Orford Board of Selectmen

Minutes of Meeting April 16, 2013

An emergency meeting of the Orford Selectboard was held on April 16th, immediately

after the conclusion of employee performance reviews. The emergency meeting was

called to order at 10:36 am. Present were Tom Steketee, chair, Anne Duncan Cooley,

John Adams and Chris Kilmer, Orford Police Chief.

The Chief notified the board he had an emergency situation, for action needed within 6

hours concerning the Town bids for a new police cruiser that was authorized at this year’s town meeting.

The Chief informed the Board that he had had distributed bidding materials as required

by the 2012 Article 11, with sealed bids being due next week but he was informed

verbally by each potential supplier that they did not have a cruiser "in stock" and that the

automotive manufacturer was closing their order books for 2013 vehicles today at 3PM

instead of the usual practice of accepting orders well into July. In short: we had to order

today by 3 PM to obtain a 2013 vehicle. He reported that each potential bidder indicated they would be willing to put their bid in writing and send it via fax to us and could deliver a 2013 vehicle by mid-July.

The Chief also reported that if a 2013 model was not purchased today that the 2014

models were expected to increase about $2000 and since the vehicle was purchased under the NH State purchasing negotiated price umbrella there would be a significant delay in being able to purchase it since those negotiations between State and vehicle manufactures did not usually conclude until late summer, coinciding with the usual model changeover. This would apparently delay the available of the 2014 cruiser until mid-fall.

Chief Kilmer reported that the Town’s cruiser is having noticeable problems with

the transmission, and if it were to fail, the value of the cruiser when sold would be

less, The Board asked what the effect on police department operations would be if the

transmission failed. The Chief said that it would be possible to adjust schedules short

term to accommodate having only one vehicle.

The Board concluded that it would be in the best interests of the Town to place an order

After much discussion, the Board decided that it was not able to place the order for the

cruiser, due to the restrictions of Article 11.

Since it is expected that the potential bidders will respond as a “No bid” because they

do not have 2013 models to sell Chief Kilmer will begin the bid process again for a 2014

model, and will keep the Board informed of progress.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08.