

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 17, 2013, 6:00 p.m., Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members John Warshow, Chris Martin, and Helen Ducharme; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Librarian Susan Green; Historical Society Members Janet Nielsen, John Johnson, and Art Gilman; Road Foreman Dan Tetreault; Visitors Anh and Willa Ducharme

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair John Warshow.

Dog Complaint: The Selectboard received a complaint about a dog belonging to Dan Pearson attacking a dog belonging to Gloria Abbiati. Mr. Pearson's dog is not licensed. The Town asked Bobbi to send a letter to Mr. Pearson instructing him to provide a rabies certificate and license the dog before Friday the 20th; otherwise the dog will be impounded.

School Board: Anh Ducharme spoke with the Selectboard about her interest in serving on the Twinfield School Board. Chris moved to appoint Anh Ducharme to fill the vacancy on the School Board until Town Meeting Day.

Cemetery Funds: The Selectboard asked to have the Town's financial advisor come to a Selectboard meeting to discuss the funds.

Uniforms: The Selectboard instructed Bobbi to send a letter to Unifirst, terminating our contract.

Holm Salvage yard: Under the new state salvage yard regulations, Mr. Holm will need to apply to the Town for a conditional use permit.

Duke Ordinance Violation: John moved to authorize the Town Attorney to file a complaint about the storage of garbage and abandoned vehicles in violation of Civil Ordinance #1. Chris seconded – all in favor.

Historical Society/Library Collaboration: The Selectboard, the Librarian, and members of the Historical Society discussed the potential collaboration between the Library and the Historical Society. An anonymous donor has offered to pay for display cases to house historical exhibits. John Johnson detailed three options – the Historical Society could stay where it is, but this is not ideal because the space is below grade and in danger of flooding. The Historical Society could move into the bigger space, recently vacated by Headstart. This space has the disadvantage of being a more expensive space to rent. The third option is for the Historical Society to move into the Library Annex, and the Library would move into the former Headstart space, because it is larger and would be better for Library programs which are sometimes standing room only. Susan Green stated that the Library Trustees are not comfortable giving up the Annex due to the fundraising and community efforts that went into the expansion. The Library doesn't have the resources to contribute financially, but they could offer access to and oversight of the space during library hours. They would prefer to have the Historical Society move into the former Headstart space.

John Warshow explained that the Selectboard looked at the spaces, and they feel that the best option

would be for the Historical Society to move into the former Headstart space, and a wall could be built to divide the room into a storage area and an exhibit area. Chris stated that the voters could be asked at Town Meeting whether they would support an increased appropriation to the Historical Society in order to have the permanent exhibit area. The current Historical Society lease will be extended for three months until after Town Meeting. Arthur Gilman suggested that the Town may want to consider a longer-term proposal to create a more integrated cultural center.

The voters will be asked at Town Meeting whether they want to explore these options.

Highway Equipment: Dan informed the Selectboard that the 2009 dump truck has been down again. He had to plow on Sunday with the pickup. The 2009 truck is still under warranty but it has not been as reliable as the 2007. The Board reviewed quotes from Clark's (International), Charlebois (Freightliner), and Sheldon (Mack). The Board asked Bobbi to do a spreadsheet to compare the prices. The Board and Dan discussed whether it would be better to purchase a 6-wheeler or a 10-wheeler.

Budgets: The Selectboard discussed budgets. The budget is up less than 1%, but taxes will increase significantly because of lower income this year (no more FEMA reimbursements), and a lower surplus that can be applied to next year.

Subdivision Regulations: The Board approved the proposed changes to the regulations. The Board will hold a hearing on January 7th.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll. They approved the minutes of the December 3rd meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the December 17, 2013 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
