

TOWN OF WOODFORD, VT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
December 17, 2014 Unapproved

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ryan Thurber, Steve Wright, Mike Charette

ALSO PRESENT: Betty Charette, Gail Rutkowski (treasurer), Susan Wright, (clerk).

Ryan called the meeting to order at 7pm.

1. GENERAL PUBLIC

Betty suggested that perhaps the delinquent tax collector position should go for a public vote to change from a fee compensated salary to a straight salary position. She noted that Bennington uses the delinquent tax fees as part of their revenue; however this is currently a concern for them as it would be for Woodford. Since there was a concern about discrepancies in the past this would be alleviate and make it easier for an auditor. Ryan stated that leaving it as it is would generate more incentive to collect back taxes. If the salary was not enough then it would be very difficult to fill the position.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Ryan to approve the minutes with attachments as written. Mike 2nd, All in favor, Motion Carried.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Warrants

Gail presented the warrants to the board.

Motion by Ryan to approve the state education property tax for \$21,584.00 (attached) from the general account, 2nd by Steve. All in favor, Motion Carried.

Motion by Ryan to approve payroll for \$3290.53(PR-12 attached), 2nd by Steve. All in favor, Motion Carried.

Motion by Ryan to approve general account payables for \$5618.06 (attached), 2nd by Mike. All in favor, Motion Carried.

B. Unpaid bills

Gail presented to the board the unpaid bills for the amount of \$9852.05 (attached).

Motion by Ryan to approve the bills for Chelsea Trucking, Mance Engineering and Ford Miller for the hazard mitigation buy outs. Chelsea Trucking was for the demolition and clean up,

Mance Engineering was for the property survey and Ford Miller was for the lot bumper which was paid for by Steve Wright and needed to be reimbursed for \$353.10. Mike 2nd, Steve abstained. All in favor, Motion Carried.

Motion by Ryan to approve the total of unpaid bills for \$9852.05(attached), Mike 2nd. All in favor, Motion Carried.

Motion by Steve to approve the BCA for \$132.60 for the abatement meeting. 2nd by Mike, Ryan abstained. All in favor, Motion Carried.

Steve withdrew his motion for the BCA amount since this amount is included in the total of unpaid bills.

4. BUDGET SESSION

Ryan asked Gail for further clarification as to whether she would need continued help from NEMRC. Currently the town has a \$7000 contract with NEMRC to assist with the treasurer's duties. Gail answered that she did not feel that she needed them continuously but knew she could call them if she needed their help.

Extensive review and discussion of the proposed 2015 budget followed. The board found discrepancies in the 2013 figures and some totals were in the negative. Gail felt as though these could possibly be typo errors and would research them for the next meeting. It was also noted that there seemed to be a duplication of the 2011 actuals that were placed in the 2012 actual column. The board decided to continue reviewing and adjusting the 2015 budget and seek clarification on the discrepancies. After discussion and review the board revised the 2015 budget as they deemed necessary to fit the town's needs. Gail confirmed with the board that she had access to the budget program and NEMRC will be here on Jan 2 to help her close out the year. She will make the agreed upon changes and present a revised proposed budget at the next meeting. She also stated that she will research discrepancies previously discussed by the board.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Ryan informed the board that the town has picked up a dog. The dog is a Norwegian elkhound. It's been posted on the list serve and the Benn Banner along with notifying law enforcement. Hopefully the owner can be found since the dog definitely seems to be someone's pet.

Motion by Ryan to adjourn, 2nd by Mike All in favor, Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:55pm - NEXT MEETING JANUARY 21, 2015 at 7 pm.

Susan Wright - Clerk