MINUTES

LIBERTY SELECTBOARD

January 13, 2020 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, Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds

**Guest(s):**  Christian Hansen, Liberty resident

1. **Open Public Meeting:** 6:00 PM
2. **Approve Minutes:** Pursuant to review Selectman Peavey moved and Selectman Hall seconded approval of the January 6, 2020 minutes. Unanimous.
3. **Warrant Review and Approval:** Done.
4. **Officials/Public comments:** None.
5. **TA informational items**
	1. **Media stories:** None.
6. **Old Business**
	1. **Snow Shoveling:** Christian Hansen, a Liberty resident shared his interest in helping out. TA Ortmann stated he would share a copy of the RFP after the meeting.
	2. **Abatement denial appeal - update:** TA Ortmann shared that he spoke earlier in the day with Garnett Robinson, Maine Assessment & Appraisal Services, who reviewed the appeal in more detail and will complete the response required by the State Board of Property Tax Review. If the Board requires a mediation step we can then revisit the question of involving the Town Attorney.
	3. **Problematic Subdivision - update:** No update.
	4. **Other:** None.
7. **New Business**
	1. **Foreclosures**
		1. **Occupied properties (Accounts 588 & 606):** Treasurer Hatfield noted that these accounts and several others showed taxes assessed and due, some from many years ago, even after the Town had foreclosed on the property. Treasurer Hatfield will work with our auditor and our Assessing Agent to come up with language approving the tax write-offs and having it reflected properly in TRIO.
		2. **Rejected ownership (Account 424):** See discussion above.
	2. **Tax write-offs:** See discussion above.
	3. **Town Meeting draft warrant:** TA Ortmann shared his first draft revising individual articles and the order to be more consistent with the audit report and Selectboard Budget Report.
	4. **FY21 budget:** The Selectboard reviewed the individual line items and asked TA Ortmann to follow up on several of them. Clerk/Tax Collector Gail Philippi answered questions related to compensation and how on-line activity might be impacting office workload.
	5. **Annual Report**
		1. **Dedication:** TA Ortmann noted we need to select someone relatively soon so we have time to write up a short biography.
		2. **Boston Post Cane:** Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar of Voters Gail Philippi suggested the name of Nancy Melching. There were no other suggested candidates. TA Ortmann will try to contact a neighbor for information about Nancy.
	6. **Town Administrator "Certificate of Appointment":** TA Ortmann noted that over the past several years he has been inconsistent in asking for a Certificate of Appointment. It was the consensus of the Selectboard that one is not necessary because the Town Administrator position is a hired position and not an appointed one.
	7. **Other:** None.
8. **"11th hour" items:** None.
9. **Adjournment:** 8:33 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Ortmann

Town Administrator