



# Town of Piermont

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## Board of Selectmen Work Session Draft Minutes of Meeting March 27, 2014 at 7:30 AM

Present: Chairman, Colin Stubbings; Selectmen, Robert Lang, Ernest Hartley; Executive Assistant, Jennifer Collins; Jesse Bushaw; Terri Mertz.

Chairman Stubbings called the meeting to order at 7.31am. Selectman Hartley requested that a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II(c) would be required to discuss the letter received by the Board.

A discussion was held on how the inventories are processed and how this might be improved. This was followed by discussion on possible changes to the timber tax process. No department heads attended this day.

Jesse Bushaw attended to discuss the process of timber taxes from intent to cut to the billing. The Board had requested if he could attend so that they could better understand what was required and how they might improve the procedures and possible revenue to the Town. An explanation of a recent return was discussed and how an abatement has been requested. Jesse stated that the matrix is not mandatory nor does the Town have to supply the form, it is just another piece of information that helps to assess the bill. He further stated that the Town has to assess the Return of Cut and Bill within 30 days of receipt. The taxpayer has to appeal in writing within 90 days of the tax bill if they dispute it. Jesse suggested that the Town might want to utilize a Licensed Forester to verify the return of cut. He suggested that a good time to supply the matrix was when the approved intent to cut is returned to the landowner and that a possible letter similar to what the town of Landaff uses could also be sent. Stubbings said he would contact them and try to obtain a copy. After discussion the Board thought that a random check by a licensed forester on behalf of the Town would put some discipline in to the process. The Board thanked Jesse for attending.

At 8.45 am, Selectman Hartley made a motion to enter non-public per RSA 91-A:3 II(c). This motion was seconded by Selectman Lang. The vote to enter was passed (3-0).

The public session was re-entered at 9.15am and it was stated that the minutes of the non-public had been sealed.

At 9.15 Selectman Hartley motioned to adjourn the Board of Selectmen's Work Session, this was seconded by Selectman Lang. The vote passed (3-0).

Respectfully submitted  
Colin Stubbings  
Chairman