

Pownal Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting
Monday July 28th, 2014

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. All members were present.

Payroll #6 – motion to approve by Mr. Morris, 2nd by Mr. Anderson. SO VOTED.

AP Warrant – Motion to approve in the amount of \$256,620.23 by Mr. Morris. 2nd by Mr. Anderson. Mr. Giddinge had questions for Mr. Bennett on paving. SO VOTED.

Minutes of previous meeting – Motion to approve as written by Mr. Morris, 2nd by Mr. Anderson. SO VOTED.

Public Comments – Mr. Bradstreet noted that the flagpole at the North Pownal Fire Station was in extremely bad repair and showed the board pictures. Mr. Giddinge noted that Mr. Peters is in charge of the fire station grounds and was not here but he would make sure he was made aware. Mr. Bradstreet noted that he had already spoken with the Chief. He also noted that some of the windows at town hall were starting to deteriorate. Mr. Giddinge will let the Chairman of the Mallett Hall oversight committee aware. He also noted the ramp condition, and an effort will be made to develop a new funding plan.

Department Head Reports – Seaver noted that tax bills would be prepared for distribution over the next week. He noted that new W-9's had been sent to all vendors so that we will meet the law requiring that we have that information.

Public Works Report – Mr. Bennett reported that Burns and Macdonald had offered informally to contribute \$40K to repair Allen Road near the substation work. Motion by Mr. Giddinge, 2nd by Mr. Anderson to lock that number up. SO VOTED. Bennett noted that mowing the roadsides was now underway, and that paving was done for now.

RSU #5 Board members from Pownal and Durham were present to discuss the latest in talks for the withdrawal of Freeport from the RSU. They noted an upcoming meeting on July 30th at Freeport HS at 6:30 pm with a public comment period at the beginning of the meeting. Issues left to be resolve include the number of students that Freeport will accept from Pownal and Durham, the cost of the tuition, and a commitment from Brunswick HS to accept high school students. Tuition dollars will follow the student where ever they choose to attend. Mr. Morris praised the committee for its hard work to date. He noted that the tuition amount is all important. Mr. Giddinge noted that Pownal and Durham will have no alternative to the higher costs the withdrawal will bring.

Alan Curry – noted that he appreciated Mr. Bennett finding good prices on the solar beacons that were less than the state would have charged. He also noted that he had assumed the state would be doing the installation. Mr. Bennett and Mr. Seaver noted that that had been the original thought, but that the grant program that the project qualified for is a locally administered project and that the town would be responsible for the labor. Mr. Curry felt since that was the case, and it was taxpayers money that would be paying the labor for the safety improvement,. He felt that the town should absorb the cost of a few hundred dollars. Motion by Mr. Giddinge, 2nd by Mr. Morris to absorb the labor costs. SO VOTED. Mr. Curry also wondered if the stop sign on the driveway side could be placed on the left side of his driveway. Mr. Bennett will check that.

Revaluation – Seaver will provide the board with links to public information from the State of Maine and other communities in the area regarding revaluation process. Mr. Morris wanted to make sure that Mrs Hays was on the same page as the selectmen regarding the process.

Truck Bid – Mr. Bennett noted that he had researched more some issues regarding Detroit diesel vx. Mack engines. Difference in price is Freightliner is about 8K less expensive. Mr. Bennett noted that he had no discovered no reason to not go with the Freightliner truck. Motion by Mr. Morris, 2nd by Mr. Anderson to purchase the Freightliner truck. SO VOTED.

Tax Commitment/Tax Rate – Seaver presented several tax calculation worksheets with a recommended rate of \$34.50 per thousand dollars valuation. This is a reduction of .25 cents per thousand from last year, and still provides an overly of about \$80K. Motion by Mr. Giddinge to set the tax rate for 2014-2015 at .03450 mills per thousand. 2nd by Mr. Morris. SO VOTED. Seaver noted that the bills would be out about August 8th.

Alarm List – Seaver noted that the alarm call list should be reviewed. Mr. Giddinge volunteered to call the alarm company.

Quit Claim Deed – Mr. Seaver presented a quit claim deed after having received payment in full on the Wiley property by the mortgage holder. Motion to execute the deed by Mr. Giddinge, 2nd by Mr. Anderson. SO VOTED.

MMA insurance – Mr. Giddinge noted a memo from the insurance inspector from MMA regarding the need for a monitored fire/smoke alarm at the fire stations, given the value of the equipment in the two stations. Mr. Peters will be asked to look into this and price it out.

Conservation Commission – the Conservation Commission requested to join the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions. They felt this would give them more information along with contacts for advice and discussions on matters that were important to them. Motion by Mr. Giddinge to join for 2 years with funding from the Stewardship Fund. 2nd by Mr. Morris. SO VOTED.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.