

TOWN OF JEFFERSON  
SELECT BOARD  
January 8, 2018

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Jefferson was held at the Selectmen Office Monday January 8, 2018 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Tom Brady, Chair; Cindy Silver and Kevin Meehan, members comprising a quorum of the Board.

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Cushman, Assistant to Selectmen; Terri Larcomb, Treasurer; Mark Dubois, Highway Foreman; Jimmy Maurice

Tom Brady opened the regular meeting at 7:07 pm. The Highway and Transfer Station report was reviewed. The Treasurer was in to sign checks and pickup signed warrants.

Cindy Silver made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 2, 2018 Select Board meeting as presented. Kevin Meehan seconded the motion. The motion carries.

The accounts payable and payroll warrants were signed.

Bills were approved for payment January 15, 2018.

Abatements for seven camper trailers were signed totaling \$1554.00.

Mark Dubois reported that it has been a busy past week. The International is finally running. The egr cooler was an issue and a censor in the turbo. The burn off is supposed to work as the truck is running.

Mark said that in hindsight he should have contacted Mike Gray when the International first went down.

Mark was asked if there was a plan in place should there be an issue with the equipment in the future. Yes, Mike Gray is a backup, Burt Gilbert has a truck he will rent the Town. The Chair asked that in the future should there be a brake down that the office be contacted immediately so they could contact the Board to keep everyone in the loop.

It was asked when a new truck was to be purchased. It is scheduled for 2019. Mark said that he would prefer a 10-wheeler. This would make a better all around work vehicle. It was also suggested to look into leasing a truck instead of purchasing. With all the electronic issues with a new vehicle it may be less of an expense in the long run.

Mark said that with the school bus schedule it is hard to keep ahead of the bus. They do the roads according to the bus route. With two trucks it takes about 5-hours to do the all the roads. The Dodge is used to do mostly the small roads.

Mark was asked if a plow blade can be put on the front of the grader. Yes, however it doesn't do much good because of the length of the grader. The wing and belly blade do just as much work and they are able to cut the ice on the road.

The Chair stated that on behalf of the Board he wanted to thank the highway crew for the work they have done this past week.

Jimmy Maurice was in to update the Board on his findings regarding Spectrum Corp. He said that from his research it appears that Spectrum is worse to deal with than Time Warner. He reported that there is a federal law that allows for a 5% franchise fee to be paid to the Town and that it is illegal to charge customers to recover this fee. There was a law suit brought by Fairfield, Maine regarding Spectrum not wanting to pay the franchise fee. Fairfield won the case. There is a law that states that it is illegal to benefit with no return "unjust enrichment". New Hampshire's laws are vag.

Mr. Maurice stated that in his research he has found contracts for other cable providers that are actual contracts done by a professional knowledgeable in the field. Spectrum's contract is just a generic contract. Mr. Maurice would recommend a ten-year contract with give and take in the first five years and the last years expect the franchise fees to be paid.

Mr. Maurice said that he had found that in Temple, NH there was a 3-mile route that did not have service. After the residents called every day they finally were able to get service. It was their constant contact that got them service.

Mr. Maurice said that he has more information to collect, and when he has this information he will come back to the Board with some recommendations.

The assessing contract from Trumbull & Associates was reviewed. It covers the same services as last year at a cost of \$900 a month. The Chair asked that Mr. Trumbull come into the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting to answer any questions the Board may have.

As Tom Brady and Kevin Meehan will not be available to attend the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting the meeting will be cancelled.

The purposed budget for 2018 was presented for the Boards review. The budget was reviewed and will be discussed further at the next meeting. Linda was asked to calculate a 2.2% payroll increase for current employees.

As for the warrant articles for the capital reserve funds and the expendable trust fund will stay the same except the fire department equipment CRF will increase to \$5000.

An article in the amount of \$10,000 will be to extend the roof at the transfer station.

Linda was asked to figure what the surplus is for the year ending 2017. Also check with Chris Milligan to see what his priority is for cemetery work this year.

The next meeting will be January 22, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Cindy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kevin seconded the motion. Motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Cushman