

Selectboard Minutes
September 4, 2012

Meeting opened at 7:05pm

Present: Noreen Suriner, Chair; Alan Vint, Clerk; Mitch Feldmesser
Duane Pease, Administrative Assistant

Warrants were reviewed and signed; Expenses: \$12,726.97; Payroll: \$9,051.97
Mail was reviewed

Judy Hoag was present to discuss the upcoming "Middlefield Days" on September 28th, 29th & 30th. There was general discussion regarding the events to be held including the bonfire on Friday, Talent Show on Saturday evening and the Pancake Breakfast and Car show on Sunday.

On a motion by Noreen, 2nd by Alan, vote was 3-0 to allow use of the building for this Town event.

Motion by Alan, 2nd by Mitch, minutes of last meeting were approved 3-0.

On a motion to suspend the Selectboard Meeting to meet as the Board of Health, vote was 3-0 to review and approve BOH minutes from the Hudson hearings. Meeting of Selectboard suspended at 7:37pm

Minutes of the BOH May 12th hearing were approved on motion by Noreen, Alan 2nd 3-0.
Minutes of the BOH August 4th hearing were approved on motion by Mitch, Alan 2nd 2-0.

BOH meeting was closed at 7:47 and Selectboard meeting was resumed.

Steve Connor, Director of the Central Hampshire Veteran's Service spoke to the Board regarding their services as Veteran's Agent for the Town. Mass allows shared agents and the duties they perform for veterans. They administer the benefits, submitted for reimbursement by the State (75%) and if the vet qualifies submit to the VA and that reimbursement is 100%. Initially the Town has to pay but then is reimbursed. Aid is supplied to any veteran that is in need. Joe Russo is a Regional Agent and he would have hours in town biweekly to meet with any veteran that is interested in benefits. Benefits include tax abatements and service bonuses, aid and attendance and surviving spouse benefits among other benefits. The cost is based on each member's population and the cost to Middlefield would be \$1,767 per year. Noreen felt this should go before the Towns People for a vote and questioned Joe Kearns, Finance Chair, about proper procedure. She was advised the Board can vote to join now and bring it before the Town at a Special Town Meeting. Alan said he was in favor of joining and going to a STM for funding.

Alan motioned to accept the veteran's service as a temporary service pending STM approval. Noreen 2nd; vote was 3-0 in favor.

Skip Savery, Highway Superintendent, brought in paperwork to be signed for 2 Chapter 90 expenditures; one for the laptop and the other for the additional cost for the stainless steel body on the new truck. Both were signed off by the Board.

He will be working on the Chipman Road project next week and also will be ordering larger speed limits signs as well as Check Your Speed signs for the Town center. He has been working with Diana Schindler on a grant for Chester Road and has spoken with Kathy Stevens at Mass Highway and it may be best to break the grant into 2 phases to insure a better chance of obtaining a grant.

Also, there was Board discussion regarding Class II car licenses and that some licensee's have gone before the Zoning Board of Appeals and others have not. This will be discussed with the Building Commissioner/Zoning Officer and then discussed again.

The Board voted to continue to meet every other week on a motion by Alan, 2nd by Mitch, 3-0.

The final item was to address the Municipal Aggregation of Electricity joint petition of the Hampshire Council of Governments. The Department of Public Utilities is requesting a certified copy of the minutes in which the Board authorized signing the petition and a certified copy of the minutes in which the Board authorized signing the contract. These were not included in the minutes of the 5/16/11 or 10/03/11 of the Board. On a motion by Noreen and 2nd by Alan, the Board voted 3-0 to re-affirm these votes.

Noreen motioned to adjourn, Mitch 2nd; vote was 3-0 to adjourn and meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:
Duane Pease, Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes

Noreen Suriner, Chair

Alan Vint, Clerk

Mitch Feldmesser