

## Select Board Minutes: February 23, 2016

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, Riley Fenner, Jen Pendleton, Lorie Costigan, Dwight Collins, Tammy Wiley & Peter Beckett.

Minutes of the February 11, 16, 18 & 22, 2016 meetings were accepted as corrected.

### **Road Commissioner:**

Discussion from last week about the use of a single rear wheel 1-ton vehicle by the winter maintenance contractor resulted in general consensus that the contractor had more vehicles (8) than required in the contract (6) that did have dual wheels and that the next time the contract goes out to bid that requirement could be more specific. The Board's position on workers comp was that the contract makes it the responsibility of the contractor. Wiley presented information on the *chip seal* process for road paving for consideration in this years' paving project. Starrett is also researching information on *chip seal*. The new driveway entrance application/permit form was approved with minor corrections. A draft email to the MDOT was approved requesting a meeting between the MDOT, Select Board & Road Commissioner to review future roadwork on RTE 131 in the village. The sample complaint form to record citizen complaints about roads, plowing & sanding or any other issues was reviewed and the question as to whether or not to accept anonymous complaints was addressed. Libby will revise the form to address that issue.

### **Select Board:**

The special meeting of the Select Board on Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 PM with Assessors' Agent Rob Duplisea resulted in two main issues: How to collect delinquent personal property taxes and whether or not to continue assessing personal property in the future. Libby has spoken with Small Claims Court about collecting through the courts.

Burke was authorized by the Board to sign the school bond application to the Maine Bond Bank for \$650,000, as the deadline for applying is February 24<sup>th</sup>. The Maine Bond Bank will hold the application until the voters decide on the issue at the March 1<sup>st</sup> special town meeting. Burke stated that he had

not stated that there would be no expected rise in taxes for residents if the bond is approved, nor made any statement as to tax impact, as reported on Village Soup on February 17<sup>th</sup>. The paragraph in question has been removed.

Burke reported that Jessica Davis has resigned from the School Board and Rachel Horn will be appointed to fill the remainder of the term until June town meeting.

Warrant # 66 was signed.

The revised Personnel Policy was presented for minor corrections with discussion as to whether or not it could be revised further after the mandatory posting for 30 days. It would have to be re-posted if any changes are made.

The current assessors' agent contract expires March 31<sup>st</sup>. The Board will review the current contract and previous newspaper advertisement so that the position can be put out to bid in March.

The Board approved an addition to the current Building/Land Use Permit Application asking the applicant if the property is currently in the Tree Growth, Farmland or Open Space programs. This change would make it easier to determine if a penalty is required for removing acreage in one of the programs. Burke said he was unaware of any parcel being removed without penalty, and could recall parcels where a penalty was assessed.

The Board authorized Burke to sign the required representation letter in connection with the Town's audit. The draft audit has been received and will be reviewed with the auditor.

There will be no Regular Select Board meeting or Town Office hours on the evening of March 1<sup>st</sup> due to the Special Town Meeting. A special Select Board meeting will be held at 6:50 PM, March 1<sup>st</sup> at the Appleton Village School to sign warrants. Burke posted the closure.

Ron Gibson said that he would have to expend funds to remove the driveway on his property, classified as duck habitat, as a result of a driveway entrance permit granted by the Town. Gibson said he would not sue the Town, but said the Town should be more careful issuing driveway entrance permits in

the future. Starrett stated that the permit granted was for the driveway entrance only, not to build the driveway. Burke indicated that his recollection was that the issue was not being pursued further by either the Town or the DEP.

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

Prepared by D. Burke