

TOWN of OAKHAM

Board of Selectmen

REGULAR SESSION

November 01, 2010

Present:

Clayton E. Rice, Chairman

Eliot G. Starbard, Vice Chairman

Dennis M. Bergin Jr., Clerk

Charles K. Currier, Brad Taylor, Elizabeth Davis, Barre Gazette, Lucy Tessnau, Scott Herzig, Michael Bergin, Sherry Bergin, Mary Spinney, Greg Spinney, Jeff Howard, Fin Com (all members), Adam Edwards, Rebecca Hoeffy, Thomas Hoeffy, James Wilson, Robert May, Lynne May, Paul Rochette, Mike McKeen, Jack Amidio, Martha Nelson, Ken Nelson and Thomas McCaffrey

Recording: Catherine Amidio

Mr. Rice called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm

Second Fulltime patrolman

The Finance Committee attended the meeting to reopen the discussion to hire a second fulltime patrolman. Chair Donna Sands said the finance committee has met with Chief Haapakoski on several occasions and he stated the department has been falling behind on pending cases as well as administrative duties of the police department and he is in favor of hiring a second fulltime patrolman.

Clayton Rice indicated he was not against hiring a second fulltime officer; however at this time he felt hiring a new police chief was their first concern. Mr. Rice also explained he is holding off because of budgetary reasons. There was a disagreement between Jon Boucher of the finance committee and a resident regarding the non reappointment of a second officer back in 2009. The selectmen reported that, at a fincom meeting the chief of police stated that the reduction in force was due to budgetary reasons and Mr. Boucher agreed with the board. Finance committee member Paul McNeil said a lot has changed since they made their request a few weeks ago, and they agreed with the board's decision to hold off until a later date.

Mr. Starbard and Mr. Bergin were not in agreement to hire a second officer at this time due to unforeseen budget demands.

Misc.

- ❖ Mr. Starbard thanked the Highway Superintendent for locating a roadside mower for a third of the cost and for mowing all the roads in town. Mr. Currier said it has already paid for itself.
- ❖ Mike McKeen handed the board a citizens petition to hire Officer Sherblom as the new police chief when the position becomes available.

Motions

- Mr. Rice made a motion to take the **petition** to hire Officer Christopher Sherblom as the new police chief for the town under advisement and to consult with town counsel. Mr. Starbard seconded, motion carries.
- Mr. Starbard made a motion to accept the **Minutes of October 25, 2010** as written. Mr. Bergin seconded, motion carries.

Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Rice made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. Mr. Starbard seconded, motion carries.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the board of selectmen will be held on November 04, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.