

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

April 6, 2010

PRESENT: Gordon Littlefield, Dennis Abbott, Jon Gale, Nancy Brandt, Pam Witman, Dave Lowe, Jerry Daigle, Frank Allen and Myron Edgerly.

Meeting opened by Selectman Abbott at 6:00 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Selectman Gale announced the passing of Al (Firp) Hutchinson and that the service will be held on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. at the Alfred Parish Church.
2. Selectman Abbott reminded everyone to fill out the census card and return it.
3. Selectman Abbott announced the passing of Eleanor Rollins.

APPOINTMENTS

Jerry reported that they have a request for an abatement on 423 Sokokis Trail for 2010 dated February 24th by the attorney representing Heacock's. Explained that we send two (2) tax bills as Heacock only owns half and the other owner has not filed for an abatement. Stated that they had an appraisal done and the comparables are all properties on Ossipee Lake and placed a value of \$167,000 on the property. Explained that this property is within 100' of the lake but not directly on the lake. They do have a right of way and the ability to launch a boat. Stated that it would not bring in the assessed value we have on it and recommended that the abatement be granted on this request on the half owned by Heacock's and leave the other half as is. Stated that the board was presented a request for 2008/2009 but only presented the actual abatement for 2010 and they did not bring up that they were over valued only that they feel they paid too much in taxes. His recommendation is that they deny 08/09. Selectmen discussed how you come up with a value and felt it should be based on the 2007 baseline same as everyone else in town, maybe should adjust because of a couple errors in the original assessment but not down to this point. Selectman Abbott felt that taking the inequities out what would it have been in 2007 and let's adjust the assessment but also need clarification from them if they are looking for an abatement or a refund. Selectman Littlefield agreed it has to be based on 2007. Jerry will come back when ready.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Has been working on the layout of the warrant articles as requested. Stated that the Charter requires two columns and they want to add the Finance Committee recommendation. Prepared a draft to see if it's what they are looking for. Selectman Gale stated that he wants it to show the Finance Committee dollar amount as a comparison side by side. All agreed what she has done is fine.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

1. Selectman Gale explained where the R.S.U. 57 budget stands right now with a 1 ½% increase which would mean a 9.5% increase to each town and a 10.5% increase to Waterboro in taxes. There are still some possibilities to reduce that as they are negotiating still with teachers. Administration took no increase in salary.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussed the application for the Cemetery Committee and will interview before the Selectmen's Meeting and bring back next week.
2. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Gale to table the vote on the abatement request pending further information. Vote 3-0-0.

3. Discussed the Forest Development Road Cooperative Agreement from 1968 and requested to have the attorney review to see if it's valid and get some clarification.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Selectman Abbott stated that the snowplow contract was reviewed by the attorney for clarification and the opinion is that it must go out to bid but he also feels there is a precedent. Selectmen Gale and Littlefield agreed that it should go out to bid but Selectman Littlefield stated that in a new contract should include a clause to allow legally to extend. Discussed going more than one year and Selectman Gale suggested two years with a one year extension. Selectman Littlefield stated that most towns are doing three years plus an extension. Selectman Abbott felt it should be a three year contract. Discussed the extension and didn't feel it should be open ended. Selectman Littlefield suggested three years with two year option but every five years must be bid. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Gale that because of the legal opinion that we go out to bid but that we change the language of the contract so that it's a three year minimum contract with the option to extend that contract for two years but in no event beyond the five year mark, every five years we go out to bid that way we take into account any changes in the market. Vote 2-1-0 with Selectman Abbott opposed.
- 2.

OTHER

1. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Gale to sign the warrants for bills and payroll. Vote 3-0-0.
2. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to accept the minutes of 3/30/10 as written. Vote 3-0-0.
3. Discussed water problems in the Old Alfred Road area. Selectman Abbott suggested a meeting with school board members and requested that Nancy make contact with the Superintendent and whoever else he wants, our directors and Board of Selectman and a couple members of road review. Selectman Littlefield questioned if the Army Corp. of Engineers couple assist.
4. Selectman Abbott read reminders.

SIGNED:

1. Warrants for bills & payroll
2. Concealed weapon applications
3. Minutes of 3/16/10 & 3/23/10

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Vote 3-0-0.

APPROVED:

Date: _____

