

Selectmen Meeting

Monday, February 3, 2014

Present: Chairman Darcy; Selectmen Ebbighausen; Gallagher; Rideout; and TA Collins. Selectman Morel was absent.

6:00 p.m. Chairman Darcy called the meeting to order.

Selectmen reviewed the Manifest and Meeting Minutes.

Selectman Ebbighausen made a motion to approve the Selectmen Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2014, Public and Non-Public, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Ebbighausen made a motion to approve Manifest of February 3, 2014, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Ebbighausen made a motion to approve water abatement in the amount of \$41.14, for 4th quarter 2013, property owner Beverly Bernier, property located at 532 Plain Road, right of way for the well, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to approve tax abatement in the amount of \$1,318.34, for 3rd and 4th quarter 2013, property owner Gary C. and Ceclia Hilliard, property located at 14 Streeter Lane, During cyclical an addition was picked up incorrectly. Build permit issued 4/29/13. Home has to be taxed as it stands 4/1/13 and addition will be picked up in the spring of 2014. . Selectman Ebbighausen second. Motion passes.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to approve collection of Sewer Rents for 4th quarter 2013, in the amount of \$79,406.01 and Water Rents for the 4th quarter 2013, in the amount of \$116,664.99, with interest at 12% per annum from March 3, 2014 thereafter on all amounts not paid on or before that day, Selectman Ebbighausen second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Ebbighausen made a motion to approve Veteran's Property Tax Credit/Exemption #02032014-1 and #02032014-2, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to sign Petition and Pole Licenses for property located at 35/37 Oxbow Road, Selectman Ebbighausen second. Motion passes unanimously.

TA Collins informed the Selectmen that a bid was received for the granite stored at the landfill in the amount of \$750.00. The pricing of granite will be checked to make sure this is a fair bid.

The Selectmen discussed Warrant Articles that were tabled from last week's meeting.

Discussion regarding Warrant Article 7; leasing or purchase of a backhoe for use by the Water Department and Highway Department. Dennis Nadeau, Water and Sewer Superintendent joined the

Selectmen for the discussion. Mr. Nadeau favors leasing of the 2014 John Deere backhoe, more durable and heavy duty. Mr. Nadeau explained the difference between the New Holland model and the John Deere model. He feels the John Deere model is tougher and better quality and retain its worth. Discussion regarding if an expendable trust was possible for this equipment. The money for this equipment would be ½ from the General Fund and ½ from the Water and Sewer Department fund. Discussion regarding the use of the lease option keeps the tax rate more stable.

Selectman Ebbighausen made a motion to have the lease option in Article 7, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Discussion regarding Article 11, raising and appropriate the sum of \$60,000.00 to be added to the Highway Capital Equipment Fund previously established. Discussion regarding leasing took place, which would help keep the tax rate stable.

Selectman Ebbighausen made a motion to remove Article 11, in favor of leasing, Selectman Rideout second. Chairman Darcy voted No. Motion passes III to I.

Selectman Rideout discussed his meeting with the Recreation Committee. Invite Recreation Committee to Selectmen's meeting to review the job description for the Recreation Department.

6:30 p.m. Chairman Darcy opened Public Meeting.

7:03 p.m. Selectmen returned to regular session.

The Selectmen revisit Warrant Article 16; raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,500.00 for the purpose of continuing transit service from Brattleboro to Hinsdale along the Route 119 Corridor.

Randy Shumaker from Deerfield Valley Transit and JB Mack from SWRPC joined the Selectmen for discussion. Information was given to the Selectmen for review regarding the bus route and charts were provided from 7/1/13 to 1/19/14 regarding usages of the bus services. Mr. Shumaker apologized for the poor management of the services to the town and informed the Selectmen that bus routes would be made available to the public in the form of a pamphlet, which would be available on the bus and distributed to local business, along with getting bus stop signs out with the route information also available at the stops. Mr. Shumaker will also be working on a marketing plan for the bus services. The bus service is helpful to those who do not have transportation to a doctor appointment, to the train station, to get to work or to go grocery shopping.

The funds for this service are the same as last year, \$15,500.00

JB Mack discussed how the local population is an ageing population and a lot of the residence do not drive, who get a lot of use from this service. Bill Butynski, mentioned he was in favor of this service and thinks it's essential to have this Warrant Article back on the ballot.

Selectman Ebbighausen made a motion to re-instate Warrant Article 16, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

Discussion took place regarding Warrant Article 14; to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,000.00 for the purpose of resurfacing the tennis courts and possibly removing. It was discussion researching grants and non-profits organizations to assist with resurfacing the tennis courts and the basketball courts, along with the possibility of fund raising to assist.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to remove Warrant Article #14, for further investigation of funding can take place for Heritage Park, Selectman Ebbighausen second. Motion passes unanimously.

7:32 p.m. Selectman Ebbighausen made a motion to go into Non-Public meeting, per RSA 91, A; 3-II (a), Hiring, Selectman Gallagher second. Vote was as follows: Chairman Darcy – I; Selectman Ebbighausen – I, Selectman Gallagher – I; Rideout – I. Motion passed.

7:40 p.m. Selectman Gallagher made a motion to come out of Non-Public Meeting, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Gallagher made a motion to seal the Non-Public Meeting Minutes, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Gallagher made a motion to hire Jennifer Domingue as assist Director of the Hinsdale Community Center, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

7:40 p.m. Selectman Gallagher made a motion to go into Non-Public meeting, per RSA 91, A; 3-II (c), Litigation, Selectman Ebbighausen second. Vote was as follows: Chairman Darcy – I; Selectman Ebbighausen – I, Selectman Gallagher – I; Rideout – I. Motion passed.

7:45 p.m. Selectman Rideout made a motion to come out of Non-Public Meeting, Selectman Ebbighausen second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to seal the Non-Public Meeting Minutes, Selectman Ebbighausen second. Motion passes unanimously

7:45 p.m. Selectman Rideout made a motion to adjourn, second by Ebbighausen. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alicia Marshall
Secretary