

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
2/5/91

Regular meeting of the Waterboro Board of Selectmen.

PRESENT: Chm. Robert C. Fay, Dennis G. Abbott, John C. Monteith.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

The Board signed a letter giving Lucas Tree permission to cut trees and bushes on the Middle Road from wall to wall as requested by the Road Commissioner.

FINANCIAL MEETING:

The Board at this time adjourned to the Town Hall to conduct a financial meeting with the Town committees. Present were: Doug Foglio, Fred Fay, Dale Witman, Steve Kasprzak, Mike Emmons, Frank Allen, Chm. Fay, Sel. Monteith and Abbott, Arthur Smith, Stu Brower, Debra Miles, Dianne Holden, Dwayne Morin, Jerry Pare'. Chm. Fay explained the problem of cash flow figures. Town can borrow more TAN, can strip down spending until June, or can appropriate but not spend until after June. Steve Kasprzak suggested appropriating 1/2 of last years budget but only spend on necessities and need to get approval from Selectmen for any spending. Chm. Fay stated that there is to much money requests on the warrant. Sel. Abbott stated that seal coat is never done until after June so why is it on March's meeting warrant. Also feels that Old Home Days, Cutting Brush, possibly seasonal roads can wait until June warrant. Steve Kasprzak stated that Town needs to go into a Town Meeting with the same budget to keep the tax rate the same, but same payments of appropriations until after June. Sel. Monteith informed everyone that there will be a million dollar increase if SAD stays the same. Chm. Fay asked if people have any thoughts on taxes same as last year. Arthur Smith stated that he would rather have two small bills and not one large bill. Sel. Monteith stated that there is a need to have the tax money in before appropriations can be paid. Chm. Fay asked around the table what the feeling is on approprations not spent until tax money is in. Dale Witman feels that it sounds good, but there is some things that can be cut, the Town just can't keep spending. He would like to see the Fire Dept. Clerk cut. Can't see why paying for a clerk when the fire dept is volunteer. Doesn't feel that Old Home Days needs fire works, never had them before. Also feels that the roads need to be scutinized. Fred Fay stated that the road & bridges and seasonal roads needs money. Doug Foglio stated that it is an involve situation, same group got us in this mess, now is telling us what to do to get out of this mess, each department head should have been met with last October, the fiscal year changed was hurried. Dianne Holden stated that she has thrown the idea around and the tax bill should be 1/2 of last year's bill. Jerry Pare agree small tax bill is better than a large bill, doesn't feel should have a reduction in the tax rate. Debra Miles stated that she doesn't feel taxes should go up, should really look at the budget to see what is not really needed and feels if the state is going to mandate school then the state should help more with funding.

Stu Brower feels everyone should take a 10% reduction. To ease the cash flow problem then there should be no spending. Frank Allen would rather keep taxes the same to build a buffer. Mike Emmons stated that there should not be a cut in taxes, and feels the part-time clerk is justified. Dianne stated that 80% of the taxes have been collected. Jerry also stated that there is a need to take in consideration the economy. Sel. Abbott stated that there was a meeting in October to discuss bare bones budget, the economy has really changed, and there is a tremendous cash flow problem. Has concerns going into a 6 months budget that \$600,000. was not enough to cover, will need to borrow now, and there is no cushion to fall one. Also can't keep putting the roads off, eventually will need to be done, between now and June meeting there will be a lot of these meetings. Chm. Fay stated that the Board has been trying to keep people better informed on what is going on. Dianne stated that maybe the Town should have gone for a 18 months TAN. Chm. Fay stated that the Board has been looking at a possible Aug. & Jan. tax billing instead of Apr. & Oct. Doug would like to see any unspent appropriations at the end of the fiscal year go into surplus and all accounts start with a zero balance. Dianne stated that in November she is asked by department heads what is the balance in their account. Chm. Fay stated that there will be some control, can't spend without approval. Arthur asked what can be done if a certain amount has been appropriated, what is going to stop the department heads from spending even if there is not money available. Sel. Monteith stated that all the towns are in the same situation. Will meet back in a couple of week's after receiving the Finance Committee recommendations for the March warrant.

Dianne Holden will look into an 18 months TAN.

Board voted Roger Deering to the Recycling Committee.

Selectmen's Office will check next week on how the other Towns are sending out their tax bills for twice a year billing.

Board signed the warrant for payment of bills and payroll.

approved:

Robert C. Fay
Dianne Holden