

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 5, 2010

PRESENT: TammyJo Girard, Gordon Littlefield, Dennis Abbott, Jon Gale, Nancy Brandt, Pam Witman, Dave Lowe, John Winslow, Pam L'Heureux, Jason L'Heureux, Rep. Joe Wagner, Tom Ursia, Dave Woodsome and Clint Andrews.

Selectman Abbott opened Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 p.m. and Selectman Littlefield presented a tribute to the military currently serving from Waterboro.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Selectman Abbott announced that the series on Howe & Howe is beginning at 10:00 this evening on the Discovery Channel.

APPOINTMENTS

6:00 – John Winslow addressed the reasons for the census and explained the process to get hired to work in the field. The pay is \$14.50 per hour for 8 to 10 weeks plus mileage reimbursement. Will be starting the end of March. Explained that there will be 1,000 hired for York, Cumberland, Oxford and Androscoggin Counties.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Reported that she is presenting them with the budget books and that it is going to be a very difficult year with the budget. Discussed the drop in Revenue Sharing. Stated that the funding for budgets will be difficult as they can not appropriate from the Capital Accounts as they have in the past. The Auditor has stated that they can use up to but no more than \$350,000 from surplus. Reported that requests are up 8.36% over last years appropriations. Selectman Gale felt they should have an agenda for each budget workshop and stick to it. Put Nancy in charge of setting the agenda.

TRANSFER STATION/RECYCLING COMMITTEE REPORT

Dave Woodsome reported that since the beginning of the recycling committee the goal has been to reduce cost. Stated that we have one of the best Transfer Station's around. Their goal is to reduce household trash and save money and to increase recycling. About 40% of the residents are recycling to some extent and 60% are not. The committee has come up with three possible options; a 50/50 plan where you would use town bags and one trash bag would be given for each bag of recycling and non-recyclers would buy their own town bags; second option is a sticker program and each household will be given 10 free stickers after which you would buy the stickers or the third option is a combination of free disposal and pay as you throw. Users who recycle and can use their own bags but those who don't would have to purchase town bags. Would like to hold a public forum on February 8th if possible. Will discuss further at the next Transfer Station/Recycling Committee meeting. Clint noted that the recycling should be up to about 20% this month and household trash is down.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to add budget workshop scheduling to New Business. Vote 4-0-0.

1. Reported that the figures we have been waiting for from the auditor came today but they were supposed to come in and sent an email saying they wouldn't be here. Nancy recommended a meeting with the auditor to find out why it took so long. Selectman Girard stated that not only that there are some questions and discrepancies which we expected to be answered today which is why they were supposed to come in then didn't even have the courtesy to call but instead sent an email. Found that to be a very poor business practice. Stated that we are paying for a service and deserve the service that we are paying for. Selectman Abbott agreed that they need a session with Ron and the Board of Selectmen as they need to understand why it has taken so long to get these entries. Selectman Gale stated that if it is something that we are doing then we need to know that so we can provide them with information in a more timely manner. Nancy will schedule a workshop with Ron and to include Julie.
2. Nancy stated that she does not have the Revenue and Expense reports as she had been waiting for the journal entries. Noted that we have collected 49% of excise tax to this point. Selectman Abbott requested a spreadsheet listing all revenues. Selectman Girard stated that she put this on the agenda as we may lose \$43,000 in this fiscal year, need to look at where to cut in our current budget. Selectman Gale stated that they can either cut \$43,000 from the current budget, take \$43,000 from undesignated surplus which would reduce the amount for next year or hold a special town meeting to take from surplus but need to make that decision as soon as possible. Nancy stated that they can use overlay also. Selectman Abbott stated that they could also look at not spending \$43,000 from the budget but Selectman Girard didn't think that would be possible as it is already a bare bones budget. Selectman Girard stated that the school may also be coming back for more money. Selectman Gale suggested coming in at 5:30 next week to go through the revenues and expenses.
3. Scheduled budget workshops every Thursday at 5:30 starting this week and for the rest of the month and will add days if necessary.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Tom reported that he has been looking into the Energy Efficiency Grant but the money for this one is gone. Do need an energy audit done first and that would cost about \$5,000 and that would provide a recommendation with figures attached. Will look into an energy audit and will provide the board with a list of the proper steps.
2. Nancy reported that she did receive the information from the state on handicapped accessibility but still needs to contact Alpha One.

OTHER

1. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Gale to sign the warrants for bills and payroll. Vote 4-0-0.
2. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to accept the minutes of 12/22/09 as written. Vote 4-0-0. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to accept the minutes of 12/29/09 as written. Vote 3-0-1 with Selectman Abbott abstaining.
3. Discussed cross training so we don't have just one person in the front because of vacations and illness as occurred last week. Selectman Girard requested that this be on an agenda for discussion.

4. Selectman Abbott read the reminders.

PENDING DECISIONS

1. Committee Involvement
2. Training Proposal – Nancy and Matt working on this
3. Signing of the Land Trust Deeds
4. Parks Ordinance
5. Street light request

WEEK’S ACTION LIST

1. Nancy to set up a workshop with the auditor.
2. Nancy to provide revenue and expense summary for workshop

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Personnel Policy
2. Staff training

SIGNED:

1. Warrants for bills & payroll
2. Minutes of 12/22/09 & 12/29/09
3. Appointment papers

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Vote 4-0-0.

APPROVED:

Date: _____
