

Town of Union – Board of Selectmen Meeting

April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Call to order:** 6:32 p.m.

**Board Members Present:** Greg Grotton, Jim Justice, John Shepard, Sarah Drickey

**Others Present:** Jay Feyler

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Public Comment:**

**Approve minutes of March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017:**

Motion by: Jim Justice

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Sarah Drickey

4-0

**Discussion and vote to sell Tax Acquired Property back to the original owner:**

Motion by: Jim Justice to sell Map lot #004011002 back to original owner

2<sup>nd</sup> by: John Shepard

4-0

**Discussion and vote on proposed warrant articles:**

Jay explained that the I.C. Thurston account is a dedicated trust fund. The Will states that it can only be spent on the worthy poor and that the money that has not been expended within two years should go to the benefit of the school. In past years, the town has used the I.C. Thurston fund to offset school taxes and to fund the general assistance account and the Union assistance account.

To date, there is \$93,000.00 in the account. The board needs to decide how to disperse the money. Jay made suggestion for the funds to go towards The Come Spring Food Bank, Elderly housing repairs, and to offset taxes this year on the school budget.

Greg asked how the funds would be dispersed for the elderly housing repairs; Jay stated that a fund would be setup at the Machias Savings Bank for the elderly housing to get established. Jim asked if this would be a reserve fund? Jay clarified yes, although, it would have to be used within a year.

Motion made by: Jim Justice to donate 10,000 to the local food bank, 20,000 for elderly housing, and 34,000 to offset the school taxes

2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah Drickey

Discussion: John asked for further clarification about how the money in the I. C. Thurston fund was meant to be allocated. Jay stated that the town receives the money every year, and can only hold two years' worth of funds according to the Will. Greg suggested establishing another elderly account after the first account is dispersed.

4-0

**Official recorded votes on budget articles:**

Greg asked about proper protocol for budget approval and confirmed with Jay that the warrant articles have been drafted and set up with the results from the Boards budget meetings. A preliminary approval of the budgets pending future changes. Greg also stated, upon reviewing the budget, he feels there is nothing that needs to be revisited now. Official vote of the warrant will be May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.

Motion by: Jim Justice to approve warrants as voted on when budget was discussed

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Sarah Drickey

Discussion: John referred to article 26; asked about final expenses for the animal control officer. Jay will have final figures at the June town meeting.

5-0 (proxy vote for Lyle Cramer)

**Sign Treasurer's Warrant dated April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017:**

Motion by: Jim Justice

2<sup>nd</sup> by: John Shepard

Discussion: Greg inquired about cell phones for ambulance, public works, ACO and EMA; asking if the ambulance director is also the EMA director. Jay clarified that would be the fire chief who is required to have a separate EMA phone.

5-0 (Proxy vote for Lyle Cramer)

**Town Managers report:**

**Other business:**

Jay announced that May 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> is Municipal Clerks Week; which he presented a copy sample of the proclamation to each of the Board members.

Motion by: Jim Justice to declare May 7<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> Municipal Clerks Week

2<sup>nd</sup> Sarah

4-0

**Assessors return for the county tax:**

Jay received an amount of \$228, 838.65

Motion by: Jim Justice to sign tax rate for the coming year

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Sarah Drickey

4-0

**Selectman's Report:**

**Future agenda items:**

Motion by: Jim Justice to adjourn

2<sup>nd</sup> by: John Shepard

4-0

Adjourn at 7:58 p.m.