

## Select Board Minutes November 10, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair Donald Burke. Present were Select Board members Marlene Libby and Donald Burke. Also present were Webmaster Peter Becket, Jen Pendleton, Lorie Costigan, Fred Brown and Attorney Riley Fenner.

Minutes of October 27, 2015 were accepted as corrected

### **Road Commissioner:**

Highway account balances were discussed. There will be a shortfall in the *bridge repair loan payment account* of \$4,833.25 that will have to be taken from another highway account or addressed at a town meeting. The annual installment was \$48,157.25 and LRAP (state highway funds) will only be \$43,324 this year, leaving a shortfall of \$4,833.25. A letter was signed by the Board and Road Commissioner to enforce correction of a driveway entrance issue on Snow Hill Rd. Select Board Member Burke reported that Kate Coffey's driveway has been repaired entirely by volunteer labor and donations, and that Select Board Member Scott Wiley was to be commended for his time in organizing the job. The issue of sending a letter to Maine DOT addressing additional roadwork in Appleton Village was discussed.

### **Select Board:**

Bids for *Parking Lot Snow Removal* were received from Jacob Boyington for \$1,800 and from Erik Hedberg for \$1,500. Select Board Member Burke recused himself from discussion and awarding the contract and the issue was tabled until next week.

Warrants # 38, 39 & 40 were signed.

Attorney Jamie Levenseler wrote to the Board recommending *Statutory Discontinuance* of the Miller Cemetery Road rather than *Statutory Abandonment*. The issue was tabled, as further discussion is needed.

Attorney Paul Dionne was appointed Personal Representative for the Alden Trull Estate and has contacted the Town to pay all back taxes and costs if the Town issues a Municipal Quit Claim Deed. Maine DHHS has a claim on the property that supercedes the Town's claim.

The issues of taking minutes and setting a standard workweek for office staff were tabled until closer to budget time.

Pam and Becky were authorized to take a day off in lieu of Veterans Day, which fell on their non-work day. The idea of granting December 24<sup>th</sup> as an *employee appreciation day* was discussed.

A Freedom of Information request from Attorney Riley Fenner, representing John Fenner and Susan Sherman, was discussed. The issue was the criteria for establishing a commercial baselot on a property and who has them. The request will be responded to. A second Freedom of Information request from Attorney Riley Fenner, representing Joel Gushee was received.

Upon request, Maine Municipal Association offered an opinion that municipal officials cannot refuse their pay, if they are legally entitled to the stipend. The Budget Committee Ordinance states "*No town official or employee receiving over \$500 per year in compensation from the Town of Appleton may be a member.*" Fred Brown, who serves on both the Budget Committee and Fire Department, wants to stay actively involved in both. Suggestions were made to either increase the minimum or take out the disqualification completely. The ordinance can be amended at a town meeting.

A question about the revocation of a homestead exemption will be referred to Assessors' Agent Rob Duplisea.

Training sponsored by Maine Municipal Association will be given at the Union Town Office on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Our office staff is expected to attend and Select Board members may be attending also.

A letter giving Office Staff authority to install necessary downloads & updates on town computers as required by the *Computer Policy* was signed.

Select Board Member Burke reported he had signed an affidavit during the week upon the request of Paralegal Chandra Pitcher stating that Back Road is a town way, rather than a private road, and is maintained in accordance with State law.

As there was no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM  
Minutes prepared by D. Burke