

Selectboard Minutes
December 16, 2013

Meeting opened at 5:34pm

Present:

Alan Vint, Chair; Howard Knickerbocker, Clerk; Mitch Feldmesser; Gerry Garner,
Building Commissioner (BC)
Duane Pease, Administrative Assistant

Alan motioned to go into Executive Session (ES) to discuss litigation and zoning issues with BC regarding Hudson property; S/B meeting to reconvene after ES. Howard 2nd.
Vote: Alan, Aye; Howard Aye; Mitch Aye. ES opened at 5:35pm

S/B meeting reconvened at 6:03pm with all present.

Alan then motioned to go into Executive Session of Board of Health (BOH) to discuss possible BOH litigation concerning the BOH issues on the Hudson property per advise from Town Counsel. S/B meeting will reconvene after BOH meeting. Howard 2nd. Vote: Alan, Aye; Howard, Aye; Mitch Aye. ES opened at 6:05pm.

S/B meeting reconvened at 6:24pm, all present.

Tax Classification hearing was held at 6:30pm; Gita Jozsef Harris, Assessor Chair and Laura Lafreniere, Assessor were present. Gita advised the Board the Tax Rate has been certified by the State. Assessors recommend a single tax rate as the business and industrial base is less than 10% in the Town. The Tax Rate would be \$17.42.
Alan motioned to accept the single rate, Howard 2nd; vote was 3-0 in favor of a single tax rate.

Alan motioned to adjourn S/B meeting to go into a BOH meeting and reconvene S/B meeting, Howard 2nd; vote 3-0. BOH meeting opened at 6:40pm.

S/B meeting reconvened at 7:23pm with all present.

No warrants to sign. Minutes of previous S/B meeting were approved on a motion by Howard, Alan 2nd; vote 3-0.

Board signed letter of support for funding of the Old Hampshire County Court House request for State funding for restoration.

Interview will be scheduled for Suzanne Lemieux who has applied for the position of Recording Secretary, AA will contact and arrange for next S/B meeting.

Highway Superintendent, Skip Savery, requested the board sign paper work for Chapter 90 funding from State. Board signed.

Howard discussed the Senior Center as he is also a Board member of the Council on Aging (COA). He would like to close the building until March to reduce the heating costs as the building is not insulated and propane costs to heat it are very high. The COA Board does not have a problem with closing the building. The Seniors could have their coffee in the Town Hall and arrange to go out to lunch/dinner once a month. He also said the weekly group of seniors that gather once a week for the lunch did not see that as a problem. He felt the outside activities would be effective as it would get the group into new activities.

Joe Kearns questioned the effect on the museum upstairs and plumbing if the heat were shut off. Howard said he would contact a plumber to see about draining the pipes and that the material in the museum would not be damaged by the lack of heat. Mitch questioned if closing the Senior Center would lower participation. Howard advised only 8-10n people attend the weekly luncheons.

Howard also spoke regarding the COA By-Laws, he stated if the COA wants their own set of By-Laws they could be presented at the Annual Town Meeting. However, it may be best if the COA develops guidelines rather than By-Laws.

There was brief discussion regarding electronic storage of Town emails and the Secretary of State office and Ethics Commission will be checked with for further clarification.

Mitch motioned to adjourn, Alan 2nd, vote 3-0 and meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes:

Alan Vint, Chair

Howard Knickerbocker, Clerk

Mitch Feldmesser

