

~~Unapproved~~Approved
Candia Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes
Monday February 27, 2012

Attendance: Chairman Fred Kelley, Vice-Chair Carleton Robie, Selectman Joe Duarte, Selectman Amanda Soares, Selectman Richard Snow, and Administrative Assistant Andria Hansen.

7:00 p.m. Chairman Kelley called the Public Meeting to order and immediately followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing to accept quarterly grants in accordance with RSA 31:95-b, III (a). Selectman Soares read the grants that were received: US Department of Justice – Ballistic Vest \$273.00; State of New Hampshire – Highway Block Grant \$35,363.64; and the State of New Hampshire – Meals and Rooms tax 2011 \$174,601.56 for a total of \$210,238.29. Selectman Robie motioned to accept the 2011 grants for the 4th quarter in the amount of \$210,238.29. Seconded by Selectman Duarte. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Board to discuss recent correspondence from citizen. Selectman Robie said some citizens saw a letter that was sent out through an email and now we are going to address them. Selectman Duarte thought it would be common courtesy to have the citizen who wrote the letter present. He should be here to protect himself. Selectman Snow asked if the Board notified Mr. Allen. Selectman Robie felt they didn't have to, no more then he addressed us that he was going to put this on his website for everyone to read. Selectman Snow replied the point Mr. Duarte is attempting to make is if we are going to be discussing it at a Selectmen's meeting it would be appropriate for Mr. Allen to be here. He would think that we would at least inform him this was going to be discussed. He agreed with Selectman Duarte. Selectman Robie didn't think he needed to be notified. They had some concerned citizens that wanted to talk about it. Citizen Kathy Allen said she knew for a fact that he was not invited to the meeting. Selectman Robie said this is a public meeting and anyone is invited any evening they would like to come. Citizen Ingrid Byrd noted you are going to be discussing a letter not Mr. Allen. Citizen Carla Penfield said she wanted to discuss this letter with the Selectmen because there are so many inconsistencies. This letter was sent via email and it probably has been circulated throughout the community. She felt the inconsistencies should be addressed. Some of them are inconsistent with his relationship with the Budget Committee. Most of this letter is contradictory to things that have gone on; most of this letter is criticizing the Selectmen. If he wants to criticize the Budget Committee, he has been sitting on the Budget Committee for two years and has very little to say about anything. He is criticizing the Budget Committee and their relationship with the Selectmen and the Selectmen bringing in a level funded budget for two years in a row. At the same time Mr. Allen never brought any of this up at a Budget Committee meeting. He had every

opportunity to bring up his concerns about salary increases and he did nothing. If Mr. Allen has issues with the Board or the Budget Committee he should address those Boards in person. This was extremely underhanded and most of this information is not accurate. One particular comment that sticks out is the comment about the CYAA and the Selectmen should fund the CYAA. The fact is they may not have the money and we have to wait until March and he would take issue with whether or not the Board should be writing checks to a private organization. Mr. Allen's comment about the CYAA shows his lack of knowledge about the whole thing. In general the letter is full of inconsistencies and Mr. Allen should have brought himself here and addressed the Board. Selectman Snow asked Mrs. Penfield if she was representing the Budget Committee or there as a citizen. Mrs. Penfield replied that she was there as a citizen. Citizen Kathy Allen believed her husband addressed this to the Board of Selectmen. When Todd has an opinion about something he will bring it to you. When he had issues with the Budget Committee, he did bring it to them via email. This is a form of communication and you may disagree with that, but these are his opinions and you can take them for what they're worth. It's fine if you want to disagree with them. As far as the CYAA if people say that they would like to fund the CYAA and they can find a way to do that legally they should, if not then you are going against the voters' wishes. Citizen Carla Penfield was glad Mrs. Allen came to the meeting, but this is poison pen letter number four that has been sent out. It is nonproductive and not in the best interest of the community to write this kind of letter that is full of misinformation. It is sent out via email to people who are not up to date on the budget or what is going on in the community. She noted that Todd has never brought up any of these issues at the Budget Committee. Citizen Sharon DeWitt stated with regards to the underhandedness of the email, Todd signed his name to the email so you could discuss it with him unlike the Candia Coalition who puts out information and doesn't sign it. She saw Carla Penfield and Kim Byrd handing out information at the Deliberative Session, so she is assuming they had something to do with this organization. You are assuming that the people that got the information don't know anything about the budget and a lot of people have been following things rather closely this year. She would disagree with that comment. She said Mr. Robie was criticized for not discussing letters. She mentioned that she sent two emails (November 4th and 26th, 2011) and didn't know if they were received. This wasn't a criticism, but she thought a change of policy would be beneficial as far as communication with the public. Selectman Robie said we received this correspondence and they are letting people know they received it. They put it on the agenda. Citizen Sharon Dewitt mentioned that the February 13, 2012 meeting minutes which said Mrs. Sarra should put her concerns in writing and she thought this is what they were talking about. Selectman Robie replied that is concerning the closure. Chairman Kelley clarified when Mrs. Sarra asked him about this at the last meeting he explained to her they couldn't do anything with the closure until after the vote in March because of the warrant article. After the March 13th vote they will discuss the closure. Citizen Rick Lazott said if we are clearing the air he was fine with that, but some of this stuff we are getting carried away here - lets grow up. He mentioned CYAA and for years in a row the voters had a chance to vote on that article and it was defeated. The Town was

denied an opportunity to vote on this by five votes. All the tax payers have the right to vote on this. He felt this was not done in a democratic fashion. There were articles in years past that didn't have enough signatures and they were denied getting on the ballot also. This isn't their first time putting a warrant article in, so they knew how it works. The only way the money should be approved for the CYAA is through a Town wide vote and not by raising the bottom line budget. Selectman Duarte was concerned with some of the areas they were going in. He referred to 91-A and how strict they are with the laws. They are discussing the character of an individual. It was his opinion whether it was right or not, but when we start discussing it we're entering a slippery slope. If they want to discuss this with him they need to invite him to a meeting and if he doesn't show it would be their prerogative to discuss it. At this point with 91-A they should be very careful. Citizen Ingrid Byrd asked which part of 91-A was he specifically referring to. She asked him to cite the quote. Selectman Duarte replied the one that would affect someone's reputation. Citizen Judy Szot replied he's not an official or an employee. Citizen Rick Lazott stated he is an elected member of the Budget Committee and this is a gray area. Citizen Judy Szot replied that he wrote this as a private citizen. She mentioned that she looked through Town Reports of prior years and in 2005 the CYAA didn't have an appropriation request in. The years 2006 through 2011 the Town voted to not give them money. Then to turn around and come around the corner and say we're putting it in the budget, you are taking away the citizens right to vote on this and are putting the power in the hands of the Selectmen. This is wrong. All year Mr. Allen has said to us (Budget Committee) there is part of the State Constitution that says public money can only be used for public good. He has made that notation several times to the Budget Committee and now he turns around and says in this case we can do something different. We'll go around some other way. You can't have it both ways. This is something that should be a warrant article and they made a mistake. She made a mistake and she is living with it. She'll do something about it next year. The CYAA made a mistake and they need to live with their mistake. This is wrong and there are many things that are contrary. Mr. Allen never once raised objections to the Budget Committee. Some of the Budget Committee members met with the Superintendent in August and they had a discussion on the budget. The Budget Committee members left the meeting feeling the school budget was going to be level funded and suddenly they come back with a budget that is \$500,000 more. During the Budget Committee meetings the majority of the Board discussed level funding the budget and Mr. Allen sat there and said nothing. Suddenly he comes in on his white horse and is going to save us from what everyone in this room does and that is budget. You get a certain amount of money and you have to live with that money. There is a difference between needs and wants. Mrs. Kathy Allen thought that Carla and Judy should have talked to Todd about this at a Budget Committee meeting, she wasn't sure why they were discussing this at a Selectmen's meeting. If you had an opinion why didn't you email him back? Citizen Sharon Dewitt believed that Mr. Allen spoke up when four members of the Budget Committee tried to take away the rights of the voters by suggesting that whatever budget number they wanted be reduced by 10%. This was the turning point, because this is not what the Budget Committee is suppose to be about. In the years of

2007 through 2010 every time a Select or School Board member has disagreed with a Budget Committee recommendation it has increased at the Deliberative Session, so this could happen again next year. You may have a reason that you need something and should your Budget Committee representative vote for less than what the Select Board has asked for as a budget, these are some of the things that have started this spiral. Whether they agree to this or not this is what's happened. Selectman Duarte gave Citizen Ingrid Byrd the RSA cited 91-A:3 II (c) and proceeded to read from the RSA "Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting". This is why Mr. Allen should have been invited to the Selectmen's meeting. He felt they are on a slippery slope. Selectman Soares said you are reading under the nonpublic sessions so this RSA doesn't apply. Selectman Duarte replied this says this is the only way you can go into a nonpublic meeting. Selectman Soares reiterated we are not in a nonpublic meeting, so it doesn't apply. Selectman Duarte said this means you can't be discussing it. He reiterated 91-A is pretty strict and this is a pretty slippery issue. He suggested have Mr. Allen here. Citizen Ingrid Byrd stated by bringing this letter to the Selectmen and it being discussed here makes it a public document. It's a letter that anyone in here can request a copy of and it can be discussed in public whether the writer likes it or not. Don't tell her she's wrong because she got caught in something like this a couple of years ago. She had something she wanted keep private and was told by the lawyers no. The minute it's out at a public meeting it becomes a public document. Road Lewis asked since this letter made it to the agenda why wouldn't he be invited. It would only take a phone call and probably half of this discussion would have went away because he would be here to answer it. Citizen Rick Lazott noted the Supreme Court ruled anything that is sent via email, becomes a matter of public record and part of the public process. Citizen Al Hall said the majority of this discussion is about the CYAA expenses and other things. He reminded the Board that the final analysis is the Selectmen can do what they want with the money if they want to finance the CYAA or any of the other things they can do it. Selectman Robie noted when the people vote on March 13th they are going to vote for an amended budget or a default budget. The voters usually vote for a default budget. If that is the case there was never money appropriated for CYAA or raises in the default budget. If the amended budget does pass they will consider what the people at Deliberative Session had amended the budget for. He wanted to make it clear and he isn't saying he wouldn't spend the money if the people voted for it. Selectman Snow suggested if the citizens that had concerns about a letter that was sent to the Board of Selectmen and made public they should have wrote down their concerns, so the Board could look at them. At that point in time we could invite everyone to a meeting so we can talk about it. Citizen Judy Szot thought it was a coward's way to hide behind your computer and hit the send button and send it to half the world. You should speak to someone face to face. She told this to Todd the last time he did this. She felt Mr. Allen was being because he wouldn't speak to these people face to face. Selectman Soares mentioned in Mr. Allen's letter 2007, 2008, and 2009 the Board was not favorable to the Budget Committee. She clarified that she has always been in favor of the Budget Committee even prior

to becoming a Selectman. She didn't like the fact that she was being grouped in, because she has always been in favor of the Budget Committee since she has moved to this Town. Citizen Fletcher Perkins congratulated the Selectmen and the Budget Committee for coming together and doing a fine job handling the Town finances and getting along with each other. Road Agent Lewis said he didn't get an answer to his question and why wasn't Mr. Allen invited to the meeting. Whether you agree with him or not it doesn't matter, it was going to be talked about and he should have been invited. Selectman Robie said these citizens contacted me and they asked if they could come in and speak about the letter and he said yes. He asked Chairman Kelley if they could get on the agenda and that's what they did. He thought they didn't need to invite anyone. Road Agent Lewis thought he would be invited just out of courtesy to respond to his letter. Selectman Snow thought they all should have been invited. Selectman Robie said if Mr. Allen had concerns about me and this Board, he could have come to him without throwing it out to all kinds of people. He didn't want to be criticized for not inviting someone to the meeting. Citizen Carla Penfield said if she wrote this letter and sent it to the Board of Selectmen. She would expect that they would be discussing it at a public meeting. The person who wrote the letter should be aware of the fact that the letter is for the public and could potentially be discussed at a public meeting. She wasn't sure that inviting Mr. Allen was necessarily something they needed to do. Citizen Kathy Allen replied if you wrote a letter would you come to the Selectmen's meetings for the next six months hoping they would talk about it. She added with all due respect Todd wrote a letter and voiced his opinion, she didn't know if it was sent to half the town. Citizen Carla Penfield said Mr. Lazott hit the nail on the head anything that goes out via email is for public. Citizen Kathy Allen replied Todd wasn't saying that no one else could see the letter, but he only sent it to the Board of Selectmen. Citizen Carla Penfield replied that this letter is just an opinion, but its letter number four that is criticizing. Citizen Sharon Dewitt pointed out this conversation is more about Todd than the content of the letter.

Citizen Ingrid Byrd would like to know why that during the budget hearing and work sessions Selectman Duarte wasn't there. She mentioned that most of the votes in the mailer were listed 4 to 0. There are a lot of people in Town that are under the impression that all the decisions on the budget were made by the five Selectmen. Selectman Duarte replied we have a voting session in the House of Representatives which he has to attend. The voting is for Candia and Rockingham County and he is obligated to vote there. If there was another date for the warrant article meeting that would have been fine. It wasn't like I didn't want to be at the meeting and he apologized for that. The State overrides the Town, because the Town is involved in the State decisions. Citizen Rick Lazott asked if they could move on this is water over the dam. Citizen Ingrid Byrd said you left people with the impression (at the Deliberative Session) that you got overruled when you discussed employee raises and you didn't. Selectman Duarte replied you are taking this out of context and we tried to vote on this at a Selectmen's meeting. This had nothing to do with the budget meeting, it was brought up for a vote at a Selectmen's meeting and it was voted down by the Board. He told Citizen Ingrid Byrd that she needed to get words straight,

because she keeps mixing things up. Citizen Ingrid Byrd replied that she wasn't handicapped as far as language was concerned. Citizen Judy Szot said she was here when you were discussing the warrant articles. She recalled (at a Selectmen's meeting) that they scheduled the meeting to accommodate Selectman Duarte and he wasn't there. If he can't be Selectman and Representative then maybe he needs to make a choice. We need a full Board here to make the decisions for the Town. She questioned what was more important being a State Representative or being a Selectman. Selectman Duarte replied that most of the State Reps are Selectman and they have a little more respect and most communities understand what their obligations are. He tries to fulfill them both, his community is important to him too. This is his second term as Selectman and he is sure if we weren't cramped for time or had a Budget Committee in place we probably wouldn't be constrained to having meetings at certain times. In addition, we wouldn't be trying to have the budgets done before three quarters of the year is over when we don't know what our expenses are going to be. He took what Mrs. Szot said as an insult and he disagreed because he can do both. Selectman Snow said he was confused because they had citizens there that are members of the Budget Committee that had concerns about an action of another member of the Budget Committee. They came to the Selectmen to ask us to do something or explain something. He saw this letter and never heard anything from the other Selectmen about their concerns. There was no action taken on this by the Board of Selectmen, so what is it that we are trying to find out that the Board needs to do. He is not going to attempt to discipline a member of the public who had concerns about something that took place. This is his right and he is not going to criticize any of the concerns that have been brought up by these individuals (in attendance).

The Board to discuss the bank statement issue. Selectman Robie said they need to clear this issue up. He understood that Selectman Snow went to TD Bank North and had all of the accounts bundled into one statement. Selectman Snow said the Trustee of Trust Funds did this and he did it for them. Selectman Robie clarified you told them that you were a Trustee of the Trust Fund, because you couldn't do that unless you were a Trustee. Your name was still on the list of Trustees from years ago. Selectman Snow replied his name was never on a list of Trustees and never has been. He has never been a Trustee of Trust Funds. Selectman Robie said the bank told them you were the name on the account. He felt this was serious because someone could have gone into the bank and cleaned out our accounts. Selectman Snow replied that he has never been a signer on any of the accounts. Selectman Robie stated that he shouldn't have gone to the bank and tell the teller that you want to do something for the Trustees of the Trust Fund. You wanted everything bundled up and in the meantime they made a big mistake and put all of our Town accounts under one statement. Selectman Snow replied that's because the Trustees and the Treasurer use the same EIN and when the bank changes addresses, they put one or the other and have done it a number of times. The bank made a mistake. Selectman Robie thought if the Trustees did their own banking there wouldn't be any mistakes. Selectman Snow said this is a question they need to bring up with the Trustees. Selectman Robie said this is why they are

discussing this. He felt when the Trustees rotate their members they need to change the information at the bank. This call should be made by their Chairman. Selectman Snow said they need to bring this to the Trustees, because he isn't telling them what to do. We have no authority over them. Selectman Robie replied they need to be accountable they can't have anyone going in to the bank and signing their name. Selectman Snow asked if he has ever been to a Trustees meeting and how they handle their business. Selectman Robie replied no, but obviously he is going to be paying attention now because you're going to the bank and telling them to do something as a Trustee. Selectman Soares said she talked to Chairman of the Trustees Mr. Labbee and he didn't know Selectman Snow was doing this. Selectman Robie stated as the Selectmen the end result comes down to us. Selectman Robie said you can say the Trustees have full control. Selectman Snow replied they do. Selectman Robie replied we make sure the money is in the bank and we need to be accountable. Selectman Snow clarified the Trustees handle the Trust Funds and the Treasurer takes care of the Treasurer's accounts. Selectman Robie replied when you had everything switched out did you have the statements sent to your house. Selectman Snow replied that he had them sent to the Trustees post office box. Selectman Robie stated all the town accounts were bundled into the same statement and sent to the Trustees. Selectman Snow said that wasn't correct. You are talking about reports that come to the post office box. Chairman Kelley clarified that it was the Treasurer that went to the bank and it all got thrown in her lap. She went back to the office to let them know the statements were all messed up and the girl at the bank said Richard Snow approved it. Selectman Snow replied the Treasurer has made changes and some Trustee stuff ended up on her accounts before. This is a simple paperwork thing that gets corrected and has nothing to do with money. Chairman Kelley said only an active member of the Trustees or the Treasurer should be able to do this. The girl at the bank made a mistake by allowing you to do this. Selectman Robie asked Selectman Snow if he called the bank and authorized them to do something and are you supposed to do that. Selectman Snow replied yes according to the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Selectman Robie replied you aren't a Trustee of the Trust Fund. You aren't authorized to call the bank and tell them to do something on our town accounts. Selectman Snow replied that he has been working with the Trustees for 12 years and 11 of the years he was paid to do it. They told him what to do and he did it. They signed for everything. He hasn't been working for them for the last year. He has been volunteering for the past year. He goes to their public meeting and their information is public. Selectman Robie said he is not comfortable with that. Selectman Snow replied that he is not a Trustee and he has never been a Trustee. He has never signed any checks and he has never moved any money. Selectman Soares asked Mr. Labbee if he was aware that things were changed and did they have Selectman Snow do anything with the accounts. He told her no. She was a little skeptical about what was going on. Selectman Snow asked if she has ever attended any Trustee meetings or know anything about them. Selectman Soares replied she knew the basics, but not the intricate details. Selectman Snow asked if she ever looked at their books and if not how could she ask the question. Selectman Soares pointed out Selectman Snow did this behind everyone's back and you go on and on with these ramblings. You don't answer the

question completely and this is a constant thing with you. She asked Mr. Labbee if he knew what was going on with the accounts and he replied very honestly no. Selectman Snow replied maybe he didn't understand what you were saying. Citizen Sharon Dewitt suggested they switch banks, because TD Bank allowed someone that wasn't the signatory to make those changes. It's more of a bank issue than a Dick Snow issue. Citizen Kathy Allen thought if there was a problem with the bank it should have been straightened out. It's possible for someone to call the bank and get information that isn't a signatory. She isn't a signatory, but she called the bank as an accountant and get information. Citizen Rick Lazott clarified she would need permission from the person who holds the account. He asked if Selectman Snow's name was on the records at the bank in any capacity. Selectman Snow replied yes it is. Citizen Rick Lazott said then that is the problem. Selectman Snow explained it's no different than the Office Manager calling up the bank or call town counsel. She's not on the policy of authorized personnel to call the town attorney. She works for Selectmen and he works for the Trustees. Road Agent Lewis said if we are going to discuss the Trustees why wasn't Mr. Labbee invited. Selectman Robie replied this came in the end of last week and when we realized things were messed up we found out who authorized this to happen. The answer came back that it was Selectman Snow. As we ask the questions of Selectman Snow we get more and more confused. Road Agent Lewis felt Mr. Labbee could help clear this up a little bit. Selectman Robie felt that Mr. Labbee or one of the Trustees should be clearing this up with the bank. For the last 3 years we have asked Selectman Snow not to deal with the Trustees because he is a Selectman. They finally got them to hire a secretary and appropriated the funds. He admits to us this evening that he hasn't been paid for a year, but he still is meddling in the Trustees business. He's tired that every time something comes up Selectman Snow doesn't give us an answer. If Selectman Soares asked Mr. Labbee if he knew and he said no then maybe he should come and see us about Mr. Snow. He can only take so much and he doesn't know why Mr. Labbee isn't at the meeting. Road Agent Lewis replied he probably didn't know this was going to be discussed and he just asking a question. Selectman Duarte thought they needed to show each other more respect. Selectman Robie said he wasn't afraid to answer anyone and he says the same story today and will tell the same one next week. Selectman Duarte felt they were putting out a pretty nasty impression. Selectman Robie replied that's the way it is sometimes. He is trying to get people to be more civil. These attacks on each other are horrible. Citizen Ingrid Byrd stated since we are talking about how things are getting paid she asked how the meter got switched over from the CYAA to the Town. Chairman Kelley explained there was a mistake and one meter was switched back to the Town. The CYAA used to pay for half of the electric and now the Town is paying all of it (for the concession stand). Selectman Snow added it will be paid out of the Parks and Recs budget. Selectman Soares said her only concern is that this is becoming a repetitive thing and her concern is why. You act like a little kid who doesn't get what he wants so they lash out at their parents. She didn't remember him saying that he was switching over the meters at the budget hearing in September. She questioned why this is continually going on. Selectman Snow admitted that he has problems explaining things, perhaps it's a communications problem.

He mentioned that Selectman Duarte told him that he sends paragraphs 1 and 3 but leaves out paragraph 2. He will work to improve his sending if she works to improve her receiving. Selectman Soares replied as long as she feels like she is receiving the proper information and things aren't going on behind the scenes. This has to go both ways. Selectman Snow said if he sees stuff going on behind the scenes he'll come and talk to her and not discuss it at a Selectmen's meeting. Selectman Robie noted he personally tried to discuss things with Selectman Snow, not at a Selectmen's meeting and it didn't work. He would have loved to have discussed this personally and know that it wouldn't happen again, but he knows it wouldn't happen. You might have tried to justify what he was doing was ok, but it wouldn't have worked. You would have been doing it again after our discussion. Selectman Snow replied we would have gotten to a point where there was an action to take to resolve your concerns. Selectman Robie said we have tried this before with no avail. Selectman Snow replied you never came to me with any concern. Selectman Robie said when you came on the Select Board we discussed things many times. Selectman Snow replied you told me how to do things and I listened.

The Board to authorize payroll and accounts payable. Selectman Snow motioned to approve payment of payroll manifest number 000668-02, checks to be dated 2/23/2012, with a total gross payroll amount of \$14,968.41. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Snow motioned to approve payment of accounts payable manifest number 020412 checks to be dated 2/23/2012, with a total amount of \$18,181.57. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Snow motioned to approve payment of payroll manifest number 000669-02, checks to be dated 3/1/2012, with a total gross payroll amount of \$14,331.15. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Snow motioned to approve payment of accounts payable manifest number 030112 checks to be dated 3/1/2012, with a total amount of \$42,983.76. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Public meeting minutes of 02/13/12: Selectman Soares motioned to approve the Selectmen's public meeting minutes of February 13th, 2012 as amended. Seconded by Chairman Kelley. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Other Business:

Conservation Commission Alternate Rick Lazott said Selectman Snow gave him a piece of paper at the Conservation Commission meeting. He explained that attached to the paper was RSA 42:1-a and 91-A:5. He wanted to know what Selectman Snow was implying. He asked if there was anything about that meeting that was confidential. Selectman Snow replied this correspondence was based a phone call we had. CC Alternate Rick Lazott stated there was never a phone call and it wasn't discussed. He believed there was a mistake. Selectman Snow clarified there wasn't a phone call they had a discussion in the lobby and he mentioned it to him.

CC Alternate Rick Lazott wanted to know what his intent was. Selectman Snow replied this was a matter between you and me and not the Board. CC Alternate Rick Lazott felt it was and when he receives a Cease and Desist order from last July and he's handed this now – he wants to know why. You may have disagreed that I was discussing with someone the Hemlock Drive properties. Then you told me there could be repercussions due to obstruction or something of that nature. Selectman Snow replied you were letting out non public information and there are possible repercussions as an official. We were talking about the appraisal information that would have been received on the value of a private property which is in the process of being sold to the Town. CC Alternate Rick Lazott stated he was criticizing him, because there weren't any numbers put on that even though you wanted to sign a purchase and sales agreement. We haven't received any numbers and therefore the taxpayers have a right to know. How can we vote on a piece of property when we don't have any numbers to deal with? Selectman Snow said the number we are dealing with is the assessed valuations and the asking price has been made public. CC Alternate Rick Lazott noted he asked Selectman Snow these questions in public the other day and he got all upset. Selectman Snow said he didn't get upset he was just talking to him. CC Alternate Rick Lazott asked what the number was on the Fitt's property for the acquisition. Selectman Snow replied that is not public information yet. CC Rick Lazott asked how the people are supposed to vote on this if they don't know the price. Selectman Snow explained the number will become official when the formal application goes in. Citizen Fletcher Perkins asked if this was regarding the pieces of land they would be voting on in March. He thought this was putting the cart before the horse. Citizen Judy Szot said at the public hearing Selectman Snow said they knew what the asking price was and the assessed value. She asked what the asking price was. Selectman Snow replied the price Mr. Fitt's is asking \$29,000 and the assessed value is around \$22,000. There may be a concern that the property isn't properly assessed. Selectman Snow explained we are trying to get a purchase & sale agreement ahead of time, because someone could use that information to jump in on this. There was discussion about the assessment of the Fitt's property. Citizen Judy Szot stated you are asking us to buy a pig in a poke. Selectman Snow replied this is a no cost deal to the Town. Citizen Ingrid Byrd replied there is no such thing. Selectman Robie stated this conversation is out of order and there was public hearing on this piece of land with the Conservation Committee last Tuesday evening. This is where this should have been discussed.

Food Pantry: Selectman Robie said he spoke to Ann Tierno of the Woman's Club. He noted they can't vote or make an decisions this evening. The Woman's Club opens the food pantry on Tuesday evenings and they felt it was enough because it was slow. He mentioned Selectman Soares opened the food pantry during the day on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The people using the food pantry seem to like to come during the day. This has put a burden on our office and it's unproductive. Some of the people have started bringing in lists. When things get low in the food pantry Selectman Soares goes to Hannaford and buys food to restock it. This isn't in her job description. Selectman Robie suggested to the Board that they send him to the Woman's

Club meeting and he'll discuss this with them. If the Woman's Club sees a big influx of people maybe they will consider opening the food pantry another evening. He didn't feel that they should tax our staff for something they didn't sign up for. He is sure that people have been using it and there are some people that take advantage of it. He will bring this information to the Woman's Club and come back to the Board with a recommendation. Selectman Snow asked if Selectman Soares has been working the food pantry during the day. Chairman Kelley replied no he said that she has been going to Hannaford and restocking the food pantry. The girls in the office have been going down stairs and getting the food. Selectman Snow said he didn't have a problem with doing it during the daytime. If it's a volunteer thing and Selectman Soares is going to do that he didn't have problem with it. He did have a problem with our staff handling food. They have Selectman Soares and a Welfare Director and they are there to do things like this. Selectman Robie said he is going to bring this discussion to the Woman's Club. Selectman Robie reiterated we can't staff that food pantry and Selectman Soares can only do so much. Selectman Snow asked if Selectman Robie was going to bring back the suggestions to the Selectmen. Selectman Robie replied yes. Citizen Kathy Allen thought it was a good thing that the Selectmen want to come to us. Our goal is to work towards resolving the problem. The food pantry is one of the projects of the Woman's Club for many years and it's gone through several integrations. She noted they meet next Wednesday. Citizen Rick Lazott mentioned that his wife has been involved with the food pantry since St. Paul's Church. The food pantry used to be open two evenings and one day per week. Also, the Administrative Assistant that used to work in the Selectmen's Office only went down to the food pantry as a fill in or an emergency. The Woman's Club did 95% of the work. Citizen Lisa Cote clarified the Woman's Club didn't ask for daytime hours. Citizen Al Hall said this appears to be a welfare issue and it should be handled with the Welfare Director. Selectman Soares noted it's not a welfare thing and it has always been under the Woman's Club. If someone needs welfare assistance they need to contact the Welfare Director. Citizen Rick Lazott noted the confidentiality issue comes from the Welfare Office. Selectman Soares replied the food pantry is open to anyone and you don't need to be on assistance to go to it. Citizen Ann Tierno asked if they could go back to May 2000 or 2001 Selectmen's minutes. Sometime during that year the food pantry was transferred to the Town. At the time the Welfare Director was going to be administering it. Selectman Robie noted they have looked at those minutes and you are correct, but we have separated welfare from the food pantry. They are no longer one in the same and they never should have been. They have made some changes in the budget and this is going to be a result of the change. If the Woman's Club wants to participate they are going to be very welcome to participate. Citizen Rick Lazott asked if the ladies are going to have to sign confidentiality agreements. Selectman Robie didn't think so; he and Selectman Soares went around Town at Christmas and delivered food baskets. Citizen Carla Penfield said her mother is in charge of the food pantry in Newmarket and there is no confidentiality issue. People come in with their bags and baskets and it's separate from the Town. Selectman Duarte motioned to send Selectman Robie to the Woman's Club meeting on March 7th, 2012. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor.

Citizen Lisa Cote asked if Selectman Soares would be coming to the meeting and that Women's Club has always been dealing with her. She asked if all of the Selectmen are in charge of this and would like to know who they direct their concerns to. Selectman Robie said they will discuss this at the meeting next week. Citizen Sharon DeWitt said she would like to see the Board make the change immediately. Selectman Robie explained we didn't put this on the agenda so he would like to wait until the next meeting. This is why they didn't make any decisions this evening.

Hauler Contract: Selectman Soares mentioned the Board agreed to the one year extension on the hauling contract. She is working on the RFP for a new hauler. She will give it to the Board to review the specs beforehand. Selectman Soares explained you start with a letter of intent. They are going to shop for the best contract.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is March 12th, 2012 at 7:00 p.m..

It was mentioned that Citizen Edna Brown will be receiving the Boston Post Cane Award. It will be presented to her at the March 12th Selectmen's meeting.

Facility Operator Whitcher thanked Road Agent Lewis for taking down the tree at the Recycling Center.

Chairman Kelley motioned to adjourn 8:37p.m. Seconded by Selectman Duarte. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Andria Hansen
Recording Secretary