

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

August 17, 2010

PRESENT: Dennis Abbott, Gordon Littlefield, TammyJo Girard, David Woodsome, Jon Gale, Nancy Brandt, Dave Lowe, Jack Seery, Jerry Daigle, Lisa Faith, Roger Lauzier, Rep. Wagner, Clint Andrews, Nancy Roberge, Fred Fay, Tom Ursia, Frank Allen, Doug Foglio, Sr., and Ron Perro.

Motion by Selectman Woodsome and seconded by Selectman Gale to go into Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A) for a personnel matter at 5:35 p.m. Voted. Passed. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Gale to come out of Executive Session at 5:53 p.m. Voted. Passed.

Meeting opened by Selectman Girard at 6:00 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

Jerry addressed the board regarding setting the tax rate. Reported that the total valuation for this year is \$746,015,650 which is about \$9 million more than last year. The total tax commitment raised at town meeting is \$10,938,115 which includes County Tax of \$388,220 and R.S.U. #57 of \$6,737,789. Revenue Sharing of \$313,588 and additional revenue of \$2,104,580. Reported that the Homestead Exemption was reduced this year and taxpayers will pay \$40 to \$50 more. Listed the three options as follows: \$11.60 which generates \$8,758,894 with an overlay of \$239,037; \$11.70 which generates \$8,834,492 with overlay of \$314,545.75 or \$11.80 which generates \$8,910,001.23 with overlay of \$390,054.23. Proposed that tax bills be mailed September 10th with first half due October 6th and second half due April 6, 2011 with a late interest fee of 7% which is set by the state.

Tom gave an update on Safe Routes to School. Reported that we submitted an application a month ago, a week and half ago the project engineer from Scarborough, Kyle Hall and Dan Stewart, Chief Architect for Safe Routes program visited. Expressed high encouragement and recommended we expand the application. The current application is 2,400 linear ft. and would like to add 1,200 linear ft for a total of 3,650 linear ft. The current application is for \$237,000 with a match of \$57,000 the change would increase the total to approximately \$340,000. Stated that he hopes the Selectmen will endorse the amendment as he has to get it back to the state within the next week. The grant will be minus 20% which would be the match. Discussed mitigating any impact between the project and the one proposed by the Road Review Committee to help with drainage on Hemlock and Oak. Explained that the Screening Committee starts within the next month.

Road Review Committee represented by Doug explained that they have three quotes on the materials for the project on Oak and Hemlock. Stated that the prices came in very competitively and recommended going with 18" pipe. Requested that they issue a Purchase Order so they can purchase the materials. Explained the project in detail. Fred stated that he is meeting with FEMA on the 23rd and hopefully can get some help.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Reported that the prebid meeting for the work at the Transfer Station will be held on Monday the 23rd at 9 am. Bid Specs have been revamped and are being prepared with specs and will be available at the prebid meeting at a cost of \$20 per set. If a contractor does not attend the prebid meeting they will not be allowed to bid.
2. Reminder that nomination papers for Charter Commission are available and the deadline to turn them in is September 21st. Have been asked what happens if no one takes out papers and it would be the top six who get write in votes.

3. Southern Maine Regional Planning sent out a notice of another one of their cooperative purchases. Have started looking into green energy commodities and another commodity they will be looking at is fireworks. They have a form they want filled out and sent back to see if there is any savings.
4. Tax Club sign-up is ending on September st when the commitment is completed.
5. Prepared a to do list for the Selectmen to look over and based it on the June 11th Town Meeting.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

1. Reported that Selectmen Gale, Woodsome and Girard attended the 12 Town Group Meeting with guest speakers Senators Courtney and Nass. Was a continuation of a meeting in June making sure there is a connect between municipalities and Augusta. Talked about the biennial budget and that they are looking at a potential \$1 billion shortfall. Nancy suggested sending a letter to the Senator's asking for regular reports.
2. Selectman Girard reported that she met with Jack Seery of the Friends of Waterboro Public Library last week regarding the list of questions submitted by Pam L'Heureux. Will hold off until September 7th so they can get the engineer to attend to address the water questions.

COMMITTEE REPORT – R.S.U. #57

Lisa reported that there is not a lot going on right now because of summer break. There has been some hiring over the summer because some staff moved on to other positions. The board begins it's regular meetings August 25th, at that time there will be a business meeting to choose which committees they are on as well as a board meeting then will begin meeting the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. Will go back to moving meetings around to include all seven schools within the district. Opening day for teachers will be the 25th and for students the 31st. Reported that LD551 will be to look at our EPS formula and hopefully be realigned. Discussed how our current alignment impacts us. Selectman Woodsome questioned the water situation at the elementary school and invited one of the board members to the September 20th meeting of the Transfer Station Committee to discuss recycling at the schools. Rep. Wagner reported that the mid-year curtailment is now remote. LD551 is still just in basic discussion stage and is only how to explain EPS funding. LD1686 is to see whether or not non-state mandated deb service should be pulled out of EPS. If so this would mean about \$200,000 to R.S.U. 57 but this is also in the discussion stage. Stated that Maine Revenue Service should include short sales and foreclosures in calculating valuations. Reported that he met with the Superintendent and Steve Levy of Maine Rural Water a couple weeks ago regarding the water situation at the elementary school and felt there may be some USDA funds to help offset at least part of the cost and debt service on that would be less than what they are spending to purchase water. Discussed problems with Maine State Retirement. Selectman Littlefield thanked Lisa for her report and she requested that if they have specific questions for her that they email her through the school web-site a week in advance and she will come prepared with the information.

Nancy reminded that the winter drawdown begins October 1st and she has contacted Charlie Brown to look at the gates as the water is low enough to see. This is also the year they draw down further. Can hopefully get the gates repaired.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Selectman Girard explained that Nancy provided them with the percentage of taxes collected over the past seven years as follows: Last two years 94%, 2007 & 2008 – 98%, 2006 – 97%, 2005 – 93% and 2004 – 97%. 2009 & 2010 the amounts lacking were substantial, \$520,000 amnd \$458,000 so this needs to be considered when looking at what we want to do with overlay. Abatements – Last year \$26,000, 2009 - \$15,000, 2008 - \$70,000 which was also the first year with the new valuation, 2006 - \$36,000 and 2005 - \$6,000. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to set the tax rate at \$11.70. Selectman Littlefield questioned

what the overlay has been, last year \$336,000. Selectman Woodsome stated that he won't support going up \$1.10 per 1,000. Selectman Girard explained that they took all this into consideration during the budget process and there was a significant increase in the school budget and an increase in County Tax. Nancy noted that Sharon will be recording 250 liens tomorrow. Jerry explained how the state figures the valuation. Selectman Girard stated that this was anticipated during the budget process. Vote 4-1-0 with Selectman Woodsome opposed.

2. Discussed the amendment to the Safe Routes to School grant and questioned if they could do over two fiscal years. Motion by Selectman Abbott and seconded by Selectman Littlefield that they approve the amendment and give Tom the authority to amend the grant submission for the additional 1,200 ft. Vote 5-0-0.
3. Motion by Selectman Abbott and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to approve the Mitigation Plan as presented. Vote 5-0-0.
4. Discussed the workshop with the Planning Board regarding the Medical Marijuana Dispensary Moratorium and Selectman Gale noted that there have been some very informative articles in the Press Herald on this topic. Selectman Littlefield stated that there was also a good article in the Maine Townsman this month. Selectman Girard noted that if you look on the internet there is not a lot of information on this subject yet.
5. Selectman Girard explained what the Charter Commission is, what they will do and that it is a one year term.
6. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Woodsome to set the Public Hearing for August 31st at 6 pm by Executive Session Per 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A) to deal with the Town Clerk. Vote 5-0-0.
7. Reviewed the new committee reporting schedule and agreed to start in September.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Woodsome to proceed with the Transfer Station Ordinance amendment. Vote 5-0-0.

OTHER

1. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Gale to sign the warrants for bills and payroll. Vote 5-0-0.
2. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to accept the minutes of 7/27/10 as written. Vote 5-0-0. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Abbot to accept the minutes of 8/3/10 as written. Vote 3-2-0 with Selectmen Gale and Girard abstaining. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Woodsome to accept the minutes of 8/10/10 as written. Vote 4-1-0 with Selectman Gale abstaining.
3. Selectman Girard read the reminders.

Agenda

1. Discuss D & E
2. Public Hearings for Special Amusement and One Day Liquor License for the Friends of the Waterboro Public Library
3. Purchase Order Policy

SIGNED:

1. Warrants for bills & payroll
2. Minutes of 7/27/10, 8/3/10 & 8/10/10

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Woodsome to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.

APPROVED:

Date: _____
