

Building permit fee scale okayed

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By ALISON FOBES
WORTHINGTON — The Board of Selectmen with Building Inspector Winston Donovan set tentative building permit fees at the selectmen's meeting last night. The permit fee for a new, single family dwelling will be \$30, while a permit for a tool shed or addition costing up to \$10,000 will be \$10. A permit for an addition costing over \$10,000 or requiring more than one inspection besides the original site inspection, as in one with new plumbing or electricity, will cost \$15.

In reference to a recent three day seminar for building inspectors in Holyoke, Donovan said that in many other towns a \$50 permit fee for a single family structure is standard. He added that at that seminar there were

few other inspectors in attendance who came from so small a town as Worthington.

Donovan explained that the state has set the cost of permits for public and municipal buildings with a holding capacity of between 20 and 400 people at \$25. He said that these inspections must be done annually, but in the case of a municipal building such as the Town Hall the town may waive the inspection. In any case, chairman of the board of selectmen David Tyler stated, "the town buildings should be inspected once a year anyway, as a safety measure."

In addition to a \$200 annual salary and the building permit fees, Donovan will be reimbursed for mileage and expenses for the periodic educational

seminars conducted by the state for town building inspectors.

The selectmen and Donovan agreed that the town bylaw requiring a building permit for structural alteration or remodeling over \$500 needs to be clarified or amended.

Donovan said if a homeowner wanted to make over \$500 in improvements such as shingling and painting his house, and perhaps building new kitchen cabinets, a permit should not be needed, but the removal of a bearing partition, an under-\$500 job, should require a permit.

Donovan said that he would give the selectmen a monthly report of his activities.

At a special Town Meeting scheduled for March 31 the town will be asked to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, the recommended sums of \$1,400 for Town Hall maintenance for the remainder of the fiscal year and \$2,856 for the disposal area; \$2,000 of which will cover expenses through June 31 with the balance to be used to pay an outstanding bill.

Smaller transfer requests for the remainder of FY 1975 will include \$600 for a new garage equipment account from machinery earnings, \$450 for the street lights account from revenue sharing, and \$300 for the building inspector's salary and expenses from available funds.

Other articles on the special Town Meeting warrant will ask the town to approve the transfer of some \$15,000 from available funds for winter road work when received through Chapter 825, Section 1; to transfer the firehouse roof account funds to the firehouse maintenance account, and to accept a bequest of \$500 from James D. Cay for the perpetual care of the lot of Eurastus Cay.

Tyler in his capacity of chief of police wished to alert the town of a serious situation concerning house breakings and enterings. He said that seven houses have been broken into in the past month. Tyler asks that residents assist the police by reporting the registration numbers of suspicious and unfamiliar cars parked or cruising slowly in front of unoccupied buildings.

The selectmen announced that Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) funding will be received for two new jobs through the end of August. The openings are for a general maintenance person and a park and cemetery worker, both full-time positions. Interested persons should file applications at the CETA office at City Hall in Northampton today.

Ernest W. Nugent of Huntington Road has been nominated inspector of animals.