Minutes of the Roxbury Selectmen’s meeting Feb. 13, 2017

In attendance: Selectmen Gerry Davis, Tim O’Brien and Jim Rousmaniere; Emergency Management Director Chip Drogue; Welfare Director and Web master Josh Hicks

The meeting incorporated an advertised hearing on the proposed 2017 town budget. The meeting opened at 6:30 p.m. The selectmen discussed the budget and later acted on one item, namely the addition of $1,000 to the expendable trust fund for local assistance; the change was proposed by Josh Hicks.

Chip Drogue proposed the installation of a shower in Town Hall as part of the upgrading of Town Hall as a Red Cross Shelter, the estimated cost of which was $5,500. The selectmen later decided not to address the proposal at this time.

The selectmen agreed to study the costs and alternatives to storage of town records at the climate-controlled archives provided by the city of Keene.

The Selectmen fielded a call from Shannon McManus representing AT&T regarding a plan by AT&T to switch out three antennae on a communications tower on Houghton Ledge Road. It was decided that AT&T would be asked for detailed information regarding the plan, specifically whether the new antennae constituted a significant change or alternatively a minor change.

(During the course of the budget hearing Josh Hicks raised anew a matter that had been previously aired, specifically whether the town might arrange for a wood bank for townspeople who heat with wood and might need free supplies. It was generally agreed that interviews with wood bank operators in Hancock and Peterborough had left the impression that such services are best offered by a non-profit – as in those two towns – or by other means not directly involving the town government. It was agreed that Josh would directly check with a town resident who might be inclined to provide such goods and services.)

Following the budget hearing, minutes from the selectmen’s meeting of Feb. 6 were approved.

There was a brief discussion of the Town Report in preparation for the annual Town Meeting.

Selectman Davis prepared the manifest of bills to be paid; the manifest was signed by the selectmen.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.