

Selectmen/Assessor's Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2016

Board Present: Greg Grotton, Lyle Cramer, Elmer Savage, Jim Justice and John Shepard.

Also Present: Jay Feyler, Doris Vertz, Orrin Parker, Jesse Thompson, Myrna Soule and Mary Jane West

1. **Call Selectmen's Meeting to Order:** by Chair at 6:30PM.

Board moved to Item #3.

3. **Sign School Referendum Warrant:**

Jay noted this is costing us money to have the Special Election and he's not real happy with The School Board Members for doing this when they could have had this in June. Originally the excuse was they had to have everything done by July 2016. Marcy read the entire Contract and noticed the date, July 2017. We made that known to the Business Manager over there and they decided they were still going to do it by July 2016. It will probably cost several thousand dollars for the District to have a meeting where we are going to have Probably 30 people come in to Vote in April. It's a good deal, a Bond Issue with zero % Interest and part of the Loan is forgiven. If the Board doesn't sign it Jay has no idea what will happen. He doesn't think there is a need to do it now when they could do it in June. Jay wrote to all three School Representatives noting his displeasure and not one of them has replied. Lyle asks what would happen if we tabled this until some of those people came to speak to us. Jay said they don't have enough time there is a deadline to get this signed get the notice out 30 days before the Meeting. We don't really have a choice. You're going to get the wrong end of the stick. If they do it without the Bond without the 0% interest they're going to do it anyway they are going to pay a higher interest rate and we're all going to pay it in tax dollars. Jay doesn't know if a Town has ever refused to sign one. They certainly can't hold it if the Town doesn't sign it. This all came through the Business Manager and as usual everything is the last minute with the Business Manager. Everything is the last minute with mistakes galore. Lyle said it's pretty stupid to spend thousands of dollars to do something now. Jay added we already have the School Referendum in June all they had to do was add one more line or one more question and off you go. They are trying to twist it to say it has to be done now or you're going to lose it all. Nothing has that short of a deadline.

All the Towns in SAD 40 have to have this meeting. Greg said let's call their bluff. Jim motioned that we refuse to sign it. Seconded John Shepard. Lyle amended the motion to not approve it due to lack of information and a short time frame to discuss it. Chair asks for vote. Three for. (Grotton, Justice and Cramer). Two against. (Savage and Shepard). Greg asked Jay to call someone at the School tell them we took a vote tonight and unless they get off their duff and come down here immediately if not sooner to fill us in on what's going on we will Let it stand as is. Jay is sure Steve Miller would come. As Lyle said they're going to do what they want when they want.

2. Fund Balance Discussion: Jay provided the Board with the Policy the Board had approved. The balance should be in the 20-25% range. We are at the end of that right now. Its Jays and The Treasurer's job to suggest to the Board a recommendation to get that level back up. When Jay started here our Fund Balance was (we were borrowing money twice a year) \$499,000. It was up to \$1.18 million in 2013 and then we had the Salt/Sand Shed and the two Overdrafts in Public Works which brought it back down to \$893,000. Undesignated Fund Balance includes all unpaid Taxes so you don't have that much cash. Jay would like to see the Town on a higher level, million dollar level which really helps the cash flow. What may save us this year is we have the Bond funds in the Bank. Lyle said we should have at least three to four months revenue to carry the full operation of the Town. Elmer noted we do Fund our Reserve Accounts very well. Jay noted this is a Policy not an Ordinance so the Board can change it anytime. Lyle noted we need to work on significant steps to get there not necessarily all in one year. Greg suggested we will look at it again next year. Going back to Item #3 Lyle would like to know when Jay calls the School tomorrow to ask what would have happened if we had not had the Special Meeting.

3. Sign School Referendum Warrant: discussed above.

4. Budget Deliberations:

Cemeteries:

Changes:

Mowing Contract is up this year \$2400.00.

Lakeview Cemetery repair roads with reclaim. \$3500.00.

Motion James Justice to approve Cemetery Budget. Seconded Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.

Fire:

Changes.

Turnout Gear; one set \$1200.00.

Dry Hydrants on upper end of Clarry Hill Rd.

Motion James Justice to approve Fire Department Budget. Seconded John Shepard.

Unanimous.

Public Works:

Changes:

Uniform Rentals \$1480.00 actually spent, asking for \$1,500.00.

Labor: 3.5% up.

Roadside Mowing: \$4300.00.

Backhoe: \$1,000 increase for sandblasting and painting.

Motion Lyle Cramer to approve Public Works Budget. Seconded John Shepard. Unanimous.

Workers Comp: no change.

Codes: no change.

Motion John Shepard to approve Workers Comp and Codes. Seconded James Justice.

Unanimous.

Animal Control: no change. Motion James Justice to approve Animal Control. Seconded Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.

Hydrant Rentals: same. Motion James Justice to approve Hydrant Rentals. Seconded John Shepard. Unanimous.

General Assistance: same. Motion James Justice to approve General Assistance. Seconded Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.

Union Assistance: \$2500 so far this year. Motion James Justice to approve Union Assistance. Seconded Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.

SAD #40: Have no idea what the amount will be.

Parks and Rec.: same. Motion James Justice to approve Parks and Rec. Seconded Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.

County Tax: Motion James Justice to approve County Tax. Seconded Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.

Founders Day: same as last year.

Outside Agencies: same.

Budget Committee: we have three vacancies.

Reserve Accts: bridge reserve increase \$5000. All other Reserve Accts. same.

Overlay: based on Town Commitment.

Dispatch: Up. \$589 to \$594.

Motion James Justice to approve the above six budgets. Seconded Lyle Cramer. Unanimous.

Retirement: Up 1.2%.

Common Maintenance: same.

Emergency Maintenance: no change.

Motion James Justice to approve the above three budgets. Seconded John Shepard.

Unanimous.

5. **Adjourn:** Motion Jim Justice to adjourn at 8:20PM. Seconded John Shepard. Unanimous.

These minutes were approved on March 15, 2016 with the following amendments.