MINUTES

LIBERTY SELECTBOARD

January 15, 2018 7:00 PM

**Selectboard Attendance:** Carrie Peavey, 2nd Selectman

Henry Hall, 3rd Selectman

***Excused (scheduling conflict):*** *Melinda Steeves, 1st Selectman*

**Town Officials:** Administrator Kenn Ortmann, Budget Committee Member and EMA Director Elise Brown and Deputy Treasurer Hanna Hatfield

**Guest(s):**  None

1. **Open Public Meeting:**7:05 PM
2. **Approve Minutes:** Pursuant to review Selectman Peavey moved and Selectman Hall seconded approval of the January 8, 2018 minutes. Unanimous.
3. **Warrant Review and Approval:** Done.
4. **Public Comment:** None.
5. **TA informational items**
	1. **Media stories:** None.
	2. **Resident correspondence:**
		1. **Update regarding Gregory Sprowl and "Alternative Energy Structures" warrant article:** TA Ortmann reported that Mr. Sprowl called him to provide an update. Mr. Sprowl stated it is his understanding that so far no Maine communities have taken advantage of the option to site alternative energy structures in the Shoreland Zone setback area. He also mentioned his concern that one zoning ordinance amendment combining wind and solar energy structures together makes the issue more challenging. He said he will be doing more research with Maine DEP. He also wants to think about whether or not he wants the Selectboard to include a more general warrant article asking the Town if it is interested in researching this issue further.
	3. **Other:** None.
6. **Old Business**
	1. **FY19 Town Budget discussion:** Elise Brown discussed the role of the Budget Committee and how much detail it wants to review. TA Ortmann stated his goal of making sure there is maximum consistency between the Treasurer's Budget reports, the Selectboard Budget report in the Annual Report, the budget worksheets he prepares, and the format of warrant articles including budget components. Elise also discussed how encouraged she has been with the Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service this past year. They are evaluating how to be more competitive with wages, they are looking to provide some additional value-added services to Liberty residents during staff down time, and the working relationship between the Ambulance Service and the Liberty Fire Department is at a very high level.

TA Ortmann reviewed the January 15 draft of the budget spreadsheet showing an increase over last year of approximately $72,000. He reviewed the line items contributing significantly to this increase of approximately 8.2%. He also explained the impact of this change on property owners. As examples, with other factors staying the same, the owner of a property assessed at $50,000 would pay an extra $26 annually, the owner of a property assessed at $100,000 would pay an extra $52 annually, and the owner of a property assessed at $200,000 would pay an extra $104 annually.

* 1. **Shoveling around Town Office building, including oil filler pipe:** Selectman Hall has arranged for Anthony Fuller to help shovel out around Town Office exits and provide access to the fuel oil filler pipe. TA Ortmann will share this information with the rest of the Town Office staff.
	2. **Cost of mailing Annual Reports:** TA Ortmann is still working on getting an estimate of the cost.
	3. **Other:** None.
1. **New Business**
	1. **MMA dues:** TA Ortmann noted that we have received notice the dues for the coming year have increased approximately 1% to $2,085.
	2. **Other:** **Emergency Funding for Repairs to Roads damaged by flooding** – Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds has informed the Selectboard about significant damage to Back Palermo and Boynton Roads. Pursuant to review and a phone conversation with Selectman Steeves, Selectman Peavey moved and Selectman Hall seconded authorizing Commissioner Reynolds to begin immediate repairs, designate the costs are to come from our Emergency Fund, and keep the Selectboard informed as to progress and costs. Unanimous.
2. **Other Business:** None.
3. **Adjournment:** 8:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Ortmann

Town Administrator