

TOWN OF WOODFORD, VT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

November 19, 2014 Unapproved

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ryan Thurber, Steve Wright, Mike Charette

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

Motion by Ryan, 2nd by Mike to call the meeting to order at 7:00pm. All in favor, Motion carried.

Ryan stated that he had omitted approval of the minutes on the agenda but would address this after the general public.

1. GENERAL PUBLIC

Gail informed the board that she had not received any money from the delinquent tax collector. Ryan asked if she had provided him a list and contacted him. Gail responded that yes she had and he had stated that he needed to get her a check. There had been a problem with the printer on the system and Steve Hathaway had been contacted to correct the issue. About 90% of what had been billed has been received. She also stated that an individual had sent in a payment in June but the check had yet to be cashed. There was a concern about penalties accumulating. Ryan responded that the board had no authority to tell the delinquent tax collector what to do, however the board will reach out to the delinquent tax collector.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Warrants

Gail presented the corrected warrant tabled from last month's meeting (see attached).

Motion by Steve, 2nd by Ryan to approve the corrected warrant tabled from last month. All in favor, Motion Carried.

The warrant for the tax account (Tx-11) for \$587,506.06 was presented. (see attached). Steve asked if the money was paid back to the highway fund. Gail answered that it had.

Motion by Ryan 2nd by Mike to approve the warrant for Tax-11 for \$587,506.06. All in favor, Motion Carried.

Warrant for payroll account (PR-11) for \$1545.53 was presented See attached).

Motion by Ryan, 2nd by Mike to approve the warrant for PR-11 for \$1545.43. All in favor, Motion Carried.

Warrant for general account (Gen 03) for \$4540.00 was presented (see attached).

MOTION by Ryan 2nd by Mike to approve warrant for general 03 account for \$4540.00. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Warrant for general account (Gen 01) for \$4526.91 was presented (see attached).

Motion by Ryan 2nd by Mike to approve the warrant for general 01 for \$4526.91. All in favor, Motion Carried.

B. Unpaid bills

Gail presented to the board the unpaid bills for the amount of \$27,481.76 (see attached).

Motion by Ryan, 2nd by Mike to approve the unpaid bills as presented in the amount of \$27481.76. All in favor, Motion Carried.

Ryan informed Gail that upon talking to Ron he would not be assisting with the budget but that she had the budget program on her computer. Gail confirmed that she did have the program.

4. SWIP

Mike reviewed the SWIP requirements (solid waste management plan) enacted by the legislature as Act 148, the universal recycling law. Each town is required to implement a SWIP by June 15, 2015. The towns in Benn County agreed that forming an alliance was the best way to meet the requirements since time is of the essence. Forming a district would require forming a charter and going before the legislature. If Woodford decided not to join the alliance then Woodford would be required to write their own SWIP which would be extremely time consuming. Michael Batcher from BCRC is currently assisting in the process of writing the SWIP for the proposed alliance. The alliance needs to form a joint survey committee in the towns that will be participating. The cost will be based on % of population and Woodford should have a better idea of what that figure is by next meeting. Mike stated that for homeowners the program is to be implemented by 2020 and for businesses by 2017. Mike read the draft resolution to form the joint survey committee to the board (see attached).

Motion by Ryan, 2nd by Steve to approve, as read, the Draft Resolution to form a Joint Survey Committee. All in favor, Motion Carried. Mike volunteered to be Woodford's representative through this process. The next meeting for SWIP will be Dec 2 in Manchester

5. SEPARATION OF TOWN/SCHOOL TREASURER

Ryan stated that he was asked to place this topic on the agenda for discussion. Members of the school board were asked to attend but none were present. A petition has been submitted requesting this separation to be placed on the ballot. This subject should be discussed in open meeting so the town's people have all the information needed to make this decision.

Separating these two positions would cause more hardship on the town since realistically the town does not have enough manpower to fill the vacant positions currently open. In addition, the duties and responsibilities of the school's treasurer would have to be specifically itemized since currently they are not. There are significant differences between the two positions. He further stated that many questions are being asked that need to be answered by the school board in order to be sure the questions are answered correctly. It was suggested that the school board members again be invited to next meeting so these and other questions are answered. Further discussion followed as to what the school's treasurer is currently doing and questions and concerns related to those duties.

6. BUDGET WORKSHOP

Ryan expressed the need to review the budget as soon as possible since the town book goes to print in January. It is very important to have all necessary information together and have suggestions from those individuals currently in positions who would like budget changes made to their category. Certain things need to be reviewed and changed such as the current treasurer's salary, replacement of funds to the reserve fund depleted by Tropical Storm Irene, possible training budget for individuals new to any position. Ryan stated that the town clerk would be providing the vital statistics and the school would provide their information. Betty offered to help put the town report together when ready. Ryan also stated that he will contact Steve Love, the outside auditor, for his statement. Woodford would not be able to borrow money for an emergency without an audit and without having their own auditors. Gail presented the 2015 general fund proposed budget for review. The board decided to review the information individually and discuss at the next meeting. The information presented By Gail will be very beneficial to the board for future budget meetings.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Susan expressed concern from a email received stating that Ron would no longer post meeting minutes sent to him unless he was guaranteed he would receive them within 5 days of the meeting as state law requires. She reminded the board that she has not accepted the position as clerk and is only filling in until a clerk is appointed. Her work schedule makes it difficult to accomplish the 5 day deadline and most times cannot meet that deadline. Ryan expressed his appreciation to Susan for the job that she is doing. With the list serve and the web site the information is getting to the public.

Motion by Ryan, 2nd by Mike to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm- NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 17, 2014 at 7 pm.

Susan Wright - Clerk