

FINAL



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
July 23, 2007**

**SELECTMEN PRESENT: TOM CLOW, CHAIRMAN; DONNA OSBORNE, VICE CHAIRPERSON;
JOE FIALA; HELEEN KURK;**

ABSENT: WENDY CLARK

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Fred Ventresco

RECORDING SECRETARY: Fred Ventresco

GUESTS: Will Ottery, Cable Committee Chair; Peter Buono, Cable Committee Member

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M., and made a motion to approve spending manifests of the following totals and to order the Treasurer or his deputy to sign checks totaling as such and dated July 26, 2007:

Accounts Payable: \$404,517.46
Gross Payrolls: \$ 37,802..82
TOTAL: \$442,320.28

The motion was seconded by Selectperson Kurk; the motion passes unanimously.

Attorney for Cable Franchise agreement Renewal

Chairman Clow asked the Town Administrator if he had the information regarding an attorney to review the proposed Cable Franchise Agreement with Comcast. Mr. Ventresco said that he had contacted Bill Herman and some other town and city administrators/managers as well to see if they could recommend an attorney that was well versed in this area. Mr. Ventresco informed the Board that it was just about unanimous that Attorney Robert Ciandella of Exeter was the one most often recommended. Bill Herman agreed with this as well. Mr. Ciandella was one of the attorneys that Cable Committee Chair Will Ottery had already contacted to get quotes earlier in the year. Attorney Ciandella charges \$160.00 per hour, and told Mr. Ventresco that it has been his experience that these jobs can run on average from \$5000.00-\$15,000.00. The Board agreed that the charges for the services that we need should not even reach the minimum, as the Town only needs the attorney to review the proposed agreement and offer suggestions and guidance.

Will Ottery suggested that the attorney be asked to review the proposed cable agreement that the Board of Selectmen and Cable Committee had agreed to over the last few weeks, as well as the marked-up version sent to by Bill Herman, along with the old/current agreement for reference. However, the Board determined that the

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attorney only needs to review the proposed agreement, with the current one for reference, since the proposed draft incorporates all that the Town wants and it takes into consideration what Mr. Herman has recommended.

Selectperson Kurk made a motion to engage Attorney Robert Ciandella's for \$160.00 per hour or less to review the proposed Cable Franchise Agreement with Comcast; the motion was seconded by Selectperson Osborne; the motion passed unanimously.

The Board instructed the Town Administrator to draft a letter to Attorney Ciandella making it clear that the Town only needed his assistance for review and not to negotiate on part of the Town with Comcast.

Selectperson Kurk made a motion to adjourn at 6:30 PM; the motion was seconded by Selectperson Osborne; all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM.

Fred Ventresco, Recording Secretary