

SELECTMEN and ASSESSORS MEETING SUMMARY

June 3, 2015

In attendance: Selectmen – Wesley Daniel, Duane Vigue and Berkley Linscott; CEO – Bob Temple; Town Clerk/Treasurer – Ann Dean; Public: Dorothy Sainio, Henry Sainio, Cathy Blake, Priscilla Packard, Mildred Melgard, Mindy Gould, Jan Birk, Travis Perez, Angela Stevens, Helen Caddie-Larcenia

Wesley Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Duane Vigue moved to accept the summary from 05/27/2015 as written, Berkley Linscott seconded, all in favor.

Berkley Linscott moved to accept the warrants as written \$3,823.70/payroll and \$7,267.83/vender, Duane Vigue seconded, all in favor. Warrants read, approved, and signed.

Public Works Report – Duane Vigue reported on last week 5/26-5-28 worked on the beaver dam on the Old Union Road, picked up P400 from the repair shop, replaced the culvert on the Firs Road, continued ditching on the Firs Road, and continued working on the P500 body. Berkley Linscott moved to accept the Public Works Report as read, Duane Vigue seconded, all in favor.

CEO Report – Bob Temple gave the Selectmen a list of all the permits given so far this year. He will update as needed. Bob was called out to Billing Lane for someone who wanted to build a garage. Bob noticed that someone built a shed, another person put an addition on their house, another put a deck, without a permit. Bob will write each owner a letter stating they didn't get a permit and may be in violation of the ordinance.

Town Clerk/Treasurers Report – Ann Dean gave the bank balance Operating account \$100,206.50 and Sweep account \$170,224.45 with a total of \$274,030.95.

Ann gave the Selectmen a copy of the grant application packet for culvert upgrade. Bill Lane and JoAnne Mooney from FEMA will be contacted for any help they might be to complete the application. The application is due 7/15/15 and will be awarded on 9/1/15.

Helen Caddie Larcenia, Co-Chairperson of the Recreation Committee, asked for additional money. The committee has a two year plan and would like \$1,500.00 this year and an additional \$1,500.00 next year. The Selectmen explained that the request needs to go through the Town Meeting in March (2016) for approval. This March they were approved for \$1,000 this year through the legislative body. The Selectmen asked the committee to put their request in writing.

Washington Scholarship Committee – Duane Vigue asked the Washington Scholarship Committee to be present at this meeting to discuss the Jimmy Billing Award and the Washington Scholarship. He asked how the Jimmy Billing Award is given. Mildred Melgard stated that this is an award for a good citizen as the application states. Duane stated how important it is that administered correctly and anyone who leaves money for the town whether it's an award, scholarship, etc is that we all honor how they want it administered which is our main concern.

Jan Birk asked if there was any original information available. Duane will ask Betty Grinnell if she has any information and pass it on to the committee. Duane Vigue gave Berkley Linscott the background of the Washington Scholarship Committee and how they came to be at this meeting. The main concern is why the committee can't spend the principle of the money they raise through fundraising. The Selectmen tried to figure out a way for the committee to use some of the money that was raised. We told them, as a Select Board, to write a new set of by-laws and that we would handle the monetary end of it on this side with the accountants. There has been a question raised that when it is a community scholarship, handled through the town that we have one responsibility to take the money and put it into the principle side of the account. The committee would only be able to award the interest. It is possible that the Select Board gave the committee incorrect information telling them to change the by-laws to basically fit the needs of what we and the committee felt they needed. If it is incorrect it will need to be changed. Duane Vigue stated the Select Board has given the committee a reasonable expectation of what you can do with the money this year, whether we were right or wrong. Because we gave you that expectation we need to live by that for this year. In the meantime, Duane will find out if it's illegal for us to have you change the by-laws or for us to put the money in a principle account and then have the accountants move it around for us. If this is the case another option would be for the committee to start your own scholarship and partner with the Washington Community Scholarship (make your own by-laws, have a treasurer, bank account, and use the money as you want). Duane will contact MMA (Maine Municipal Association) and a couple of other people who deal with scholarship by-laws. It would be great if we find out how we are doing it now is legal and we can spend the money leaving the initial \$3,000.00 in principle. Mildred Melgard asked if they started fundraising before this is resolved could they put that money in the unexpended account and draw it out? Ann Dean, Treasurer, said no, it all goes into the principle. Jan Birk stated that it is so confusing as all the money goes into the principle and we can't give it to the students. The scholarship is set up to put all the money into the principle and only spend the interest. Mindy Gould stated that after she composed the new set of by-laws Duane Vigue looked them over and an auditor commented that the principle balance had to be \$15,000. They were going to keep \$25,000. in the principle and the Select Board said the auditor had paperwork and the balance \$15,000. The new by-laws state this. Everything we did a year ago was fine, now it's not. After much discussion regarding the honesty of the committee, the Select Board is taking full responsibility in rectifying this situation. The town has to follow the state laws. Duane asked the Washington Community Scholarship Committee to return to the Select Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 24 to talk about the information he has by that time. If the committee receives a donation before a decision has been made (6/24) they will hold the check. Wesley Daniel made a motion to proceed with scholarship awards this year, Duane Vigue seconded, all in favor.

Four quitclaim deeds for plots 181, 190, 199, 208 in Marr Cemetery were signed by the Select Board and witnessed by Dorothy Sainio.

Duane Vigue spoke with a few people regarding paving (hot mix and chip seal). The Select Board is waiting for bids before a decision will be made.

A letter from American Center of Law and Justice was received at the town office addressed to the Select Board regarding holding religious services in a public building. Our policy on this

subject was adopted ten months ago. Wesley Daniel called MMA and sent the letter for their legal opinion. When we receive a response from MMA then it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Policy for selling town property – Ann Dean took out a few sections that do not pertain to our town. The changes were discussed and agreed upon. She gave a copy to the Select Board to peruse and make any other changes before adopting the policy. After the sale of a property the quitclaim deed charge will be the responsibility of the buyer and Ann will record the change at the Registry of Deeds. Duane had spoken with Austin Brann about auctioning off the properties. Duane will call him back with specifics and find out his fee. As Dorothy Sainio pointed out from Article 11 town report all tax acquired property will go to public auction.

Denise Hylton's appointment as Deputy Registrar Wesley Daniel moved to approve the appointment, Duane Vigue and Berkley Linscott seconded, all in favor. The Select Board signed the appointment paper.

Public Comments and Questions

None

Meeting adjourned at 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anderson