

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 8, 2008

PRESENT: TammyJo Girard, Dennis Abbott, Evan Grover, Jon Gale, Nancy Brandt, Pam Witman, Dave Lowe, Julie Giles, Ron Smith, RHR Smith & Associates, Lt. Gary Fecteau, Pam L'Heureux, Janice Young, Jason L'Heureux, Fred Fay, David Woodsome, Clint Andrews, Brigit McCallum & Jon Williard.

Meeting called to at 7:00 p.m. by Selectman Abbott with pledge of allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

7:00 – Lt. Fecteau announced that Dep. Conger had taken a position as a detective for domestic violence so would be hiring a new Contract Deputy. Asked the board for involvement in the selection process. Reported that they have two viable candidates and would like to hold interviews at the end of the week or early next week. The process will take about 1 ½ hours and Selectmen Gale and Girard volunteered to represent the board. Will meet on Friday at 12:30 p.m. at the jail. Lt. Fecteau requested that they each bring a couple questions. Stated that the two candidates are Matt Gilman and Shawn Sanborn.

7:15 – Ron Smith of RHR Smith & Associates presented the 2007 audit and reviewed the highlights with the board. Selectman Gale questioned if they should go out to bid for their bank and Ron suggested that they should. Julie stated that we only changed banks 1 ½ years ago and are receiving very high interest. Ron reported that the revenue projections were pretty much on target but that the collection of tax payments was down from the previous year. Also reported that the insurance was overspent because of increased premiums, road projects and General Assistance were both overspent. Did turn \$35,000 back into the general fund. Stated that the town has a lot of reserve accounts that haven't been used in over two years amounting to about \$100,000 and suggested they take a look at putting those funds to better use. Selectman Abbott stated that they should have a workshop with the board, Julie and Nancy. Ron offered to attend a workshop to discuss the audit in more detail. Also stated that they need a capital plan for infrastructure. Stated that he feels they could use \$350,000 from surplus to offset taxes comfortably and also suggested a capital reserve account for each department and one general. Selectman Gale questioned why it took so long to get the audit and Ron explained that they changed the whole Chart of Accounts mid-year so it took some extra time to do comparisons.

REPORTS

A) Town Administrator's Report

1. Reported that she contacted the electrician today about the generator and they will be working with the HVAC people and South-Worth Milton on the startup. They hadn't realized that this was part of the bid.
2. Reported that budgets are due January 18th and to the Finance Committee by February 18th.
3. Reported that she has started the basic work on the warrant.
4. Reported that 2nd quarter reports will be out as soon as we get adjustments from the auditor.

B) Selectmen's Reports

1. Nothing to report

C) Committee Reports

1. Transfer Station/Recycling Committee reported that they met last night. They have a number of trash bags to use and would like to work with the ATV Club and Snowmobile Club to coordinate a trash pick up for the derby. Discussed anti-freeze collection and are recommending no fee be charged. Reported that Lakeside will be donating a pizza party to the winning classes in the poster contest and they have invited the winners of the 3rd and 4th grade to the Selectmen's Meeting on the 22nd to hand out certificates and recognize them. Reported that Clint has gotten the winter edition of the Recycler out and did a wonderful job. Reported that they reviewed and

approved their by-laws last night and their next meeting will be February 4th. Discussed recycling rates. Dave reported that they regret that they have not been able to get containers for the groups who wanted them but they are still trying. Reviewed the scholarships being offered through EcoMaine. Reported that the committee will be reviewing all fees.

2. Finance Committee reported that they are scheduling meetings with department heads on their capital budgets. Will be meeting with Fire Dept./EMS on January 9th at the Fire Station, with Clint on the Transfer Station February 6th and with the Road Review Committee at their meeting on February 13th. Reported that they have lost another member, Paul Kussmann and thanked him for his service. Discussed meeting with the Library.

Motion by Selectman Grover and seconded by Selectman Girard to move the library up on the agenda. Vote 4-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS

2. Jon Williard stated that they would like to reschedule the workshop with the Selectmen but during the day light hours so they can see what needs to be done. Would also like Steve Searles to attend the workshop. Motion by Selectman Grover and seconded by Selectman Gale to set up a workshop at 9 am on Saturday at the Library. Vote 4-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to sign the abatements as recommended by the Assessor. Vote 3-0-1 with Selectman Grover abstaining.
2. Selectman Grover explained that the Lake Arrowhead Conservation Council is requesting a warrant article to raise \$7,500 for a harvester to combat the milfoil issue. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to put on as a warrant article. Discussed what the standard is for what goes referendum and what goes as a warrant article and Selectman Abbott stated that at this point it's a Selectman decision. Selectman Gale stated that for him it's determined by the complexity of the issue. Vote 3-0-1 with Selectman Grover abstaining.
3. Discussed the Town Report Dedication and Selectman Abbott suggested more research into what these people have done for the town and bring back next week.
4. Already took care of the volunteers for the Selection Committee earlier in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Selectman Girard explained that the Attorney is not pleased with the Les Bois Carthage Performance Guaranty because it makes the town the owner of the bond which subjects the town to a lot of potential issues. Motion by Selectman Grover and seconded by Selectman Gale to go with Ken Coles recommendation and not accept until the owner is the owner. Vote 4-0-0.
3. Discussed the lake level ordinance and Selectman Girard stated that now it sounds that even with the ordinance there are ways around it. Nancy explained that DEP is waiting to see what we are going to do scheduling a hearing but probably won't happen before the summer. Stated that there are only 3 communities in the state with an ordinance and they share a dam. Also stated that the attorney is recommending against the ordinance. Selectman Abbott suggested meeting with the lake association. Motion by Selectman Girard and seconded by Selectman Gale to table until April when they can meet with the lake association. Vote 4-0-0.
4. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Grover to schedule a Public Hearing on the Purchase Order/Payment Ordinance for February 12th. Vote 4-0-0.
5. Selectman Abbott stated that they are working at getting the Selection Committee back together which they should accomplish next week so they can get the Town Planner hired.

OTHER

1. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Grover to sign the warrants for bills & payroll. Vote 4-0-0.
2. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to accept the minutes of 12/11/07 as written. Vote 3-0-1 with Selectman Grover abstaining. Motion by Selectman Girard and seconded by Selectman Grover to accept the minutes of 12/18/07 as written. Vote 3-0-1 with Selectman Gale abstaining. Motion by Selectman Girard and seconded by Selectman Grover to accept the minutes of 12/21/07 as written. Vote 3-0-1 with Selectman Gale abstaining. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to accept the minutes of 12/28/07 as written. Vote 3-0-1 with Selectman Abbott abstaining.
3. Selectman Gale read reminders

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Meeting with F.E.T. at 7 pm. Discussed sending a letter to Fish & Game requesting extra help for the day of the event. Pam L'Heureux invited the board to EMA training at 6:30 on January 30th as it will be on the event and what to do in an emergency.
2. Scheduled a workshop on office layout and review of goals for 6:30 next Tuesday.
3. Outstanding Rescue Billing
4. Inspection Policy
5. Code of Ethics
6. Refreshing North Station Study
7. ATV Club Lease

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Grover to adjourn at 8:45pm. Vote 4-0-0.

SIGNED:

Warrants for bills and payroll

1. Minutes of 12/11/07, 12/18/07, 12/21/07 & 12/28/07
2. Concealed weapon applications

APPROVED:

Date: _____

