the Brown's from the Federal
32	Government. Mr. Bastian provided copies of a documentary "Freedom to Fascism" that
33	he hopes would be persuasive to the board.
34 35	Highway Department: The Selectboard approved the acceptance of the Hazard
35 36	Mitigation grant for Willow Brook Road. The Selectboard instructed Halleran to discuss
30 37	the reporting requirements with the state, so that there is no confusion on what level of
38	administrative work needs to be done to satisfy government accountability standards for
39	the use of federal monies.
40	the use of federal montes.
41	The Selectboard determined that they would meet with Ted Moynihan on July 18 th at
42	6pm to discuss the relocation of a small section of River Road, near the spring slide. The
43	plan is to move the road to the east. The town was deeded some land for this purpose
44	back in 1968.
45	
46	Town Office: Halleran reported that Ruth Wheeler has been very busy over the last week
47	collecting first half taxes for 2007. Per usual the vast majority of taxpayers have paid on
48	time.
49	The Board acknowledged the delivery of the new Welcome to Plainfield signs as
50	well as the various new signs to designate, Plainfield, Meriden and E. Plainfield villages.
51	The board will, over the next few days, be working to determine exact locations for the

1	new signs. Once the Selectboard and affected landowners have ap	proved the locations	
2	the final step will be a permit from the DOT.		
3			
4	The Selectboard reviewed, amended and approved the distr	ibution of the	
5	additional monies voted at the 2007 town meeting, for employee ra	uises starting July 1 st .	
6	As directed by the meeting the majority of the money was used to address pay rates in the		
7	town's Police Department.		
8			
9	The meeting adjourned at 8pm.		
10			
11	Respectfully Submitted,		
12			
13	Stephen Halleran		
14 15		Mark H. Wilder, Chair	
15		Mark n. whiter, Chan	
10			
17		Robert W. Taylor	
19			
20			
21		Judy A. Belyea	
22			
23			
24			
25			

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S July 18th 2007 Meeting Meriden Town Hall

Selectmen present:

1 2

3 4

5

6 7

8

-	Mark Wilder
	Robert Taylor
	Judy Belyea

9 10 **River Road:** The meeting opened at 6pm at the River Road slide (449 River Road) with landowner Ted Moynihan. The Board is considering using a piece of land deeded to the 11 12 town in 1968 from Clarence King to move the road in this area to the east, away from the River bank. The deeded parcel was specifically for this purpose. Given the location of 13 the most recent (April '07) slide some additional land may be required from the 14 Moynihan property to allow the new section to properly transition with the old road to the 15 north. Ted noted that he is not opposed to assisting with this project but is concerned that 16 as many of the existing trees, that buffer his home from River Road, be left as possible. 17 18 He asked that the town stake out the proposed transition so that he and his family are able to better visualize the impact. Selectman Wilder stated that he feels the proper steps for 19 the project are to first repair the slide and second determine if moving the road over is 20 21 necessary. He stressed that without the slide repair he does not feel the road relocation is 22 a solution. Selectmen Belyea and Taylor agreed with this approach. As the slide repair will be on his property as well. Ted asked that he be provided with some details of the 23 24 proposed work so that he can better understand the finished product. Ted noted that he believes the same ice jam that created the slide also removed much of the gravel bar that 25 26 had been building in the middle of the river and is credited with having contributed to the slide. This development may help reduce future bank damage at this site. As the gravel 27 bar grows over the years, it diverts water into the riverbank. The town's proposed repair 28 involves placing large rocks at the bottom, keyed into the existing bank. Once the bottom 29 30 and resulting slope are stabilized organic material can be used to cover the rock and achieve a vegetative cover for added stability. Ken hopes that the repair can be done in 31 August, but certainly before the winter season. The moving and repaying of the road 32 would then follow, likely in 2008. 33 34

35

The meeting moved to the Meriden Town Hall

Police Department: The Selectboard spent a significant amount of time talking with Chief Gillens about how best the town can stress to the federal authorities that a resolution to the Ed and Elaine Brown case is needed. Gordon indicated that he believes the best approach is to allow his department to work with various assisting agencies to insure the safety of the other neighborhood residents and allow the Federal authorities to deal with the Brown's. Gordon feels that the Federal Government is actively working on a peaceful resolution to the situation.

The Chief thanked the area law enforcement agencies that assisted with the coverage for the concert held at the Brown's home this weekend. In particular the assistance of the Sullivan County Sheriff's Department was noted for being particularly helpful to the local policing effort. About 200 people attended the gathering; Mr. Brown had hoped for several thousand supporters. The Selectboard will continue to discuss this ongoing issue with our congressional delegation. The board remains frustrated, that a convicted felon is able to hold concerts for the public at large.

Town Office: Halleran reported that he is comfortable with the reporting requirements 1 for the FEMA portion of Willow Brook Road will not be a problem. He has spoken with 2 Richard Verville at the Department of Safety and has been informed that the town will 3 have to maintain financial records of how the money was expended and provide the state 4 with a quarterly progress report on the work. 5 The Selectboard reviewed the town map that has been created by local artist 6 7 David Smith. The revised map is now ready for printing and distribution. The Selectboard is committed to the idea of using the proceeds from the map for the planned 8 9 town service memorial. 10 The permit request for the Welcome to Plainfield signs has been submitted to the state and the signs should be installed as soon as the permit is approved. 11 Karl Klinges who donated about 10 acres of land to the town last year, wishes to 12 lease the remaining land to the town for use in conjunction with its municipal grave pit. 13 The land includes a shop style structure. The Selectboard supports the idea of a lease and 14 approved having a draft document drawn up for the board's consideration. Mr. Klinges is 15 considering donating the remaining land to the town in the future. 16 The Selectboard was informed of the Claremont District Court's finding that the 17 town did not prove beyond a reasonable doubt that a new section of stonewall built at the 18 end of the road is located within the town right of way. The Selectmen indicated that they 19 continue to believe the structure poses a risk to the public at large and the section of 20 stonewall should be relocated. Halleran noted that the burden of proof is much harder in 21 22 a criminal case than a civil and that the weakness in this case is the town records that support the stated right of way for Farnum Road are difficult to interpret. The Board will 23 consider whether or not clarifying the right of way for Center of Town/Farnum Road is 24 25 necessary. The 2008 appraisal work is now complete; George Hildum finished his work 26 earlier in the week. 27 28 29 The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm. 30 Respectfully Submitted, 31 32 33 Stephen Halleran 34 35 Mark H. Wilder, Chair 36 37 38 Robert W. Taylor 39 40 41 Judy A. Belyea 42 43 44 45

1	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S
2	August 1st 2007 Meeting
3	Meriden Town Hall
4	Selectmen present:
5	Mark Wilder
6	Robert Taylor
7	Judy Belyea
8	Judy Delyeu
9	The meeting opened at 6pm
10	The meeting opened at opin
11	Willow Brook Road
12	
13	The Selectboard conducted a site visit to the slide on Willow Brook Road just north of the
14	covered bridge. The slide occurred over last winter and will be repaired as part of the Brook
15	Road reconstruction. At issue was the various repair options. The Selectboard encouraged Ken to
16	investigate using steel beams, pinned to the existing ledge to stabilize the bank.
17	investigate using steel beams, printed to the existing reage to submize the bank.
18	At the Meriden Town Hall the board met with the following individuals:
19	At the Meriden Town than the board met with the following merviduals.
20	Karla Chaffee, volunteer with the Upper Valley Housing Coalition asked the board to complete a
20	questionnaire concerning a planning conference the group is considering for this fall.
22	questionnance concerning a plainning conference the group is considering for this fair.
23	Riley Lewis of Mascoma Health Initiative and Chris Christopholus, Lebanon Fire Chief updated
23 24	the board on the Region #4 Pandemic Planning efforts. The town was encouraged to continue to
25	participate in some of the upcoming meetings and training opportunities.
2 <i>5</i> 26	participate in some of the upcoming meetings and training opportunities.
20 27	Police Department: Chief Gillens updated the Board on the Edward and Elaine Brown matter.
28	The Brown's reported being under attack last Saturday evening. Chief Gillens indicated that this
20 29	was not the case, there was absolutely no local, state, county of federal action against the Browns.
30	was not the case, there was absolutery no rocal, state, county or rederar action against the browns.
31	The Board noted that none of the materials that have been provided to the town by supporters of
32	Ed and Elaine Brown has convinced them to change their position. In the board's view the
33	Browns should be held accountable to the same local, state and federal laws as the rest of the
34	residents.
35	rondonds.
36	Halleran will set up a hearing to accept unanticipated funds from the state and federal government
37	concerning the FEMA snow emergency, FEMA repair work to River Road, Willow Brook Road
38	and the federal assistance with the Edward and Elaine Brown matter.
39	and the federal assistance with the Edward and Ename Brown mater.
40	The Chief has been working the Plainfield School Administrative staff to make sure that all of the
41	school's established safety policies and procedures are up to date for the upcoming school year.
42	This type of review is done each and every year.
43	This type of review is done each and every year.
44	Town Office: Halleran forwarded to the Selectboard a letter, from the Historical Society, inviting
45	the Board to a celebration for Plainfield's oldest resident, Carrie Tibbets.
46	
47	The Selectboard reviewed the results of the 2007 assessing work. The grandlist increased by
48	about 2% this past year. Halleran indicated that depending on how the Plainfield School does
49	with Lebanon High tuition students, the 2007 tax rate looks to be established at about
50	\$25.50/\$1,000.
51	
52	The abatement related lawsuit with New England Power centered on the valuation of the large
53	powerline that runs through Plainfield, has been settled. The utility accepted the abatement
55 54	offered by the town last year. This offer was originally rejected but has now been accepted.

1		
2	The Board reviewed the now complete Plainfield Town map. Printer Jen	ry Doolittle has provided
3	several paper stock options for having the map printed on. The Selectbo	ard continues to consider
4	offering framed versions of the map, in a limited run, for those that make	e significant donations to
5	the Service Memorial project.	
6		
7	The August 1 st meeting adjourned at 9pm.	
8		
9	Respectfully Submitted,	
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11		
12	Stephen Halleran	
13		
14		Mark H. Wilder, Chair
15		
16		
17		Robert W. Taylor
18		
19		
20		Judy A. Belyea
21		
22		
23		
24		

1	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S
2	August 15th 2007 Meeting
3	Meriden Town Hall
4	Selectmen present:
5	Mark Wilder
6	Robert Taylor
7	Judy Belyea
8	
9	The meeting opened at 6:30pm
10	
11	Representative Matt Houde: Responding to the passage of article 19 at this year's town
12	meeting, Matt Houde met with the Selectboard to discuss possible options for enabling legislation
13	that would permit town's wider discretion in granting tax relief for those residents with the least
14	ability to pay local property taxes. Creating additional exemptions, modifying the criteria for
15	existing exemptions and better publicizing the state's existing relief program were suggested.
16	
17	Ken Stocker: Road Agent Ken Stocker updated the Selectboard on the Beauty Hill Road project.
18	The project has been slowed by the need to excavate more material from the base than was
19	originally planned. However, the end product should be more durable because of the extra work.
20	Ken hopes to be ready for paving early in September.
21	
22	Roadside mowing will resume in the next few days. Electrical problems with the tractor and the
23	highway crewmembers cycling through summer vacations, have slowed this annual project down.
24	
25	Ken feels that the town should once again consider the use of calcium chloride on town gravel
26	roads. Ken feels treating the roads would result in less environmental damage and would save
27	time and material costs on repairs.
28	
29	The Board and Road Agent will meet on Friday morning with Ted Moynihan concerning the
30	River Road repair. The town's wetland application has now been submitted to the state and the
31	hope is to have the repairs made in late September.
32	
33	Police Department: Gordon updated the Selectboard on the department's activities over the last
34	two weeks. The department has been catching up on some of its pending investigations and
35	traffic detail work. Gordon noted, that in particular, the morning commute seems to be a time
36	that additional traffic work is needed.
37	
38	Town Office: The Selectboard signed the contract for the 2008 assessment update. Avitar
39	Associates will do the work later this year into early 2008.
40	
41	The 2007 tax rate setting paperwork was signed and will be forwarded to the DRA. The rate
42	should be established in early Octobers.
43	
44	

1 The board continued its work on pulling together a capital campaign for the Service Memorial.

2 The newly updated town map will be used in this effort to generate revenue for the memorial

3 project. Printer Jerry Doolittle is doing the necessary work to be able to print various sizes of the

- 4 map.
- 5 6

The meeting was recessed at 8:50pm until 7:00am on Friday August 18th at the River Road slide,
directly across the former site of the largest elm in NH.

9

10 Friday August 18th 7:00am

11 Selectmen Taylor and Wilder, Road Agent Stocker met with property owners Ted and Brenda 12 Moynihan concerning the planned repairs to a section of the River Bank on the Moynihan's 13 property. Mr. Movnihan indicated that if any repair work was going to be done to the slope he 14 15 would prefer a more benched approach than a continuous slope from river level to top of the 16 bank. He noted that the flat "benched" area would provide the best possible location for growing 17 trees and other deciduous plants to hold the bank. Selectman Wilder noted that if a benched 18 approach were used, the sloped areas become necessarily steeper and less stable than they 19 otherwise would have to be and for that reason he prefers the continuous slope approach. Road 20 Agent Stocker noted that for a long-term fix, keying large rock into the toe of the slope, below the 21 water level was critical. All repair options include covering as much exposed rock as possible 22 with vegetation. Mr. Moynihan will create a map detailing a stabilization option that he thinks is 23 reasonable but also in his view gives the best chance of lasting for many years and blending into 24 the existing bank. This option will be considered against the proposed plan of a single slope from 25 top of bank to the river. 26

- 27 The meeting was adjourned at 8:20am.
- 28 29
- 30 Respectfully Submitted,
- 31 32
- 33 Stephen Halleran
- 34 35
- 36
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- 38
- 39
- 40 41

- 42 43

Mark H. Wilder, Chair

Robert W. Taylor

Judy A. Belyea

1	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S
2	September 5th 2007 Meeting
3	Meriden Town Hall
4	Selectmen present:
5	Mark Wilder
6	Robert Taylor
7	Judy Belyea
8	
9	The meeting opened at 6:00pm
10	
11	Correspondence was reviewed and orders for the week approved.
12	
13	Highway Department: Ken Stocker reported that paving for Beauty Hill Road has now been
14	scheduled for September 18 th . He believes, that even with the additional excavation work, the
15	road will be ready by the 18 th .
16	
17	Roadside mowing is continuing and should be completed within the next week to ten days.
18	Gravel crushing should being in the town pit by the end of next week.
19	
20	The Board discussed the status of the River Road repair project. Halleran noted that he continues
21	to provide the NHDES with requested information for the town's wetland application. Halleran
22	will attend a Connecticut River Joint Commission subcommittee meeting next week where the
23	permit application will be discussed. FEMA monies for the repair are in hand and once the
24	permit is issued the work can begin.
25	
26	Police Department: Chief Gillens updated the board on efforts he and other law enforcement
27	agencies have been making to slow traffic on Route 120 and Route 12A. Last week some 34
28	traffic stops were made on Route 120 on Thursday, the first day of school. Gordon made it clear
29	slowing commuting traffic down through both villages is a top priority.
30	
31	Federal Monies Hearing: In accordance with RSA 31:95 B the Selectboard held a hearing as to
32	whether or not the town should accept Federal Monies from unanticipated sources. In this case
33	FEMA money for Willow Brook Road, River Road and a snow emergency along with funds from
34	the Federal Marshall's service were discussed. In total, the funds represent \$230,000 to be used
35	locally. It was noted that Gilford resident Joe Haas, a supporter of Edward Brown, had provided
36	the board information on why he feels the Federal Money should not be accepted. Mr. Haas was
37	not in attendance at the hearing. There being no members of the public wishing to speak,
38	Selectwoman Belyea moved to accepted the various funding sources. The motion was seconded
39 40	and voted in the affirmative.
40 41	Town Officer The Selectheard reviewed a letter from Dem Vimbell to her neighbor Denald
41 42	Town Office: The Selectboard reviewed a letter from Pam Kimball to her neighbor Ronald
42 43	Tetreault expressing concern over a large tree on his property that is leaning toward her home. As the tree is not in the right of way for Willow Brook Road the Selectboard was unclear as to
43 44	what if any role that the town has in this matter which is viewed as a civil issue between the two
44 45	landowners.
45 46	
40	

1		
2	Halleran noted that the Planning and Zoning Boards will be holding a jo	int meeting next week to
3	discuss the town's zoning ordinance.	
4		
5	The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.	
6		
7	Respectfully Submitted,	
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9		
10	Stephen Halleran	
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12		Mark H. Wilder, Chair
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15		Robert W. Taylor
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18		Judy A. Belyea
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1 2	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S September 19th 2007 Meeting
3	Meriden Town Hall
4 5	Selectmen present: Mark Wilder
6	Judy Belyea
7	Judy Deryca
, 8 9	The meeting opened at 6:30pm
10	Correspondence was reviewed and orders for the week approved.
11 12	Police Department: Chief Gordon Gillens updated the board on the Edward and Elaine Brown
12	matter. The gathering to be held at their residence did not occur. Federal Marshals arrested four
13	of the most active supporters of Ed and Elaine Brown and on the day of the gathering those
14	wishing to visit the Browns were turned back or arrested. The Selectboard supported this work by
15 16	the Federal Government and feels they are steps that should have been taken even sooner.
10	the rederar Government and reefs they are steps that should have been taken even sooner.
18 19	Gordon hopes to be able to purchase a speed check trailer to help assist with the continued concerns about vehicle speeds in both villages.
20	concerns about venicle specias in bour vinages.
20 21	Highway Department: On behalf of Road Agent Stocker Halleran reported that Beauty Hill will
22	be paved on Monday the 24 th . As is typical in these matters, the paving date has been moved
23	back twice already by Pike Industries. The close proximity to the paving plant earns the town
24	favorable pricing, but also makes the dates subject to change with little notice.
25	1 0/ 5 0
26	Fall road grading will begin early next week.
27	
28	The Selectmen will visit the town gravel pit and adjacent town owned land early next week. The
29	purpose of the meeting will be to view the new property acquired last year.
30	II illustration of the trade of the second difference of the second state of the secon
31	Halleran reported that Ted Moynihan would like to do a similar bank stabilization project on his
32 33	land to the north of the River Road slide at the same time as the town's project. The Selectboard did not chiest to this, but would like to say some of the datails of Tad's planned work.
33 34	did not object to this, but would like to see some of the details of Ted's planned work.
34	Service Memorial: The Selectboard reviewed, edited and approved a brochure to me used for the
36	Service Memorial project. Halleran is waiting for comments from the Memorial Committee after
30	which the brochures will be printed.
38	mien die broendres win de printed.
39	The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.
40	\mathcal{O}
41	Respectfully Submitted,
42	
43	
44	Stephen Halleran
45	•
46	Mark H. Wilder, Chair
47	
48	
49	Robert W. Taylor
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51	
52	Judy A. Belyea
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1	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S		
2	October 3 rd 2007 Meeting		
3	Meriden Town Hall		
4	Selectmen present:		
5	Robert Taylor		
6	Judy Belyea		
7			
8	The meeting opened at 6:00pm		
9			
10	Correspondence was reviewed and orders for the week approved.		
11			
12	The Selectboard discussed how to respond to a violation of the town's employee substance abuse		
13	policy. Using the procedures outlined in the 1996 policy as a guide, the board determined a course of action that could result in an employee, who has violated the policy, being allowed to		
14 15	return to work. This would only occur if the employee satisfied all conditions within sixty days		
16	and all costs associated with returning to work would be at the employee's expense.		
17	and an costs associated with returning to work would be at the employee's expense.		
18	Highway Department: Ken asked that the Selectboard include in its upcoming budgetary		
19	discussions a possible lease or purchase of a small excavator for the use of the highway		
20	department. The town is annual spending significant dollars on rentals of a small machine for		
21	short periods of time. In addition, the excavator would make annual roadside ditching far more		
22	efficient. The board agreed to give the proposal consideration during the upcoming budgeting		
23	process.		
24			
25	The board also determined that if the River Road slide cannot be repaired this year, the town will		
26	utilize the work slot with Daniels Construction to repair the slide at the Covered Bridge in		
27	Meriden Village. The River Road slide requires a difficult to obtain wetland permit, while the		
28	Covered Bridge slide does not. Both failures must be repaired.		
29			
30	Police Department: Chief Gillens reported that his is working with Hanover Dispatch to get		
31	more information about a surcharge that might be applied to our dispatching costs for next year,		
32	based on the increased use of the dispatch service during key times concerning the Ed and Elaine		
33	Brown situation. If this is the case, the town will ask the Federal Marshal's service to cover the increased cost.		
34 35	nicreased cost.		
35 36	Halleran informed the Board that he and Chief Gillens will be working with Attorney Dona		
37	Feeney on the town's response to the Yates v. Cornish Rescue case. The town has been named		
38	in this suit and is hoping to be released from it very quickly. Attorney Feeney has been hired by		
39	our insurance carrier to represent us in this matter.		
40			
41	Chief Gillens reported to the board that if calls for service to assist Cornish with otherwise routine		
42	matters continue at the current rate, some billing for service to the Town of Cornish should be		
43	considered. Each department will gladly help the other in an emergency; however, lately our		
44	department has been covering a lot of Cornish non-emergency calls a situation that Gordon feels		
45	needs monitoring. The Town of Cornish has no full time police department.		
46			
47	Town Office: The Selectboard determined that if it will help in eliminating the two utility poles		
48	on Route 12A that have caused so much concern the town will commit to keeping an access way		
49	open during winter months to an existing pole that will be used as part of the under Route 12A		
50	drilling solution to the problem. PSNH will allow the boring to come to this existing pole if		
51	bucket truck access to the pole is available.		

1	Once a signature is obtained from Selectboard Chairman Mark Wilder th	e cover letter and
2	brochures for the Service Memorial fund raising projectofficially starting	
3	this project.	
4		
5		
6	The "Welcome to Plainfield" signs should begin to be installed next wee	k as well.
7		
8		
9	The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.	
10		
11	Respectfully Submitted,	
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13	G. 1 H H	
14	Stephen Halleran	
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16 17		
17		
18 19		Robert W. Taylor
20		Robert W. Taylor
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22		Judy A. Belyea
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2	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S	
3	October 10th 2007 Meeting	
4	Meriden Town Hall	
5 6	Selectmen present: Mark Wilder	
0 7	Robert Taylor	
8	Judy Belyea	
8 9	Judy Beryea	
10	The meeting opened at 6:00pm	
10	The incetting opened at 0.00pm	
11		
12	The Board of Selectmen heard, in public session, from co-workers conc	erning an employee who
13	had violated the town's substance abuse policy. Chairman Wilder noted	
15	attend the previous meeting, but has strong feelings on the issue of how	
16	implemented and wants to participate in the board's decision on how to	
17	policy.	
18	1 5	
19	All those that spoke requested that the board allow the employee an opp	ortunity to, at his
20	expense, earn his job back with town. This portion of the meeting was c	onducted with the consent
21	of the employee who had violated the policy.	
22		
23	Next the board met privately with that employee.	
24		
25	Returning to public session the board continued its discussions from Oc	
26	violation of the town's employee substance abuse policy. The existing	
27	Board of Selectmen wide latitude on how to handle a given violation. T	
28	message that is sent to employees from a decision of leniency and the m	
29	decision of immediate termination. Acknowledging that until now the to	
30	documented violation of the policy, the majority of the board determined	
31	federally controlled substances a message of zero tolerance would be set	nt.
32	E-llessing a height of the stars having a discount of the stars in the	1 1
33	Following a brief update on other town business the special meeting was	s adjourned.
34	Submitted	
35 36	Submitted,	
30 37	Stephen Halleran	
37	Stephen Haneran	
30 39		Mark H. Wilder, Chair
40		Wark II. White, Chan
41		
42		Robert W. Taylor
43		
44		
45		Judy A. Belyea
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MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S October 17th 2007 Meeting Meriden Town Hall

4 Selectmen present:
5 Mark Wilder
6 Robert Taylor
7 Judy Belyea
8

The meeting opened at 6:30pm

Town Office: The 2007 tax rate setting will take place on Friday at 2:30pm at the Meriden Town Hall. The Board discussed how to react to the just announced Sullivan County deficit that will have to be addressed in the coming months and fiscal years. Plainfield's apportionment of the 2.5 million dollar shortfall is \$143,000. Halleran is in the process of discussing the matter with both the county manager and the state department of revenue. Accepting that the decision will result in higher taxes this year, there was wide support on the board for dealing with at least a portion of Plainfield's share in this tax rate rather than pushing the entire impact into the future.

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Police: Chief Gillens reported that since the capture, by Federal authorities, of Ed and Elaine Brown the Police Department has been particularly vigilant, but that all indications are that the couple's few supporters are more occupied with their own potential legal troubles than retaliating for the Brown's capture. The Brown's property is in the process of being secured. Once federal authorities complete that work the US Treasury Department will take over the management of the property.

25

In attempt to further address traffic speed concerns the Chief requested approval to purchase a 26 27 "speed trailer" for the exclusive use of the town. The town currently has access to a unit owned 28 by Sullivan County. Response to our use of that trailer has been so positive that Gordon would 29 like to have one available all the time. The unit has a digital display that shows oncoming 30 vehicles their speed as compared to the posted speed. Moved periodically from location to 31 location the units are very effective at slowing traffic down. The board approved the \$5,000 32 request, but asked that the chief look into also purchasing a module that includes traffic log data 33 so that the unit can help convey to residents the number and speeds of vehicles. Often residents 34 are surprised to learn that traffic speeds that appear to be excessive are actually within the posted 35 speed limits. This is particularly true in the town's three village areas. 36

Other Business: The Selectboard continued their discussions about the possible lease of the remaining property owned by Karl Klinges on Ferry Hill Road. Mr. Klinges has indicated a desire to donate the remaining land to the town, but the donation is dependent on the tax implications of such a gift. Current tax law likely prohibits this second gift before 2011.

41

The meeting was recessed at 9:00pm until Friday the 19th at 2:30pm when the 2007 tax rate will
be established.

44

45

46 Friday October 19th at 2:30pm

47

Selectmen Belyea, Taylor met with municipal auditor Robert Anderson for the setting of the 2007 tax rate. Also in attendance were Town Administrator Steve Halleran, School Superintendent Russ Collins and School Business Administrator Beth Birwirth. All required reports were determined by DRA to be in order and the rate setting resulted in a tax rate of \$25.45. Reacting to the just announced 2.5 million dollar county deficit of which Plainfield share is \$143,000, the Selectboard determined that, rather than use the \$40,000 set aside last year to offset this rate, this money should be held and an additional \$75,000 raised in overlay in anticipation of dealing with

1	the county deficit next year. Auditor Anderson indicated while this was	s technically allowed as
2	part of the Selectmen's duties. The board needs to understand that these	changes will be reflected
3	in the town's portion of the tax rate, not the counties. The Selectboard ac	cknowledged this, but
4	indicated that they feel strongly that their primary responsibility is the or	verall financial health of
5	the town. While somewhat unorthodox, this decision will, in their view,	put the town on the
6	strongest possible financial footing for dealing with our share of the cou	nty shortfall. This being
7	the case the rate was set at \$25.75. The tax rate will not be released until	1 the required math check
8	has been completed by the DRA.	-
9		
10	The meeting adjourned at about 3:15pm.	
11		
12		
13	Submitted,	
14		
15	Stephen Halleran	
16		Mark H. Wilder, Chair
17		
18		
19		Robert W. Taylor
20		
21		
22		Judy A. Belyea
23		
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1	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S
2	November 7th Meeting
3	Meriden Town Hall
4	Selectmen present:
5	Mark Wilder
6	Robert Taylor
7	Judy Belyea
8	
9	The meeting opened at 6:00pm
10	
11	
12	Highway Department: The board held a brief discussion concerning an upcoming meeting with
13	the school's facility committee about plans to expand the school parking lot. Based on the
14	recommendation from Road Agent Stocker the board determined that the town highway crew
15	should have a very limited role in the parking lot expansion project. The town's municipal gravel
16	pit will be made available for needed material over what can be mined from the existing gravel
17	pit on the school property. Road Agent Stocker expressed concern over maintaining the lot once
18	it is built. He feels that the school should hire a contractor to perform snow removal from the lot.
19	At a minimum if the town were to continue to plow the lot a snow bucket would have to be
20	purchased for the front-end loader.
21	
22	River Road Slide-based on a site meeting with the NHDES, Road Agent Stocker and Halleran
23	have been informed that the state strongly recommends, and will likely only permit, a very minor
24	repair to the slide area. The environmental officials want the slumped earth to be left undisturbed
25	and only the voids around the slide filled. This work can likely be done with town forces.
26	Repaving the section will be delayed until the town is satisfied that the prescribed repair will
27	suffice.
28	
29	Klinges Land: As agreed to last fall, Wolfgang Kannler of Hartland Vt will conduct a limited
30	timber harvest on the former Klinges land. A town appointed forester will monitor the harvest.
31	
32	Police Department: Chief Gillens reported that the radar trailer should be in service later in the
33	week. The unit is intended to assist with reducing speeds in and around the town's populated
34	areas.
35	
36	Resident Anne Donaghy met with the Selectboard and Chief Gillens to discuss what can be done
37	to reduce the annual damage to the town's class VI roads from heavy four wheeled vehicles. Ann
38	made it clear she does not object to the use of the roads by ATV's, but that full sized vehicles
39	often operated by nonresidents continue to damage these valuable community resources.
40	She has discussed the matter with the town's Conservation Commission and believes she has
41	strong support on this issue from this group.
42	
43	Mrs. Donaghy and the board discussed various options to reduce damage on the class VI roads
44	these included updated signs, expanding the months that the roads are not available to motorized
45	wheeled vehicles and the possible use of weight limits to reduce damage.
46	
47	Town Office: Halleran reported that tax bills have been issued and that Collector Ruth Wheeler
48	has been busy logging in tax payments.
49 50	All of the welcome to Plainfield signs are now installed. While not everyone is happy
50	with all the locations, heights and sign choices the vast majority of the comments received have
51	been positive.
52	Donations are coming in for the town's Service Memorial project, to date about \$8,000
53	has been pledged and \$7,000 collected.
54	The Selectboard will meet next on 11/28 and this meeting will feature the first session with the town's finance committee
55	with the town's finance committee.

1		
2	Submitted,	
3		
4	Stephen Halleran	
5		Mark H. Wilder, Chair
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7		
8		Robert W. Taylor
9		
10		
11		Judy A. Belyea
12		
13		
14		
15		

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S November 28th Meeting Meriden Town Hall

4	Selectmen present:	
5	-	Mark Wilder
6		Robert Taylor
7		Judy Belyea
8		

The meeting opened at 6:30pm

11 Town Office: Orders were approved and correspondence reviewed. The Selectmen approved moving forward with a project that could result in the updating of street lighting in Plainfield 12 Village. As part of the program, new more energy efficient fixtures that will satisfy the dark sky 13 14 standards used by the Planning Board would be installed. The cost of the project is fully funded from the initial energy savings. The payback period for the new fixtures would be about 5 years. 15 As part of the project a committee would used to evaluate the existing 27 lights in the village to 16 see if these locations are still appropriate. Police Chief Gillens would be heavily involved in the 17 determination of where any new lights would be located and where old lights might be 18 19 discontinued.

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21 Halleran updated the Selectboard on the first meeting of the KUA Study Committee. Currently, 22 there are 32 Plainfield students (non-faculty children) attending the school. Six of these are seniors. At this early date a dozen eighth graders have expressed an interest in attending the 23 24 school next year. The value of last year's discretionary tax exemption to the school was 25 \$126,000. The school has returned \$130,000 in Plainfield Grant monies to local students with an additional \$104,000 from KUA financial aid resources also going to Plainfield students. As in 26 27 the recent past, this year's grant was distributed on a 70% need basis, with all students receiving at least a \$1,300 tuition credit. 28

29

Police Department: Gordon updated the board on his work on the 2008 budget. He is looking
 into ways to reduce the department's fuel expenses. Currently, the department purchases fuel
 from a bulk distributor and budgets for a usage of on average 15 gallons per day.

33

34 The recent start of winter has resulted in several accidents around town. Gordon noted that if 35 vehicle speeds were just reduced most of these icy road accidents could be avoided.

36

Finance Committee: The remainder of the meeting was on a far ranging discussion with the
town's finance committee on the overall management of the town and the various departments.
See attached handout for topic information. The Selectboard will next meet with the committee
on December 19th at which time a preliminary budget will be presented. At this time, the
Selectboard is in the process of working through department requests for 2008.

- 42
- 43 The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.
- 44
- 45 Submitted,
- 46
- 47 Stephen Halleran
- 48
- 49
- 50
- 51
- 52

53 54 Robert W. Taylor

Mark H. Wilder, Chair

Judy A. Belyea

1		MINUTES OF THE	
2 3		December 5tl Meriden To	
4	Selectmen present:	Mark Wilder	
5	-	Robert Taylor	
6		Judy Belyea	
7 8 9	The meeting opened at	6:00pm	
9 10	The Selectboard review	ed correspondence and sigr	ied orders.
11			novation project at 116 Freeman Road. The
12			e structure, however, a new "farmers porch" on
13			ling's nonconformity with the town's front
14			e trees located between the porch and the
15			tenance problem for the highway department.
16 17			the corner of the porch, and 27' from the The owner has been notified of the issue and
17 18			recorded at the registry that indicates if the
18 19			jects the owner is responsible for making any
20	necessary modifications		jeets the owner is responsible for making any
21	neeessary mounteurion.	,,	
22	Police Department: C	hief Gillens updated the Se	lectboard on his department's activities over
23	the last week. There we	ere virtually no storm relate	d accidents from Monday's snowstorm.
24			the town's safety committee concerning the
25	updating of outside light	its at the town office.	
26			
27			d on the department's work over the last week.
28			Highway Department's effort to reduce winter mixture of road salt and manufactured sand.
29 30			nd as long as the resulting slush build up on
31			led surface the roads remain safe and usable.
32			n keeping with direction provided by Plainfield
33			expressed concern that if too little salt is used
34			gnificant change in maintenance practices is
35	made, she feels strongly	y that this should be advertis	sed to the town's residents.
36			
37			the first draft of the 2008 Budget. A 7%
38 39			es mainly due to employee salary benefits and is proposed to increase 2.22% from the total
39 40			xation would be about \$.50 on the tax rate.
41			o make definitive judgments on the budget.
42			ad and the new year's priorities become clearer.
43	The Board will meet wi	th the finance committee or	n December 19^{th} to go over the first draft.
44			
45	The meeting adjourned	at 8:00pm	
46			
47	Submitted,		
48	C(1		
49 50	Stephen Halleran		Mort II Wildon Chain
50 51			Mark H. Wilder, Chair
52			Robert W. Taylor
53			Robert II. Tuylor
54			Judy A. Belyea

1	MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S		
2	December 19th 2007 Meeting		
3	Meriden Town Hall		
4			
5	Selectmen present:	Mark Wilder	
6		Robert Taylor	
7		Judy Belyea	
8			
9 10	The meeting opened a	t 6:30pm	
11	Highway: Road Agen	t Stocker reviewed with the Selectboard the initial proposal he has received	
12		truck #1, the one ton truck used to spread salt and plow the asphalt roads	
13		of of dealing with storm events. A complete replacement of the truck with	
14		anding equipment could cost as much as \$88,000. The funds will come	
15		rve fund for highway vehicles; however, an expenditure of closer to	
16	\$70,000 was anticipate		
17	\$70,000 was anticipad		
18	Ken also discussed wi	th the board his continued desire to have the town consider a lease purchase	
19		or road ditching and road reconstruction projects. While open to the idea	
20		ues to be concerned about adding another piece of heavy equipment to the	
21	department's inventor		
22	department s mventor	y.	
23	Police Department: (Gordon discussed with the Selectboard some of the department's budgetary	
24		current and upcoming year. Gordon is concerned about the rising costs of	
25	providing a like level of police coverage for the town, but without a reduction in service its		
26	unclear where substantial cost savings can be realized over and above those that are already		
27	utilized in building the		
28			
29	Town Office: The Sel	ectboard continued its discussions about establishing exemptions for solar,	
30		y systems. Halleran has researched the issue, currently there are a handful	
31		and Grafton County who offer these discretionary exemptions. Most offer	
32		ting the entire system or capping the exemption at some finite amount,	
33		000. These systems are not typically significant contributors to assessed	
34		. In the case of Plainfield's current assessing system, a solar electric system	
35		0 to install would likely impact a residential assessment for tax purposes by	
36	6	ard remained firm in its position that to move forward with placing an	
37		wood, solar and wood systems on the 2008 warrant. Halleran will, with the	
38		aft some possible warrant language for the board to consider.	
39			
40	Finance Committee:	The group spent the remainder of the meeting reviewing the initial draft of	
41	the 2008 budget and w	varrant articles with the town's finance committee. Currently the proposed	
42		onal \$96,000 to be raised from the taxes. Energy costs and personnel	
43	related items are the tw	wo most significant factors in the proposed increase. Very little new	
44	program is included in	the budget. T	
45	The finance committee	e also suggested that the town might want to look into managing its forested	
46	land for an income stre	eam. The town owns a fair amount of land and good stewardship often	
47	means a timber harves	st, which could also result in a positive cash flow.	
48			
49	The group will meet n	ext on January 16 th to continue these budget discussions.	
50			
51			
52		***	
53			

1	The December 19 th Selectboard meeting adjourned at 9:15pm	
2		
3	Submitted,	
4		
5	Stephen Halleran	
6		Mark H. Wilder, Chair
7		
8		Robert W. Taylor
9		
10		Judy A. Belyea
11		
12		