

Selectmen/Assessor's Meeting Summary
March 15, 2017

In attendance: Select Board – Wesley Daniel, Tom Johnston, Berkley Linscott; Public – Traci Hoffman, Cynthia Rosen, Kit Lascoux

Wesley Daniel called the weekly Selectmen Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Tom Johnston moved to accept the summary from 03/08/2017 as written, Berkley Linscott seconded, all in favor.

Tom Johnston moved to pay the warrants as presented \$3,583.56/payroll, \$4,244.33/vender, Berkley Linscott seconded, all in favor. A check number error was corrected from last week and the Selectmen signed the updated warrant, no change in amount.

CEO Report – None

Town Clerk/Treasurer Report – Mary Anderson reported for Ann Dean. Town reports are now in office. Sent copies to Bill Brewer, State Librarian, Maine Revenue, State Tax Assessor, DOT, The Folger Library, and MMA. Warrants with Ordinance to be voted on will be posted around town by Jud Butterman on Thursday, March, 16.

Cynthia Rosen was present to explain Ambit Energy, the company she works for. She explained the company's rates is 6.5 Standard Offer is 6.69 for Residential. There are no contracts or termination fee. Tom Johnston asked how long the rates are good for. Cynthia explained the town has seven different electric bills (4-residential/3-commercial). Residential is offered at 6.5 at six month fixed (means it is not allowed to go above). When Ambit changes its rates to go down, Cynthia's job as a consultant is to contact the town to ask if they want to upgrade to the better rate. A month before that termination (6 months), she will get notified, the town will get notified and there is a 30-day period of time before the town would get moved back to standard offer. The commercial rates are variable, as are all the energy competitors in the state. Ambit keeps its rates at the standard offer or below (6.5-now for a month). When you enroll you're locked in for whatever the rate is, at that time, for 30 days. It will fluctuate variable as much as CMP will, Ambit keeps its policy to stay at or below that standard offer. Wesley Daniel stated he went on the website and then found 401 reviews of Ambit. Mary Anderson gave the website to Cynthia www.consumeraffairs.com – 401 Complaints and Reviews about Ambit. Wesley looked at about 50 reviews and $\frac{3}{4}$ of them were not good. Tom asked what separates Maine's contracts from Ambit across the country. Cynthia explained Ambit Energy operates/licensed in sixteen states. Tom asked if they are a multi-level marketing company. Cynthia gave the Selectmen a few handouts, the multi-level marketing piece does not affect the customer rates at all. Tom said he will look into all the information. Cynthia asked the Selectmen to email her with any questions that may come up during the week.

Wesley Daniel and Tom Johnston will attend a Personnel Practices Workshop on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 through MMA.

Wesley Daniel moved to sign the Order of Municipal Officers Pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 906 (Tax Collector/Treasurer to apply any tax payment received from an individual as payment for any property tax against outstanding or delinquent taxes due to said property in chronological order beginning with the oldest unpaid bill, provided, however, that no such payment may be applied to any tax for which an abatement application or appeal is pending unless approved in writing by the taxpayer). Tom Johnston seconded, all in favor.

Sean Donaghy requesting that the town sign off on the Washington General Store's annual application for Alcohol Consumption on premises to have the ability to sell beer and wine to folks sitting down and eating. Alcohol consumption is tied to food, you can't just sit down and have a beer/wine, it's not a bar. They have a two drink cap that the store has imposed themselves. Wesley Daniel moved to sign the Washington General Store's application for Alcohol Consumption, Tom Johnston seconded, all in favor.

Berkley Linscott wanted to discuss the Road Crew. Wesley Daniel asked if it should be discussed in Executive Session or General Discussion. Berkley stated he wanted to get something straight, in his mind. About 3-4 weeks ago we had the biggest payroll for Public Works we've ever had, since he's been here. Berkley would like to know why. Wesley stated that maybe they worked 30 hours and then had 20 hours of plowing snow after Thursday. The Road Crew earns overtime after 40 hours. One of them had 44 hours overtime that week. Do they have to have a 4th man? Berkley stated that he doesn't understand how they get that much time during small storms. He wants the Board to be together on no more 80 hrs/wk for an individual, asking for trouble. There was discussion about advertising for more fill-ins. Tom Johnston stated it's not so much looking at the gross hours but to look at the how long a stretch they are working at a time; on the big storm they worked more hours than they should have. Tom said Jonathan Daniel called Andrea Boynton to fill in but she wasn't available and we should have a couple of more fill-ins. Berkley stated we could work on it for next year, too late this year. Berkley said four men at a time and a half is a lot of money. Traci Hoffman asked if the Road Crew's time sheets itemized for example 1 hour on vehicle inspection, 2 hours mixing sand/salt, 6 hours plowing? Tom Johnston stated, not to that degree. Wesley Daniel read what was written on a time sheet from this week. Berkley stated it should read, if they are chipping brush then where. Tom Johnston is now the liaison between the garage and Selectmen. Berkley said they should keep a journal at the garage so they can look back on a month. Wesley stated he will write a more detailed report for the Selectmen's meeting. Berkley said it would be beneficial so people would know what their money is going for.

Wesley Daniel reminded Tom Johnston about the sound system for the town meeting.

Kit Lascoux asked if Article 28 of the Warrant- the Road Maintenance Labor will be explained at the Town Meeting, it's a bit confusing; the \$105,000 is an accurate reflection of a pure 40/wk. Also, Article 28 there's \$125,000. – Paving and Capital Improvement of Town Roads and there's LRAP at \$104,000. LRAP is available if something happens and they need the money. There are two projects they would like to do should be under \$125,000.

Efficiency Maine Law for insulation homes program through DHS, matching with homeowner. If anyone is interested they would need to come up with matching funds. Wesley Daniel will call.

Berkley Linscott asked who the pot hole 'belongs to' coming off of Rt. 220 towards the town office. Tom Johnston said it belongs to us but it's been too wet to fill in.

Mary Anderson stated she was approached and asked how to get Andy Thompson to clean up his yard. Wesley Daniel said he would speak with him.

Cynthia Rosen said she noticed the Comprehensive Survey online and asked if she can still fill it out. She was encouraged to fill it out.

Wesley Daniel adjourned the meeting at 7:38PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anderson