

Minutes
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday November 5, 2014 @ 7:00 PM

Selectmen Present:
Colin Stubbings, Robert Lang and Ernest Hartley

The meeting was called to order @ 7:05pm by Chairman Stubbings.

Chairman Stubbings announced that the meeting was being recorded solely for the purposes of preparing the minutes and that others inside the meeting may also be recording the meeting.

Treasurer – Treasurer Erik Wagstaff gave the Board his reconciliation for October 2014. Mr. Wagstaff noted that he thinks that the Town will be able to make it through to when the tax bills are due without having to borrow any money.

Cemetery- John Metcalf said that they had put stapak down on the road in the cemetery. He also noted that this project was done was now. The cemeteries will officially be closed for the winter as of 11/10/14, but if there is no frost in the ground the Trustees will still allow burials.

Ball field – John Metcalf stated that they had finished putting down the clay mixture on the ball field today. They will still need to add some more clay mixture in the springtime. What they had received previously did not quite cover everything.

Sewer – Mr. Metcalf noted that they still need to finish the winter prep on the sewer. He noted that this was the first month under the new sewer guidelines and he did not have to provide the Department of Environmental Services with a Monthly Operations Report.

Landfill – Mr. Metcalf stated that they had done a walk through of the landfill today and they noticed that one pipe was eschewed. The collar on the pipe was cracked and needed to be replaced. He was hoping they would be able to get to it this year.

Fire Department – Chief Bruce Henry said that there had been one call last month for a motor vehicle accident. Chief Henry along with Tim Cole attended an all day training in Warren on October 20th. During fire safety week, Chief Henry and Tim Cole took the Engine to the school and put on their fire gear to show the kids. Selectman Hartley stated that the kids were very pleased with what the Fire Department showed them. Some members of the Fire Department went to Aubuchon Hardware in Bradford, VT for a fire safety day and handed out fire alarms. They are planning on doing this again next year.

At last night's meeting, they had some potential new members. Tim Cole is working on getting the fire pond at the Robertson place (Old James place) back so that the Town can use it. On November 16th there will be a live burn at the Fire Department using a trailer from the Fire Academy.

The chevron stripes have been put on the back of Engine 1. Chris Yeager has passed his written test needed to be a Fire Instructor. Mr. Yeager will now have to do 20 ours of training. On November 13th, the Fire Department plans on working on their budget for next year.

Chief Henry noted that some of the SCBA/Bunker gear will be out of date in the next couple of years and will need to be replaced. The Fire Department will look into whether or not they can get a grant to help will all or some of the replacement costs.

Chief Henry reported that the Fire Department had used 116 gallons of fuel this year. The Board scheduled a budget meeting with the Fire Department for 8:00am on Monday November 24th.

Manifests – The Board reviewed and signed the manifests.

Old Business

Police Department Update – Following Sheriff Doug Dutile's suggestion to the Board to contact the Association of Chiefs of Police to see if they would help with the Town's search for a new Police Chief; the Association has sent the Board a suggested posting for the position. The posting is currently online on the Association's website. Chairman Stubbing will scan in the resumes that the Board has already received. He will also send the advert to Ms. Collins. The Board would like to have it posted in the Valley News and the Union Leader. Resident Helga Mueller asked what the advert said. Chairman Stubbings read the advert out loud for the public. The deadline for the submission of applications will be November 21, 2014.

Tax Rate Update – The Town has set the new tax rate. The new rate is \$22.75, which is an increase of 40 cents over last year's rate. The Board signed the second issue tax warrant in the amount of \$1,120,427.00. The Town's portion is \$6.67, down from \$6.91 last year. The County's rate is \$1.49, down from \$1.72 last year. The Local School's rate is \$11.97, up from \$11.27 last year. The State School rate is \$2.61, up from \$2.45. The Board did everything that they could to try and keep the tax rate down. The Board noted that they were reluctant to use any fund balance to help reduce the tax rate because the decision on the Camp Walt Whitman abatement case has still not come down.

The inventory penalties will be billed separate from the property taxes. The Board talked about ways to bill the inventory penalties. The Tax Collector would like them to go out on a separate bill altogether.

Mazzilli Fire Pond Update – The Mazzilli Fire Pond will be done as a lot line adjustment. Byron Kidder has submitted the survey, which has been approved by Peter and Jodi Mazzilli. The Planning Board will likely approve the lot line adjustment at their next meeting on November 19, 2014.

Chief Bruce Henry will need to contact the various insurance companies to update them on all the working fire pond locations within Town.

Thomson Water Easement – Ms. Collins said that Stacey Thomson said that he is going to meet with his attorney to discuss the survey that was done by Bryon Kidder for the water easement that he will give the Town over his property so that we can get running water in the South Lawn Cemetery. He will call back after he has met with his attorney to let the Town know if they can proceed with preparing the legal documents for the easement.

New Business

Charter Night – Tomorrow night, November 6, 2014 will be our Town's Charter Night. It is the 250th Anniversary of the day that the Charter was signed. An event will take place at the Piermont Village School starting at 6:30pm.

Timber Taxes – The Board signed timber taxes for Chris Jacobs in the amount of \$130.26.

Unanticipated Funds – The Piermont Mutual Fire Insurance Company has donated another check to the Town in the amount of \$2,162.36 for use by the Piermont Fire Department. Chairman Stubbings moved to accept the funds that were presented. Selectman Hartley seconded the motion. The Board voted all in favor of this motion. Selectman Lang asked the Fire Department if there was any way to mark the items purchased with the funds as gifts. Mr. Metcalf said that it they really didn't have to do that.

Public Input – Resident Randy Subjeck asked when the deadline was for the submission of the application for the Police Chief's position. Chairman Stubbings said that it was November 21, 2014. Resident Walter Rodimon told the Board that he would like the income limited for the Elderly Exemption to be raised to \$35,000. Mr. Rodimon noted that the last time that this figured that been raised was in 2006. The Board said that they were planning on reviewing the Town's exemption and credits and would take into consideration his request.

John Metcalf asked the Board's permission to use Ms. Collins to type up a letter to Mary Jane Meier at the DES to thank her for all her hard work in helping the Town get the guidelines changed for the Sewer District. The Board said that was fine.

Erik Wagstaff inquired about the list of volunteers for the recreation committee and what was going to happen moving forward. The Board scheduled a meeting with the individuals who volunteered for the Recreation committee on December 4th at 7:00PM. Ms. Collins will send out an e-mail to everyone who volunteered.

November & December Meeting Calendar Revisions – The Board cancelled the next two Board of Selectmen's meetings (11/18/14 & 12/02/14). The work session on 11/06/14 has been cancelled as well as the work session on 11/13/14. The work session on 11/27/14 is also cancelled due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Budget meetings have been scheduled with the Transfer Station on 11/21 @

9:00am; Fire Department on 11/24 at 8:00am; Highway Department on 11/25 at 8:00am; John Metcalf on 11/26 at 8:00am. For December, the work session on 12/25/14 is cancelled due to the Christmas holiday.

Minutes – The minutes from the 10/21/14 meetings were reviewed. Changes were made. Selectman Hartley moved to accept the minutes as amended. Selectman Lang seconded the motion. The Board voted all in favor of this motion.

Selectman Lang moved to adjourn from the meeting at 8:24PM. Selectman Hartley seconded the motion. The Board voted all in favor of adjourning from the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer L. Collins

Board of Selectman
Colin Stubbings, Chairman

Approved:

Members of the Public Present at the general meeting as recorded by “sign-in sheet” included: H. Mueller, T. Mertz, B. Marvin, S. Woodard, E. Wagstaff, S. Belyea, F. Rodimon, and J. Collins