MINUTES

LIBERTY SELECTBOARD

February 25, 2019 6:00 PM

**Selectboard Attendance:** Melinda Steeves, 1st Selectman

Carrie Peavey, 2nd Selectman

Henry Hall, 3rd Selectman

**Town Officials:** Administrator Kenn Ortmann, Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar of Voters Gail Philippi, Treasurer Hannah Hatfield

**Guest(s):**  None

1. **Open Public Meeting:** 6:03 PM
2. **Approve Minutes:** Pursuant to review Selectman Peavey moved and Selectman Hall seconded approval of the February 18, 2019 minutes. Unanimous.
3. **Warrant Review and Approval:** Done.
4. **Officials/Public comments:** None.
5. **TA informational items**
   1. **Media stories:** TA Ortmann shared the Republican Journal article about the *Riley's Wish Winter Games and Derby* event at Lake St. George State Park.
   2. **Revaluation project status report:** TA Ortmann reported he is beginning to receive correspondence from property owners who want to insure the multiple lots they own are treated as one lot.
   3. **Wording of Warrant "Article 10 Parking Enforcement":** TA Ortmann noted that, after the Annual Report went to press, he became aware of concerns about the broadness of the language and interest in the possibility of narrowing the applicability of this article to just the Marshall Shore area of town. He has sent an email to Town Meeting Moderator Andrew Worcester asking if someone at Town Meeting can propose an amendment to this article restricting the parking enforcement activities and "boot" use to just the Marshall Shore area, or, as alternative, can the posted Warrant be amended to include the more restrictive language so the more restrictive language can be voted on at Town Meeting? TA Ortmann will share the response from the Moderator at the next Selectboard meeting.
6. **Old Business** 
   1. **Other:** None.
7. **New Business**
   1. **Request for excise tax refund or credit – Dave St. Clair:** After extensive discussion with Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar of Voters Gail Philippi and hearing her report on the feedback from DMV staff, the Selectboard felt favorable to offering a "credit" if the vehicle for which the plates were purchased was going to be transferred to another company owned by the same principals. However, upon hearing the vehicle is for sale, the Selectboard asked TA Ortmann to check with our auditor to see if there are any concerns about offering some kind of credit and to find out how it would be shown in the audit. The Selectboard is very concerned about the precedent setting nature of this type of action.
   2. **Library offer to provide "Rapid Renewal" training:** Barbara Rehmeyer, the new Library Director, noted that the Library might be able to help the public with the new "Rapid Renewal" Motor Vehicle registration program. She is offering assistance in computer training to help community members who don't have a computer or who are unsure of their computer skills to use the new program effectively. Her last teaching position before retiring was Technology Integrator and her main responsibility was to teach teachers how to use technology, so she has experience teaching adults.

The Selectboard is grateful for the offer as utilizing computers at the library for training will reduce the time burden on Town Office staff who don't have as much experience in adult education.

TA Ortmann will ask Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar of Voters Gail Philippi and Deputy Hatfield to contact the Library Director to arrange to "train the trainer".

* 1. **Other:** TA Ortmann reported that he has been working on the LD1 form and he thinks it is likely the Town will need to vote this year to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Liberty by State law. TA Ortmann was asked to contact MMA to find out how to proceed if the Town has voted funding for articles during Town Meeting that requires a waiver of the limit, but then votes down the LD1 article.

1. **Other Business:** The Selectboard met with Treasurer Hatfield to discuss resolving the dilemma presented by quarterly payments to the Selectboard, Treasurer and CEO who have office terms that don't synchronize with our fiscal year. The Selectboard and Treasurer agreed that starting in July 2019 the three Selectboard positions, Treasurer and CEO positions will be paid monthly. This will allow for a smooth transition if there are personnel changes at times other than when the fiscal year changes.
2. **Adjournment:** 7:44 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Ortmann

Town Administrator