

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 3, 2012, 6:00 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members John Warshow, Chris Martin, and Helen Ducharme; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors: Rich Phillips, Will Walters (Hardwick Gazette)

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin.

Budget: The Selectboard reviewed the current draft of the budget. Bobbi notified the Board that Peoples' United Bank called to report that they overpaid the town approximately \$9,000 in interest during 2011. They will have exact figures tomorrow. This will have to be adjusted in the budget. Bobbi explained that because FEMA will reimburse the town for hours that the road crew worked and for use of town equipment, and because the road crew did not have to do as much routine road maintenance to roads that were being rebuilt, if taxes were level funded the town would have a surplus of approximately \$140,000 in 2012. The Board discussed whether to lower taxes for a one-year windfall or set the money aside in designated funds or use it for one-time projects. They decided on a combination. They will ask voters to put an additional \$25,000 in the highway equipment fund, \$10,000 in the Old Schoolhouse Common building fund, and \$10,000 in the Fire Department equipment fund. They will include \$50,000 in the highway budget for guardrails. They will raise approximately 5% less in taxes.

The Board met with the budget committee to present the draft of the budget, noting that it can't be finalized until the bank finalizes the interest. Doris suggested that all of the extra flood reimbursement should go into the highway equipment fund because the flood meant extra wear and tear on town equipment.

Cree Farm Road: Bobbi and Helen received calls from Mrs. Mucherino. She is concerned that she will lose her right of way to a buried electric line. Since the deed does not give a specific location of the right of way, John thinks they would not lose the right to access the power line. She also questioned whether proper notice was given. Bobbi sent a notice via certified mail to the address listed on the grand list and tax bill for each property owner on the road. All of the notices were signed for. Mrs. Mucherino feels that the road ends far enough from the new buildings so there won't be any zoning violations. According to the survey that she filed, the road ends before the underground power line, and it is too long to meet setbacks. The Board looked at old highway maps and the road is shown ending at the corner of the house.

The Board will follow up with Jim Colgan and tell him a mylar is needed only to show where the new end of the road will be, and to show the location of the easement for the turnaround. They will also discuss whether the location of the end of the road can be changed so it will be easier to build a turnaround.

Pellet Boiler: Rich Phillips reported that the oil burner is now working as a backup to the pellet boiler. The circulator pump does not shut down but since that wasn't in the specs, we can't hold the contractor responsible. John gave Rich the name of someone to call to troubleshoot the controls for

the pump. The Board agreed to pay the contractor the remaining balance of their contract when the state inspector approves the job. The Board authorized Rich to purchase insulation for the pipes in the building at a cost of \$1,350.

Stranahan Town Forest: The Board authorized Helen Ducharme to sign a lease for Jim Brimblecombe to tap the sugarwoods in the town forest.

Old Schoolhouse Common: The Board waived the fee for Twinfield Mentoring Program's one-time use of meeting space.

Tax Anticipation Note: The Board executed a tax anticipation note with Peoples' United Bank in the amount of \$390,000 at an interest rate of 1.75%.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll. They approved the minutes of the December 20, 2011 Selectboard Meeting. They approved a liquor license for the Marshfield Village Store.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the January 3, 2012 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
