

Select Board Minutes: December 15, 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 Road Commissioner Curtis Starrett, Webmaster Peter Beckett, Lorie Costigan, Fred Brown, Jen Pendleton, John Fenner and Ronald Gibson.

Minutes of December 8, 2015 were accepted as corrected.

Road Commissioner:

A follow-up discussion on letting the Town of Union perform winter maintenance on the section of Rte 131 from the Union town line to the intersection of Rte 105 was held. Road Commissioner Starrett stated that to the best of his knowledge Jacob Boyington would continue to maintain this section of road also. A motion was made by Wiley and seconded by Libby to allow The Town of Union to maintain the section of Rte 131 from the Union town line to the intersection of Rte 105. Vote 3-0. The issue of salt and sand from the Town's sand shed being used on private jobs in the past by the Town's contractor was brought up by Ronald Gibson. The Board agreed that any misuse of salt and sand could be reported to the office, Select Board or brought to a Select Board meeting. Scott Wiley suggested that a list of road complaints be kept. Wiley reported that Union's public works budget is only \$65,000 more than Appleton's.

Select Board:

Draft articles for a special town meeting tentatively set for January 12, 2016 were worked on again and completed. Buddy Savage will moderate and the warrant will be signed at the next meeting. A discussion followed as to the best ways to publicize the meeting. Besides public posting of the warrant, placing on the website and the Appleton news column, it was suggested that copies of the warrant be handed out door-to-door or mailed. Mr. Beckett said he had checked with the post office and that Appleton has a bulk-mailing permit. Burke stated that he was unaware of such a permit.

Confusion over the email addresses of the Select Board members had resulted in agreement by all that access to the selectmen@tidewater.net address was sufficient. Password and instructions for accessing the email were provided to members of the Select Board.

No action was taken on the purchase of a new fireproof file cabinet for assessing records as a thorough analysis of the assessing account indicated that funds were not available in this year's budget.

Burke was given the authority to sign a four-year agreement with the Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions for the DS200 Voting User Agreement. This is not considered to be a contract as the contract is between the Secretary of State's Office and the vendor.

Burke reported that we have the grantees names for cemetery lot deeds and will get the information to an attorney for deed preparation.

Libby suggested that we look into small claims court for personal property taxes going back to 2006, beginning with a letter from the tax collector.

Burke reminded the Board that the Knox County Budget Meeting and Tri-County Solid Waste each meet Thursday night.

Wiley said he will follow-up on a FOI request made by Attorney Riley Fenner for all abatements granted by the Board going back to 2006.

Wiley reported that he had spoken with Maine Municipal Association and they said it is best if the Public Access Officer is not a selectman. Also, that the Selectmen are the bosses of Town employees. Select Board Member Scott Wiley also reported that he had also spoken with Breanna at Maine Municipal Association Legal about emails from the Town Office. The Selectmen can determine who calls MMA Legal for advice. A motion was made by Wiley and seconded by Libby that "Town employees do not contact MMA Legal for questions other than about there own duties." Voted 3-0.

A special Select Board meeting will be posted for 5:00 PM Friday, December 18th to sign municipal & school warrants.

Libby suggested that Select Board goals be determined and committees set up to work on these goals.

As there was no other business the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:20 PM.

D. Burke

