MINUTES

LIBERTY SELECTBOARD

March 18, 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, Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds

**Guest(s):**  Guy Levesque, 288 Back Palermo Road

1. **Open Public Meeting:** 6:04 PM
2. **Approve Minutes:** Pursuant to review Selectman Steeves moved and Selectman Peavey seconded approval of the March 11, 2019 minutes. Unanimous.
3. **Warrant Review and Approval:** Done.
4. **Officials/Public comments:** Road Commissioner Reynolds shared her concern about the language in the Parking Enforcement warrant Article 10. The Selectboard agreed to modify the introductory language on the official posted warrant to eliminate the words *"and other locations"* as follows:

*"Continuing parking and safety issues at Marshall Shore ~~and other locations~~ has resulted in several potential approaches to address the problem."*

TA Ortmann will make the correction to the warrants to be posted tomorrow.

Mr. Guy Levesque, of 288 Back Palermo Road, explained to the Selectboard he is requesting an abatement to be retroactive for 12 years to when he originally brought his request to the Selectboard. The Selectboard explained that State law restricts abatements to three years, reviewed his property card and provided a copy to him along with an abatement request form. TA Ortmann suggested he come in the next morning to discuss his property card and his abatement options further.

Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar of Voters Gail Philippi noted that her office is in the process of implementing InforME PayPort Payment Services to provide another way to accept over-the-counter credit/ debit card payments for registrations, licenses, property taxes or other services.

1. **TA informational items**
   1. **Media stories:** None.
   2. **Revaluation project status report:** None.
2. **Old Business** 
   1. **MMA response regarding Peter Beckford (Map 8 Lot 5 & 6 Account 1263) question about responsibility for demolition of structure:** TA Ortmann reported that the response from MMA is that *"If the town properly tax-acquired the house, then I do not know of any way that the town could make the owner on whose land the house resides pay the costs to demolish it."* TA Ortmann will inform Mr. Beckford the Town plans to create a warrant article funding the demolition for consideration in March of 2020.
   2. **Other:** None.
3. **New Business**
   1. **Final preparations for Town Meeting:** TA Ortmann noted that Waldo County Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Jason Trundy asked for confirmation that we want him to attend Town Meeting to address parking enforcement questions. The Selectboard asked TA Ortmann to confirm his attendance.

TA Ortmann shared a spreadsheet comparing the cost of items in last year's warrant with the cost of items included in this year's warrant and showing the differing impacts of the three levels of Ambulance Service support. In all cases we exceed the LD1 limit so will have to vote on Article 36. In response to a question about the impact of paying for $50,000 of paving from surplus as opposed to from taxes, TA Ortmann said he will revise the spreadsheet to show the impact.

TA Ortmann explained that, since the LD1 process is new to him, he did some research on what happens in the unlikely situation Town meeting votes expenditures that exceed the LD1 limit but also votes not to exceed the limit.

* 1. **Starting process on abandoned foreclosures:** Pursuant to a discussion about liability issues, TA Ortmann offered to work with Treasurer Hatfield and Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar of Voters Gail Philippi to create a list of Town-Owned property with enough information to prioritize moving ahead with the sale process.
  2. **Other:** None.

1. **"11th hour" items**
   1. **Roads scheduled for temporary emergency repairs:** Road Commissioner Reynolds reviewed the list of roads that are going to be fixed due to the spring thaw, which is worse than any year in her memory. She believes it is due to the 5 inches of rain we received in January and the storms that all ended in rain. The road repair list will be performed in the order in the list below, starting with the worst ones first. These are in no manner permanent fixes but rather making the roads passable for emergency vehicles. The repairs will take most of the week and they started at 8 AM this morning.
      1. Prescott Hill Rd
      2. Robert Shores Rd
      3. Kager Mountain Rd
      4. Boynton Rd
   2. **Forest Operations notification:** TA Ortmann shared a copy of a Forest Operations notification from the State that has not been submitted to the Town. The Selectboard requested he ask CEO Harriman to follow up with a violation notification.
2. **Adjournment:** 7:37 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Ortmann

Town Administrator