

Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, November 25, 2013

Selectman Merrow called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM. Present were Selectmen Harry C. Merrow, Robert C. Freeman, and Richard H. Morgan, Martha Eldridge, Town Administrator, and Ellen White who recorded the minutes.

Selectman Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes of the 11/18/2013 Selectmen's Meeting. Selectman Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The accounts payable voucher for week ending 11/23/2013 was presented in the amount of \$592,263.94. Selectman Merrow made a motion to approve these vouchers. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The payroll voucher for week ending 11/23/2013 was presented in the amount of \$52,547.45. Selectman Merrow made a motion to approve these vouchers. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received the medical program renewal rates from Health Trust. Selectman Merrow made a motion to approve and sign the document. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Highway Department work log was submitted for week ending 11/23/2013.

Brad Harriman reported that the preliminary plans for the sidewalks should be ready from White Mountain Survey by the first of next week and available for review at that time.

Harriman further stated that there is nothing new to report on the Whittier Covered Bridge.

An invoice from the Water & Sewer Department was resubmitted for the repair that took place at 1 Moultonville Road. Selectman Merrow stated that the meter had frozen during the winter but the repair did not take place until August. Selectman Merrow made a motion to approve the invoice for payment. Selectman Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received an email from the Greater Ossipee Area Chamber of Commerce notifying them of a business expo to be held at Sunny Villa Restaurant 12/5/2013 from 5:30-7:30 PM.

A Jeopardy Tax Warrant was submitted in the amount of \$178.00 for a mobile home in Ossipee Mountain Estates to be relocated in Ossipee. Selectman Merrow made a motion to sign the warrant. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Selectman Merrow announced the passing of Roland Stockbridge. He also stated that the visiting hours will be on Friday, 11/29/2013 from 6-8 PM.

The Board received programming updates from Time Warner Cable.

The proposed signage for the 1 Moultonville Road building was presented for approval. Layout #3 was selected by Selectmen Merrow and Morgan. Selectman Freeman selected layout #3 with a proposed change. Selectman Merrow made a motion to approve layout #3 as is. Selectman Morgan seconded. Majority vote carried.

An Intent to Cut was received for the property located on Map 257, Lot 13 to cut 28 acres from a 215 acre parcel. The logger is listed as Jay Braunscheidel. The property taxes are paid and there is no cemetery. Selectman Merrow made a motion to sign the intent. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a letter from Graham & Graham, P.C. requesting their contact information be added to the mailing list for auditing service requests for proposal.

An Intent to Cut was received for the property located on Map 239, Lot 5 to cut +/- 25 acres from a 32 acre parcel. The logger is listed as Richard Girard. The property taxes are paid and there is no cemetery. Selectman Merrow made a motion to sign the intent. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a memo from the Trustee of Trust Funds requesting a check in the amount of \$1,670.03 payable to Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc. Condict Billings stated that this request is to correct the amount previously approved which was off by \$.03. Selectman Merrow made a motion to sign the request. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Application for Current Use was received from Catherine Wright for the property located on Map 134, Lot 2. The application is to put the entire 12.6 acre parcel into current use. Selectman Merrow made a motion to sign the application. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Old Business:

There was nothing new to report on the Volunteer Awards or Whittier Covered Bridge.

Selectman Merrow reported that he is in the process of getting accident statistics from the Police Department for the intersection of Routes 28 and 171.

Selectman Freeman stated there is nothing new to report on the Reverse 911.

Selectman Merrow announced that the Board has met with Lakes Region Humane Society and the revisions for the shelter contract are in the works and should be ready for signatures soon.

There was no new business presented so the Selectmen continued the budget schedule as follows:

The Water & Sewer Department presented their budget in the amount of \$369,779.42. Chester "Ski" Kwiatkowski summarized projects that have been completed this year. Doug Sargent stated the budget increase is a result of increases in health insurance premiums, electricity and gas and fuel expenses.

Emergency Management presented their budget in the amount of \$6,700, level-funded from 2013. Selectman Merrow questioned the \$500 for training purposes where \$450 had been spent for a class that was not attended. Selectman Freeman stated that 2 people were able to attend the class but no staff from Emergency Management attended as they had the dates written down incorrectly. A class they were going to attend in place of the missed class has been canceled. Selectman Merrow also questioned \$2,000 in shelter supplies. Dana Cullen stated that there were still items needed for the emergency management trailer including shower supplies. Selectman Merrow made a motion to recommend this amount. Selectman Morgan seconded. Selectman Freeman abstained. Majority vote carried.

Ossipee Public Library's budget was presented by Maria Moulton and Ray Wright in the amount of \$209,188. Selectman Merrow made a motion to recommend this amount. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Registration budget was revised and re-presented in the amount of \$18,137. The increase is a result of an additional election. Selectman Merrow made a motion to recommend this amount. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

West Ossipee Fire Precinct's budget was presented by Commissioner Greg Howard and Chief Huddleston in the amount of \$402,520, down from 2013's budget of \$410,713. They stated the precinct's roster is up 18 from 14. Further discussion took place about the bond reduction and capital reserve.

The Fire Warden's budget was presented in the amount of \$20,400, level-funded from 2013. Discussion took place about the amount's expended year-to-date. Adam Riley stated there were invoices that had not yet been submitted. Selectman Morgan made a motion to recommend this amount. Selectman Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Election budget was revised and re-presented in the amount of \$11,000 to account for a Special Election, a possible State Primary in January and the General Election. Selectman Merrow made a motion to recommend this amount. Seconded by Selectman Morgan. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Selectmen's Office budget was presented in the amount of \$501,898.82, an increase of 8.85%. Selectman Merrow stated the increase to be a result of increased wages during the transition of the Town Administrator position. There was also an increase due to two new health insurance policies. Mellisa Seamans asked what the current Town Administrator's salary is and also the pay of Ellen White who is in training to replace Eldridge. Martha Eldridge answered her current salary to be \$64,893 and Ellen White's \$50,000 with an increase to \$55,000 in 2014. Discussion also took place on the term of service of the current Town Administrator. Selectman Merrow made a motion to recommend the amount as presented. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Martha Eldridge stated there is no Long-Term Debt. \$5,000 has been requested for the interest on the line of credit. Selectman Freeman made a motion to recommend this amount. Selectman Morgan seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The insurance budget was presented in the amount of \$150,118, up 4.8% from 2013. The general liability policy is down, unemployment also down but worker's compensation increased. Selectman Merrow made a motion to recommend this amount. Selectman Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

This concluded the business portion of the meeting and Selectman Merrow opened the meeting to public input.

Doug Sargent asked if the Board had consulted with legal counsel to help explain to the Budget Committee the budget process of the Water & Sewer Department. Selectman Merrow stated that they had not. Mellisa Seamans asked if there was any indication of there being a similar situation this year. Selectman Merrow stated that he was not aware of any.

Being no further input, Selectman Merrow made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Harry C. Merrow

Robert C. Freeman

Richard H. Morgan

To be approved 12/2/2013