

1 **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**
2 **Wednesday January 3rd 2018**
3 **Plainfield Library**

4
5 Selectmen present: Robert Taylor
6 Ron Eberhardt
7 Judy Belyea

8
9 The meeting opened at 6:15pm

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12 **Public Comments:** Fire Warden Bruce Elder presented the Selectboard with two nominations for
13 Deputy Fire Wardens. The Selectboard approved the requests.

14
15 Bruce also provided a briefing to the board on the house fire at #17 Ferry Hill Road. The house
16 was fully involved by the time the call came in. The department was able to save the detached
17 garage. The extreme cold created an abundance of problems. The Plainfield community is
18 rallying around the family.

19
20 Virginia Drye met with the Selectmen to continue her discussions about the rededication of the
21 WWI Service Memorial next November.

22
23 **Town Business:** The Selectmen reviewed the proposed plan for replacing two bridges next
24 summer. The first will be the Camp Road bridge once school is out, followed by the Houser Lane
25 bridge. Houser will require a temporary bridge that will be installed by the contractor prior to
26 starting work on Camp. This will allow the highway department to remove the Houser lane bridge
27 while the other one is being installed. The two projects will cost about \$200,000 and will be paid.
28 50% by monies received from the state of New Hampshire, SB 38. The Board of Selectmen
29 approved the plan.

30
31 The remainder of the meeting was spent fine tuning the 2018 warrant and budget. The
32 Selectboard meets next with the Finance Committee on January 17th.

33
34 The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

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37 Robert Taylor, Chair

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40 Stephen Halleran

Judy Belyea

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43 Ron Eberhardt
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1 **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**
2 **Wednesday February 7th 2018**
3 **Plainfield Library**

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6 Selectmen present: Robert Taylor
7 Ron Eberhardt
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9 The meeting opened at 6:00pm

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11 **Police:** Chief Roberts notified the board that it is likely that one of the town's three full time
12 officers will be leaving for another area department. The Chief attributed this to differences in
13 compensation between small town police departments and larger city departments. Town
14 Administrator Halleran felt if a vacancy arises it might be another opportunity to evaluate staffing
15 models in the Police Department. Due to the state mandated 31% retirement contribution, full
16 time benefited officers are extremely expensive to fund. In any case, it will be several months
17 before the town is able to fill any vacancy that comes up.
18

19 **Budget hearing #2:** As has been customary over the last few years, this second budget hearing
20 was held in Plainfield Village. David Grobe, Mike Sutherland, Virginia Drye and Margaret Drye
21 were all in attendance.
22

23 Halleran noted that since the first hearing the budget has had two changes. One, the contribution
24 for the highway equipment fund has been increased from \$50,000 to \$75,000. This change will
25 insure that the fund is solvent through 2028. Two the Trustees of the Trust Funds are hiring a
26 management firm to invest the town's reserve funds RSA 31:38-a permits this. The cost of the
27 firm is expected to be \$5,000-\$8,000 per year.
28

29 As currently proposed the town's spending plan, less projected revenues, calls for \$105,000 in
30 new spending and will add approximately \$.40 to the town's tax rate.
31

32 The group completed the discussion by reviewing the warrant. There were concerns expressed
33 that the proposed increase in the solar exemption is reducing the town's taxable property list at a
34 time when operating costs are increasing significantly.
35

36 Like wise the Meriden Library replacement project was viewed by some in attendance as a "nice
37 to have" project, but one that should necessarily be considered against the back drop of future
38 capital spending on projects like the highway garage replacement and work on the school roof.
39

40 The meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.
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42 Robert Taylor, Chair
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45 Stephen Halleran
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48 Ron Eberhardt
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1 **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**
2 **Tuesday March 13th 2018**
3 **Meriden Town Hall**
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6 Selectmen present: Ron Eberhardt
7 Rob Taylor

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9 The meeting opened at 6:00pm, Town Meeting Day.

10
11 The Selectboard had gathered on this night as a replacement for the March 4th meeting. The
12 Board spent the meeting preparing for the upcoming business portion of town meeting. Each
13 warrant article was reviewed.

14
15 The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm so that the Board could return to the polling place and take
16 down the polls and count ballots.
17

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20 Stephen Halleran

Ron Eberhardt

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23
24 Robert Taylor

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26 **Historical note:** The region has been hit on three consecutive Tuesday/Wednesdays with classic
27 "Nor'easter" snow storms. At this time there is something like 36" of snow base throughout
28 Plainfield. Prior to these three storms we had enjoyed several days with temperatures in the high
29 50's low 60's and snow coverage was minimal.
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MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Thursday March 22nd 2018
Meriden Town Hall

6 Selectmen present: Ron Eberhardt
7 Rob Taylor
8 Judy Belyea
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10 The meeting opened at 6:00pm
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13 **Public Comment:** Kathy Chapman met with the Selectboard to ask that the town do more to help
14 seniors to be able to stay in their homes longer. She feels that elder exemption requirements are
15 not inclusive enough and that many seniors who could use help are not qualifying for assistance.
16

17 **Regional Planning Commission:** Steve Schneider and Megan Butts from UVLSRPC discussed
18 with the Selectboard and Road Agent Collins, a road surface management system that is available
19 to towns from the RPC. The system inventories paved road condition and is used as a planning
20 tool for road replacement projects.
21

22 **Highway:** Richard Collins reported back to the Selectboard on the salt application class the
23 highway crew recently attended. Rich felt that the class was helpful, but could have had a greater
24 hands on component as opposed to just classroom instruction. The goal of the class is to insure
25 proper salt application for winter ice control.
26

27 **Town Office:** The Selectboard discussed the outcomes from the 2018 town meeting. The next
28 step for the Meriden Library project is to discuss a path forward with the Trustees. This will
29 happen at the April 2nd Library Trustee meeting and the April 4th Selectboard meeting. Tasking
30 Town Facility Manager Brad Atwater with being the point person for the project is likely. Brad
31 would then be responsible for taking the replacement concept through design and build. Having a
32 full replacement library design ready for voter consideration at the 2019 town meeting is the goal.
33

34 The Selectboard signed the DRA Report of Approved Appropriations resulting from the 2018
35 town meeting. This form is uploaded to the DRA for the 2018 tax rate setting process.
36

37 The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm
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39 Judy Belyea, Chair

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41 Stephen Halleran

42 Ron Eberhardt

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44 Robert Taylor
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1 **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**
2 **Wednesday April 4th 2018**
3 **Plainfield Town Hall**
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6 Selectmen present: Judy Belyea, Chair
7 Ron Eberhardt
8 Rob Taylor
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10 The meeting opened at 6:00pm PRML 1st meeting of the new quarter.
11

12 **Public Comment:** Nancy Norwalk came to the meeting with Evan and Lee Oxenham to discuss
13 the option of adding a crosswalk to Route 12A between the library and the town hall. Nancy has
14 met with Bill Lamber of the NHDOT. The Selectboard would have to apply for the crosswalk and
15 would need to commit the town to constructing and maintaining properly landings and lighting at
16 both ends of the walk. Traffic on Route 12A is about 3,000 cars per day, typically the threshold is
17 9,000 per day for crosswalks to be considered. The Selectboard was not immediately in support
18 of this option, but was willing to consider temporary traffic calming measures to be deployed
19 when special events at either the library or the town hall warrant it.
20

21 **Meriden Library:** The Selectmen supported the Library Trustee approved plan to place Town
22 Facility Manager Brad Atwater in the role of point person for the Meriden Library replacement
23 project. Brad will, as needed, seek the guidance of the Trustees, the Selectboard and the various
24 committees working on this project. His charge is to prepare a plan, complete with anticipated
25 costs, for the removal and replacement of the existing Meriden Library building ready for
26 presentation at the 2019 town meeting.
27

28 **Plainfield Water District:** Tim Herbert inquired doing some work in Peterson Road as part of
29 his efforts to expand the Plainfield Village Water District to his #51 Peterson Road home. His
30 drilled well is failing and connecting to the district may be a viable option. The Selectmen had no
31 objection to the plan and pledged to do all that the town could to assist him with getting a new
32 water supply.
33

34 **Web based GIS application:** The Selectboard approved the CAI proposal for adding a web
35 based interface for the town's GIS data. Effectively the new system will allow for the viewing
36 and printing of the town's GIS data on line. Currently, the town has no digital way to utilize its
37 tax maps. The new system will allow for tax maps to be overlaid with other GIS data, like
38 satellite imagery, flood plain maps, zoning maps, assessing data. Etc.
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40 The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm
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42 Judy Belyea, Chair
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44 Stephen Halleran
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Ron Eberhardt
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47 Robert Taylor
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1 expenses into the sale price. The goal is to remove the .26 acre parcel as a building lot and have it
2 merged into an abutting parcel.

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4 The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. The board's next meeting is June 20th.

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Judy Belyea, Chair

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Stephen Halleran

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Ron Eberhardt

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Robert Taylor

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2 **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**
3 **Wednesday June 20th 2018**
4 **Plainfield Town Hall**
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6 Selectmen present: Judy Belyea, Chair
7 Ron Eberhardt
8 Rob Taylor
9

10 The meeting opened at 6:00pm

11 **Public Comment Period:** Rod Wendt, John Gregory-Davis, and Jill Marshall attended the
12 Selectboard meeting to discuss the Meriden Congregational Church's decision to become a
13 sanctuary location for undocumented immigrants who are working on becoming citizens. The
14 church leadership was clear that this is not about hiding from the law. In fact, they will notify the
15 federal government about anyone they are sheltering. The group also made it clear that they
16 would immediately surrender anyone who has an outstanding warrant for their arrest. At this
17 time the church has had no request for sanctuary. In the event they do they want our local
18 government to be fully aware on their program.
19

20 **Highway Report:** Reacting to the RPC report on Bonner Road the Selectboard directed Road
21 Agent Collins to have our road marking vendor add white fog lines to Bonner Road, narrowing
22 the perceived travel lanes to 9'. Improving road markings on Bonner Road was one of the easy to
23 do steps to make Bonner Road safer for pedestrians. The road marking work is planned for later
24 this month.
25

26 **Police Report:** Chief Roberts reviewed his department's activity log. A traffic stop in Plainfield
27 Village that led to several arrests has taken a lot of time this last week. The car contained illegal
28 drugs, open cans of alcohol. Several of the occupants provided false information and have since
29 been connecting to other criminal activity around the state.
30

31 **Town Office:** The Selectmen signed the town's MS 535 prepared by our auditing firm. The
32 signed copy will next be uploaded to the town's DRA website.
33

34 Selectman Eberhardt shared with the Selectboard a letter that he had written in support of the
35 Library Trustees decision to ask Cornish residents to contribute to the operating costs of our
36 library system.
37

38 The Selectboard reviewed and adopted the following resolution: That the Selectboard accepts the
39 Primex offer to enter into the CAP program for a period of three years. During this period the
40 town's property liability insurance will not increase by more than 9%.
41

42 The Selectboard will meet next on July 11th (July 4th is a holiday) that meeting will take place at
43 the Plainfield Library (1st meeting new quarter).
44

45 The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

46 Stephen Halleran

Judy Belyea, Chair

Ron Eberhardt

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50 Robert Taylor

1 Joe Crate provided the group an update on the fund raising efforts to date. A private foundation is
2 being set up and the group has received several donations and pledges. The group continues to
3 feel it can meet its fund raising goals for the 2019 town meeting.

4
5 Plainfield resident Diane Rogers addressed the group to remind them that the Plainfield library is
6 fully ADA accessible. She encouraged the group to continue to find ways to engage the Plainfield
7 community so that all opinions on the project may be shared. The group agreed that this is
8 important and that the project is intended to provide value to the entire community. All
9 committee meetings are open to the public and several public forums are planned over the next
10 few months.

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12 The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

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16 Stephen Halleran

Judy Belyea, Chair

Ron Eberhardt

Robert Taylor

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1 mowing is to be timed after the majority of the wild flowers have lost their bloom.

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3 The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

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6 Stephen Halleran

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Judy Belyea, Chair

Ron Eberhardt

Robert Taylor

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3 **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**
4 **Wednesday August 15th 2018**
5 **Meriden Town Hall**

6 Selectmen present: Judy Belyea, Chair
7 Ron Eberhardt
8 Rob Taylor
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10 The meeting opened at 6:00pm

11
12 Paul and Paula Cabot attended the meeting for the purpose of signing necessary paperwork as
13 part of the transfer of the former Archie Metiever property to the Cabots. The parcel, which was
14 claimed by the town for back taxes, is to be merged into their existing lot and will not be a
15 separate parcel in the future. The only other abutter to the lot was not interested in the property.
16 As part of the transfer the Cabot's have agreed to clean up the lot and remove the old trailer by
17 December.

18
19 **Police:** Chief Roberts announced that one of his part time officers has, for medical reasons,
20 resigned. While unexpected, Paul recommended that the resignation be accepted.

21
22 The department has seen an a recent increase in ATV's on the roads and young drivers going too
23 fast in cars on gravel roads and crashing. The department is working to correct this behavior
24 before some one is seriously hurt. ATV's are not allowed on state and town roads, except when
25 crossing/accessing approved trails. Young riders must have proper training and be wearing a
26 helmet.

27
28 **Highway:** Roadside mowing is nearly complete. Fall grading will begin very soon. Both bridge
29 projects are ongoing on a daily basis now. Camp Road should be ready for cars by the end of
30 next week.

31
32 Richard had a discussion with the Selectboard about staffing in his department and job allocation.
33 Town Administrator Halleran has asked him to make some position changes. The Board made it
34 clear that Richard should utilize the skills in his department to maximize work output and quality.
35 Except when training is going on, the most qualified operator should be used.

36
37 **Town Office:** The revaluation is nearly complete and notices of value should be going to
38 taxpayers in the next month. Avitar is expected to deliver the final product to the Selectboard on
39 October 18th. At that time all reviews and taxpayers questions must have been addressed.

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41 The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

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44 Stephen Halleran

Judy Belyea, Chair

Ron Eberhardt

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47 Robert Taylor

1 **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**
2 **Wednesday August 29th 2018**
3 **Meriden Town Hall**
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5 Selectmen present: Judy Belyea, Chair
6 Ron Eberhardt
7 Rob Taylor
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9 The meeting opened at 6:00pm
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11 To accommodate vacation schedules, the Selectboard met one week early. Their next meeting
12 will be September 19th.
13

14 The board began the meeting by reviewing correspondence and signing orders for the upcoming
15 two weeks.
16

17 Department reports were received. Highway is fully engaged in the two bridge projects. Police
18 has been preparing for the opening of the new school year. Enhanced attention to Bonner Road
19 early in the morning and late in the afternoon as school is getting out will again be a priority.
20

21 Halleran updated the board on the status of the operating budget and projected revenues. Due to
22 the ongoing revaluation, a later than usual tax rate setting, is anticipated this year. Avitar will
23 deliver the completed revaluation on October 19th. Taxpayers should be receiving their notice of
24 values in the next three weeks.
25

26 The Selectmen discussed the upcoming state election on September 11th. Duties were assigned to
27 each board member. Facility Manager Brad Atwater will be handling the set up of the polls with
28 School staff.
29

30 The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm
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34 Stephen Halleran

Judy Belyea, Chair

Ron Eberhardt

Robert Taylor
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1 average Plainfield property values have risen 12% since 2013. A late October tax rate setting is
2 anticipated.

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4 The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

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8 Stephen Halleran

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Judy Belyea, Chair

Ron Eberhardt

Robert Taylor

1 **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**
2 **Wednesday October 17th 2018**
3 **Plainfield Library**
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5 Selectmen present: Judy Belyea, Chair
6 Ron Eberhardt
7 Rob Taylor
8

9 The meeting opened at 6:00pm
10

11 Resident Nancy Norwalk thanked the Selectmen for the "Event Ahead" signs that have recently
12 been used during activities at the Plainfield Town Hall. Nancy feels the signs are helpful in
13 slowing down traffic in the village during these busy times. Townline Equipment purchased the
14 signs and donated them to the town. The signs are used during their annual luncheon.
15

16 The Selectmen will be accepting nominations for Library Trustee through November 20th. The
17 appointed Trustee will fill the turn vacated by Stephanie Berman until the March town meeting
18 election.
19

20 Virginia Drye updated the Selectmen on her efforts to recognize the 100th year anniversary of the
21 end of World War I. A display at the Plainfield Town Hall is planned.
22

23 Road Agent Collins noted that the department is finalizing fall projects. Rich committed to a
24 cosmetic overhaul of the employee lunch room at the highway garage as a winter project. The
25 space has not been freshened up in nearly 20 years and its time for flooring, some paint.
26

27 Looking at the 2019 budget process Rich indicated that the grader will need at least four new
28 tires. Rich is in the process of getting quotes for them.
29

30 Mark Stetson of Avitar Associates presented the Selectboard the results of the now completed
31 revaluation. On average, town assessments increased by about 12-15%. Of the 1,000 property
32 owners, 49 participated in the review process. The town is now set to go and establish a new tax
33 rate for 2018. That rate is expected to be in the area of \$27.25. The old rate was \$28.25. Tax bill
34 amounts for most will increase by about 6%, which is a reflection on last year's spending.
35

36 Moderator Paul Franklin met with the Selectmen to review election procedures for the upcoming
37 November 6th voting. The discussion focused on that, except for the designated areas,
38 campaigning on public property (school) is not allowed during an election.
39

40 The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm
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43 Stephen Halleran Judy Belyea, Chair
44 Ron Eberhardt
45
46 Robert Taylor
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1 **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**
2 **Wednesday November 21st 2018**
3 **Plainfield Library**
4

5 Selectmen present: Judy Belyea, Chair
6 Ron Eberhardt
7 Rob Taylor
8

9 The meeting opened at 5:00pm
10

11 The Selectmen reviewed correspondence and signed orders for the week.
12

13 Chief Roberts stopped in to update the board on his efforts to price some dispatch service options
14 from other surrounding towns. At issue is a more than 25% increase in dispatch cost that is being
15 proposed by the Town of Hanover.
16

17 The Selectmen took public comment from Peter Martin who is interested in seeing a group of
18 investors be proactive with the future development of several properties that are or will soon be
19 for sale in the area of the Meriden Library. These lots have public water and sewer and might
20 have some potential for multi-family housing or affordable housing. This group while private
21 would want to work closely with the town on this project.
22

23 The Board discussed the 2019 budget. Increasing costs in dispatch service is one area of concern.
24 In response to previous concerns about fluctuating costs, the City of Lebanon has now offered an
25 ambulance contract that has less uncertainty; however the cost remains at \$26,000/year.
26

27 The Fire Department merger is on schedule for an early 2019 transfer of assets to the town. The
28 Fire Chief and his roster of fire personnel will be appointed one year from the date of the vote as
29 outlined in the statute.
30

31 It being Thanksgiving eve, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm following the early 5pm start.
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34 Stephen Halleran Judy Belyea, Chair
35 Ron Eberhardt
36 Robert Taylor
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1 what a 0% budget would look like. In other words what would have to change to get to no tax rate
2 increase at all for the town? The Selectboard will meet with the full finance committee at their
3 next meeting.

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5 The meeting Adjourned at 9:00pm

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8 Stephen Halleran

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Judy Belyea, Chair

Ron Eberhardt

Robert Taylor

1 **Sullivan County Commissioners:** At 7pm the Selectboard joined the Finance Committee in the
2 main conference room for a presentation by the County Delegation. The presentation centered on
3 county operations and how the \$776K from Plainfield is spent at the county level. The nursing
4 home, corrections department, and Sheriff's office are the core functions of the county. The
5 group discussed ways that the county could assist its town's and help reduce taxes. The group
6 thanked the delegation for taking the time to come and visit each of its towns.

7
8 **Finance Committee:** The remainder of the meeting was spent with the Finance Committee and
9 some members of the public discussing the proposed budget. See attached. As currently
10 configured the entire package being brought forward is a slight reduction over the dollars from
11 taxes raised this year. Resident Dennis Girouard felt that an additional 10% could be reduced
12 from the budget and he noted that he is perfectly willing to live with fewer services. He cannot
13 stand more property taxes. He also felt it was flawed thinking for the community to be
14 considering replacing the Meriden Library.

15
16 He and others in the group urged the Selectmen to continue to look into ways to reach more of the
17 community. Getting more attendance at School and Town meeting is a high priority for all.

18
19 The group will meet next in early January to continue these discussions. The town budget hearing
20 and a hearing on the proposed library project is planned for January 16th at MTH and on February
21 6th at PRML.

22
23 The meeting Adjourned at 9:40pm

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26 Stephen Halleran

Ron Eberhardt

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28
29 Robert Taylor

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