

Board of Selectmen
Minutes

Date: January 28, 2015

Members Present: Janet Flinkstrom, Mike McCallum and Steve Ingerson

Time: 7:06 p.m.

2) Motion to approve minutes of January 14, 2015 as recorded.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steven Ingerson Vote: Unan

3) Motion to approve minutes of January 21, 2015 as recorded.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steven Ingerson Vote: Unan

4) Warrant #W29P approve and sign Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$53,145.61 subject to further review.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Janet Flinkstrom Vote: JF - Aye
MM - Aye
SI - Abstain

5) Warrant #W30B approve and sign Vendor Warrant in the amount of \$103,567.94 subject to further review.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Janet Flinkstrom Vote: JF - Aye
MM - Aye
SI - Abstain

LW states it seems like a large amount. JF went over some of the larger items that contributed to the large amount. SI also went over some of the amounts.

6) Selectmen approve and sign on a Common Victualler's License for Camp Middlesex. #562 for 2015.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Steven Ingerson Vote: Unan

Request for Selectmen's approval to deficit spend for Winter Operations (Highway Department):

SI said he hasn't seen any backup documentation; he does not know the value. JF showed him the documents received in their packets. MM explained to him there is never a documentation of how much we are going to deficit spend because it is the future we are talking about and there is no way to know how much we are going to spend between now and April on snow and ice. We can look at the last five years and see a trend of what we have spent but, there is no guarantee. A couple of killer storms can cost us a lot of money. We always under budget this line. SI said there is not a whole lot left in the Reserve Fund. MM said this does not come out of the Reserve Fund we pay for it out of Free Cash.

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LW said she has never seen this on a Selectmen's Report before. JF said we do this every year. MM tried to also explain to LW what this is about and that the Selectmen vote every year to allow this. LW said it should be a Reserve Fund because it is unanticipated. MM said no we pay this out of Free Cash before the Free Cash is certified for the following year. LW asked why we don't borrow in anticipation of revenue. MM said it is always done this way. He also cited the law in regards to this. SI questioned some figures he read from Bill Davis's memo as being different than the expense report. MM stated at the time the memo was written more money had probably been spent since the last warrant. We have had to spend for Winter Operations since the memo request came in and it is on a week to week basis.

7) Selectmen approve deficit spending for Winter Operations for the Highway Department for this winter.

Motion: Mike McCallum

Seconded: Steven Ingerson

Vote: Unan

LW again asked if there was a figure for that amount. JF explained no, we have no way of knowing how many storms we will get. Tomorrow could be 95 degrees.

Any Other Business Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman: None

Assistant to the Board of Selectmen's Report: Read by MM and available on website.

Selectmen received an invitation to Ashburnham's time capsule opening in June in the ABOS Report. JF asked Lillian Whitney if Ashby had a time capsule. LW said yes we do. JF asked when it was due to be opened. LW said she thinks at the 300 celebration and it is on the Common. JF requested that Lillian Whitney check into this. She agreed to do this.

Northeast Municipal Gas Pipeline Coalition Update (if any): Cathy Kristofferson reported: Open Houses with Kinder-Morgan involving several towns were postponed due to the weather and as of yet have not been rescheduled. The coalition and opposition is still on-going. Cathy went into detail about the proposed compression station and the effects the station will have on the environment and the noise from a station. Discussion was held on the noise and pollution factors involved in this operation. SI stated the methane gas will just go up; it is lighter than air so it does not have an effect on Ashby and he was under the assumption that sounds from the station are muffled. CK responded that the methane gas may go up but, all the other toxins used in fracking the gas will be in the pipeline still and can also be released. The gases are "intellectual properties" so no one really knows what they are. The noise from the compression station could be like an airport.

Public Comments (if any):

8) Motion to adjourn at 7:39 p.m.

Motion: Mike McCallum

Seconded: Janet Flinkstrom

Vote: Unan

Signed by: _____

Dates Minutes Approved by Board of Selectmen: _____