

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

October 21, 2008

Selectmen in attendance: Judith L. Churchard and Jason A. Cole

The meeting was brought to order by Selectperson Churchard at 6:00 pm at the Lebanon Elementary School.

Selectperson Churchard answered questions that were not answered at the first meeting on 9/29/08.

- Change the tax rate?
Selectperson Churchard and Laura Bragg, Town Clerk, checked into this and found that once the commitment has been signed, it cannot be changed. The tax rate was set based on warrant articles that passed on referendum questions for the budget.
It was suggested that residents attend Budget Committee meetings and the yearly Town Meeting so they can ask questions and have them answered before voting.
- Public Access TV?
Steve Endsley, Tech Support, addressed this question and suggested two options:
 1. The website company (Virtual Town Hall) we use has a company in Georgia that runs video on the internet. The cost would be \$175-\$300 per month and the meetings could be recorded at a person's home.
 2. Metrocast which is our current internet company has a revision that allows us to go to public access. The access would be free, but the fee to set-up cameras, etc. would be approximately \$10,000 plus a monthly fee. This may be negotiable. A contract representative will contact Steve Endsley about the cost.
- The Hebo Hybo Road logging project is complete. The town was paid \$13,000 more than the original contract stated due to increased prices for wood.

Original contract	\$25,620.00
Amount received	\$38,725.00

Other questions:

Clif Walters – Was the town budget set-up with monies to heat town buildings? Are the costs projected? Selectperson Churchard said the projections were based on last year's costs and because the Town Office is new, she doesn't know what it will cost to heat it this year.

Chris Gilpatrick – Asked why the auditor wasn't at the meeting to answer questions on the Budget Committee book? Selectperson Churchard told Chris the auditor came to the office on 10/8 and she informed him of that.

Karen Gerrish – Have the Selectmen had a chance to look at property tax bill that was questioned? The bill in question was actually a personal property tax bill and has been resolved.

Donald Hollenbeck – Lives on River Road in the area called the “dirty dozen”. He said his assessment was the same as his neighbor’s last year and this year is more while his neighbor has made improvements to his home. Mr. Hollenbeck asked for abatement but was denied. Selectperson Churchard explained that the assessments are drive-by and the Selectmen assess new construction based on building permits received that year. This she said is another example why the town needs a professional assessor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Regularly scheduled Selectmen’s Meeting at Town Office:

The meeting was opened at 6:55 pm.

General Assistance Maximums: The Selectmen were asked to adopt and sign the General Assistance Maximums for 2008-2009. The public attending the meeting were asked if they had any questions. No questions were asked. Selectperson Churchard made a motion to adopt the General Assistance Ordinance and Appendices for 2008-2009; Selectman Cole seconded and all were in favor.

Laura Bragg – Town Clerk: Came before the Selectmen to have three appointments signed.

Travis Bragg	Deputy Clerk
Rick St. Cyr	Fire Department
Mark Eddows	Fire Department

Discussion:

- Joann Mooney from MEMA wants to meet with the Selectmen about mitigation grants on Thursday, 10/23 at 10:00 am.
- Selectperson Churchard asked Selectman Cole if he was working on getting an estimate to repair the Blaisdell Corner building. Selectman Cole talked to two people who were not interested and one person who may take a look at it. He will follow-up.
- Information for FEMA for the August 2008 storm will be picked up on Tuesday, 10/28.
- Parking Lot Striping – Selectmen Cole and Frizzell discussed this and said it will go out for bid.
- Per Ron Looman, MEMA, shoulders on the roads can be done.
- Christine Torno called Phil Martin about the sign for the Town Office and has not received a reply.
- Ken Johnson gave the Selectmen a price of around \$295.00 for a bronze plaque for the memorial bench.

Selectperson Churchard made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:19 pm. The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 7:24 pm.

Bob Robinson: Came before the Selectmen with several issues.

- Feels that logging should go out for bid.
- Asked if the website was being updated. Steve Endsley said it is and should be up and running in 30 days.

Sarah Shapleigh: Came before the Selectmen with several issues.

- A CMP pole was put up at the edge of her property and the trees that were knocked down on her property are still there and CMP won't clean it up. The Selectmen will ask Ray Davis to look at this situation.
- Two culverts on the road in front of her barn are crushed and need to be replaced. Ray Davis will go look at this.
- Asked if there was a way to trace elderly and house bound people who may need help this winter. Selectman Cole said the Rescue Dept. checks on people provided they have the information from a family member or someone else who might know the person. Will ask Steve Endsley to post something on the town website about neighbors helping neighbors.
- Questioned the confidentiality in the Town Office. Ms. Shapleigh feels there is an issue in the office.

Victoria Savary: Came before the Selectmen with several questions.

- Asked about the old town office and she was told it is for sale.
- Ms. Savary would like to be notified about the auction in the Spring. This will be advertised.
- Asked the Selectmen if they were able to find a way to spend the FEMA money. Selectperson Churchard said approximately \$180,000.00 will have to be paid back.

Selectperson Churchard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm; Selectman Cole seconded and all were in favor.