Town of Auburn Board of Selectmen March 13, 2017

Selectmen Present: James Headd, Richard Eaton & Dale Phillips

Also Present: Jim Tillery, Town Moderator; Kathleen Porter, Assistant Town Moderator (via telephone); Ed Picard, Police Chief; Alan Villeneuve, Resident; Kathryn Lafond, Recording Secretary

Mr. Headd called the public meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting was to address the potential postponement of tomorrows Town and School election. Ms. Lafond noted that on Friday the Town Clerk called the Secretary of State's office to ask how to handle the matter and the SOS office referenced NH RSA 40:4 which gives the Town Moderator the authority to postpone the "deliberative" session or voting day of the meeting" in the event of inclement weather. Mr. Tillery indicated that he would like to postpone the election until Thursday however the Secretary of State was on the news this morning indicating that the election date is set by law and the elections should be held as scheduled. Mr. Tillery added that it seems that RSA 40:4 applies to town meetings not election of town officers. Mr. Headd stated that he doesn't know why the Moderator wouldn't have authority over the town election date. All present agreed that they were in support of postponing the election. Ms. Lafond noted that Fire Chief Ed Gannon, Road Agent Mike Dross and AVS Principal Lori Collins have also expressed their support. Chief Picard noted that from the public safety perspective people are encouraged to stay off the roads in inclement weather. Chief Picard added that the Secretary of State referenced NH RSA 669:1 which determines the election dates, there seems to be no provisions to deviate from that date. Mr. Tillery stated that the Secretary of State's office is the office that the towns look to for direction when it comes to elections and at this point the Secretary of State has indicated that the elections should go on. Mr. Tillery determined that the election would be held as scheduled however if the Secretary of State's position changes Thursday would be the alternative date. Since Ms. Lafond has access to everyone's contact information, the town website and electronic sign and media outlets she would be available to disseminate information should a postponement occur.

Mr. Headd moved to adjourn; Mr. Eaton seconded the motion; all were in favor, the public meeting ended at 11:14 a.m.