Appleton Board of Selectmen
July 26, 2016

1. Called to order 7:00 p.m. (Board members: J. Fenner, S. Wiley, L. Costigan, present; P. Beckett, absent.)


3. Sign warrants 9, 10, 11. (#9: $1,748 tax liens, #10: $134,816.64 AVS renovation fund. #11: $93,683.52 AVS lunch/general fund.)

4. The Appleton-Union Animal Control Officers resigned, per letter from J. Feyler, Union Town Manager. Feyler indicated resignation unrelated to Knox Sheriff Department’s offer to fulfill ACO duties. Feyler recommended, via letter, trying KSO system. Fenner indicated the town was sorry to lose ACO and the shared services with Union.

5. Board heard Knox Co. presentation on ACO from Deputy Matt Elwell, who reported KSO brainstormed ways to improve animal control because not all towns historically have strong coverage; KSO often fulfills animal control functions. Benefits of KSO include a uniform ACO emergency number and 24/7 dispatch services, according to Elwell. KSO plans to absorb current funding levels from individual towns and does not foresee increase budgets. (If a town contributes $3,000 now it will contribute the same to the KSO ACO for the initial funding. All town monies will be pooled.) Good opportunity to explore interest levels. KSO currently performs backup and also calls for towns currently without ACO services, Fenner summarized. Public input from Darelene Starrett inquiring if a call at 2 a.m. about horses on Gurneytown would be answered and handled at that time. Elwell affirmed. Public input from Mary Starrett inquired if fees going forward would increase. Goal is not to increase budgets. May be some dialect between county administrator and KSO that we won’t see a significant increase in dispatch fees. Elwell indicated Appleton would not and added Knox is basing program on a similar program instituted by the Lincoln County SO.

6. Town Office Renovations: P. Beckett and J. Fenner reviewing wall. Free wall from CSD too heavy and too expensive to be cost effective for town office, Fenner summarized. Free form wall partition tracking, which would have to be purchased, is $5,000. Leaning toward a third window for the one hour a week partition needed.

7. Cemetery Lots: Wiley met with Raymond Gushee and Peter Beckett. At least 15 lots available. Wiley questioned if select board budgeted enough when agreeing to take over deeds from memorial association. Perpetual care lots currently sell for $200 and $300. Charge for lot, plus cost of deed transfer would not go far toward covering perpetual care costs, which are in excess of $10,000 for mowing Pine Grove. Will review fees. Costigan asked the current request for a lot be reviewed promptly to avoid a resident in need from waiting. Fenner to talk with resident.
8. Witness municipal quit claim deed, map 4, lot 17 for payment of all outstanding liens. (Transfer was authorized during the annual town meeting.)

9. Personnel policy review, first reading: Fenner reiterated it’s a discussion for the select board and noted public comment until after discussion Will review article by article. Hoping to complete proposal within two meetings, possibly a third.

   A. Review of regular part-time definition and full-time employee definition, bereavement leave, inappropriate behavior closing clause, change references to select board, change references to performance review,

10. Road Commissioner: Report from C. Starrett indicating he had obtained quotes on culverts. Viking remains the lowest. 902 yards of winter sand delivered to date. Knocked fiberglass from windows in sand shed due to condensation and rot concerns. Peter Conant to place wire to discourage birds. Windowsills are rotting in the sand shed. Doors on sand shed need repair. Wiley likes work on Town Hill bridge. Wiley had been approached to see if the town would get bids from all local contractors for road work, like concrete and McDonald, Ronald Gibson, L+ S. Starrett informed board: “You need to cut trees by sand shed” and recommended Mike Pease. Next project on E. Sennebec.

   Public input: “Would you prefer new purchase orders on estimates on can we amend with an additional POs,.” M. Starrett, asked during public comment. Looked for clarity as three new board members may not know original POs. Fenner: Might be easier to a new PO. Lanphere fixed temp driveway on Appleton Ridge. C. Starrett indicated 5-6 more yards of sand would be delivered Wednesday. Fenner reported an engineering study estimated 975 yards in building before deliveries with a total capacity between 2,200 and 2,500 yards.

11. Adjourn, 8:20 p.m. Costigan motion; Wiley second: Unanimous.