

Minutes of the December 28, 2009 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: Neal Fox, Bill Richards, Joe De Freitas, and Delbert Cloud.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Neal Fox, the board first reviewing and approving the weekly payroll and payables. The minutes of the December 14, 2009 meeting of the Board of Selectmen were approved by motion of Joe De Freitas, seconded by Bill Richards and unanimously carried. The Planning Commission minutes of December 16, 2009 (inclusive of the Public Hearing minutes of that same date) were reviewed and placed on file, as were the October 15, 2009 minutes of the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

A draft of the "Selectmens' Report" for the year ended June 30, 2009 was examined and discussed. It was agreed that the Board members would provide feedback to the Manager's office regarding edits and changes, such that it would be possible to have a final draft for consideration at the next Board meeting.

Delbert Cloud provided the Board with copies of statistical data recently received from the Vermont Department of Taxes. The Town's "Common Level of Appraisal" has been calculated as 102.83%, and the "Coefficient of Dispersion" as 7.12%. Since these values are at appropriate levels, they lend support to the validity of the Grand List which the Listers will prepare for tax billing purposes in support of the fiscal year 2011 budget.

A draft of the Town General Fund Budget for fiscal year 2011 was next discussed. This draft was an update of an earlier draft which had been reviewed at the previous meeting, and values had been changed on several line items. The Board members considered this draft to be tentative, and a further review will be completed at the next meeting.

A draft of the "Warning" for the forthcoming Annual Town Meeting was then examined, this having several questions pertaining to the level of spending to be done in fiscal year 2011. No changes were made to the draft at this point in time, but it will also be evaluated again in conjunction with the budget.

The following communications were then reviewed and placed on file: (1) a December 21, 2009 letter from the Vermont Clean Energy Development Fund advising that the Town's application for an "Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant" was denied, (2) an "Invitation to Bid" form for the Town Hall Rehabilitation Project, (3) a December 3, 2009 letter from the Vermont Agency of Transportation advising that 10 of the Town's bridges have been determined by the Agency to be "scour critical" and should be monitored during high water events, (4) a November 6, 2009 letter from the Preservation Trust of Vermont advising of a "Community Forestry Project," (5) the Windsor County Courthouse News #122009 re. the Windsor County Budget, (6) a December 23, 2009 letter from the Vermont Agency of Transportation re. the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act deck replacement project for Bridge #48, and (7) notice of a State of Vermont permit application filed by the White River National Fish Hatchery for plans to construct a 3 bedroom modular residence at its property on Vermont Route 107.

With respect to the Town Hall Rehabilitation project, the Board reviewed a current set of construction plans and noted a couple of questions which will be directed to the architect. Delbert Cloud reported that he had attended the "Pre-Bid Walk-Through" which had been conducted earlier this same date, and that nine of the ten invited bidders were present. The bids are due January 19, 2010.

Regarding the report on "Scour Critical" bridges received from the Agency of Transportation, it was agreed that Delbert Cloud should inquire about the actual criteria used to evaluate the bridges, and find out if there are any correlations anticipated between the reported data and grant funding priorities, disaster assistance programs, or any other State/federal programs.

The Board then discussed some preliminary information about damages done by a dog on Camp Brook Road earlier in the day. No action was taken at this time.

With no further business to attend, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM by motion of Bill Richards, seconded by Joe De Freitas and unanimously carried.

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Neal Fox

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Bill Richards

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Joe De Freitas