DRAFT MINUTES

LIBERTY SELECTBOARD

February 10, 2020 6:00 PM

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

Carrie Peavey, 2nd Selectman

Henry Hall, 3rd Selectman

**Town Officials:** Administrator Kenn Ortmann, Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds, Fire Chief Bill Gillespie, EMA Director Elise Brown

**Guest(s):**  None

1. **Open Public Meeting:** 6:00 PM
2. **Approve Minutes**
   1. **February 3, 2020:** Pursuant to review and with one change to the draft version, Selectman Steeves moved and Selectman Peavey seconded approval of the February 3, 2020 minutes. Unanimous.
   2. **January 20, 2020 joint meeting with Montville Selectboard:** Pursuant to review Selectman Steeves moved and Selectman Peavey seconded approval of the joint meeting January 20, 2020 minutes. Unanimous.
   3. **January 20, 2020 non-public meeting:** Pursuant to review Selectman Steeves moved and Selectman Peavey seconded approval of the non-public January 20, 2020 minutes. Unanimous.
3. **Warrant Review and Approval:** Done.
4. **Officials/Public comments**
   1. **Linda Breslin re Quigg Island:** Postponed to the February 24, 2020 meeting.
5. **TA informational items**
   1. **Media stories:** None.
6. **Old Business** 
   1. **Problematic Subdivision update:** Postponed to the February 24, 2020 meeting.
   2. **Planning Board alternate positions:** TA Ortmann reminded the Selectboard of the need to fill two Alternate positions.
   3. **Warrant**
      1. **Harris TRIO SQL conversion & dog licensing module:** TA Ortmann noted that we are one of few Maine communities not yet shifted over to the SQL database format. The original price quote for converting was $2,695. The price was reduced to $1,800 during a meeting with Harris representatives last week.

During negotiations with Harris last week we noted that the price of the Dog License module seemed quite high at $1,925 with a $367 annual maintenance and support fee.

During the current round of negotiations with Harris today, they offered to reduce the SQL conversion cost to $1,000 and reduce the Dog License Module cost down to $1,095. Adding in $350 for training and implementation, the total "bundled cost" for both is $2,445 with a $252 annual maintenance and support fee.

Following discussion Selectman Steeves moved and Selectman Hall seconded approval of the bundled cost offer. Unanimous.

* + 1. **Ambulance article:** TA Ortmann explained the intent of his draft article giving the Selectboard the authority to negotiate with the Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service to acquire the non-profit's assets and liabilities on terms beneficial to the Town. TA Ortmann will incorporate a reference to Liberty Fire & Rescue Service in the article. Fire Chief Bill Gillespie noted that we may need to make further adjustments following the joint meeting with the Montville Selectboard tomorrow.
    2. **Budget Committee secretary:** Budget Committee Chair Elise Brown noted how difficult it is for a Budget Committee member to take minutes and meaningfully participate in the process. She noted they will be looking for a volunteer Secretary next year.
    3. **Tax acquired property revenue:** TA Ortmann shared a response from our Auditor that income from sources like tree harvesting or the sale of tax-acquired property automatically goes into the general fund and becomes part of surplus unless designated otherwise.
    4. **Assessing report:** The Selectboard reviewed the report submitted by Assessing Agent Garnett Robinson and suggested no changes.
  1. **Security camera research:** TA Ortmann shared the results of his brief research. It was the consensus of the Selectboard that a new phone system is a higher priority.
  2. **Other:** None.

1. **New Business**
   1. **Joint Liberty/Montville Selectboard meeting tomorrow, February 11, 6 PM at Montville Town Office:** TA Ortmann reminded the Selectboard of this meeting.
   2. **Update on the Status of "An Act to Return Funds to Maine Property Tax Payers":** TA Ortmann shared information the State is providing about how to deal with questions about the program.
   3. **Abating/Writing-off Steven Page Tax amount from 2017:** Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar of Voters Gail Philippi explained the error resulting in our records showing taxes due. Following a brief discussion Selectman Hall moved and Selectman Steeves seconded approval of the write-off. Unanimous.
   4. **Contacting property owner of foreclosed property (Map 5 Lot 2, Acct 606) who may be residing at the premises:** TA Ortmann shared a draft letter to the current owner sharing the Town's interest in working with the property owner to develop a plan for the payment of back taxes and costs. The Selectboard endorsed sending the letter.
   5. **Other:** None.
2. **"11th hour" items**
   1. **Selectboard meeting next Monday on holiday?:** The Selectboard agreed to not meet on the Presidents' Day Holiday.
3. **Adjournment:** 7:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Ortmann

Town Administrator