

Select Board Minutes November 24, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair Donald Burke. Present were Select Board members Marlene Libby, Scott Wiley and Donald Burke. Also present were Webmaster Peter Beckett, Jen Pendleton, Lorie Costigan, Fred Brown and Dwight Collins from the Camden Herald.

Minutes of November 17, 2015 were accepted as corrected.

Road Commissioner:

Road Commissioner Starrett reported that there are beaver dams or houses at culverts on West Appleton Road, Esancy Road and Collinstown Road. He will be in contact with the game warden to discuss removal. Starrett also reported that culverts on Collinstown Road and Campground Road need attention. Select Board Member Burke questioned if anything could be done to alleviate water from melting snow from running across the parking lot, which then re-freezes. Starrett will speak with the parking lot contractor.

Select Board:

Warrants # 42, 43, 44, & 45 were signed.

A review of the revocation of a homestead exemption for Richard Hathaway & Mary Lehto, which was acted on at the last Select Board meeting, resulted in no change to the Board's decision not to abate the amount of the exemption this year.

The issue of *Statutory Discontinuance* of the Miller Cemetery Road rather than *Statutory Abandonment* was tabled until the Board could research further.

A motion was made by Burke to abate personal property taxes assessed to T. Michael Gushee in the amount of \$683.83 for tax years 2009 through 2014 as being uncollectable. The motion died for lack of a second. Select Board Member Marlene Libby recommended that the claim be taken to small claims court.

Burke recommended adding an article to a special town meeting warrant to authorize the Select Board to enter into a three-year contract for assessing services, as we are currently in the third year of the current contract. A Tuesday night in December was suggested for a special town meeting.

Burke said that some towns do not assess personal property, so that amount of tax revenue gets passed on to property taxes.

The Board will look into Assistant Clerk/Treasurer/Tax Collector/Registrar of Voters Becky Hughes' hours to determine if funds are available for her holiday/sick time hours to match her workday hours.

Discussion of hiring a part time administrator and the pros and cons of a five member Select Board were discussed. The issue of purchasers of cemetery lots in Pine Grove not receiving their deeds was brought up.

On a motion by Burke and seconded by Select Board Member Scott Wiley, (voted 3-0) the Board went into executive session to discuss a poverty abatement.

On a motion by Burke and seconded by Wiley, (voted 3-0) the Board went out of executive session.

As there was no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Minutes prepared by D. Burke