

TOWN OF JEFFERSON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

January 4, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Jefferson was held at the Selectmen Office Monday January 4, 2016 at 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Kevin Meehan, and Tom Brady, members comprising a quorum of the Board.

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Cushman, Assistant to Selectmen; Joe Marshall & Debbie Dubois, Library Committee; Vern Matson; Jason Call

Kevin Meehan opened the regular meeting at 6:40 pm. The Board reviewed and approved the bills for payment next week. The Highway and Transfer Station report was reviewed. The warrants were signed. Terri Larcomb was in to pickup signed warrants and sign checks.

Tom Brady made a motion to accept the December 21, 2015 minutes of the Selectmen Meeting as presented. Kevin seconded the motion, the motion carries.

A letter to the Whitefield Board of Selectmen was reviewed and signed. The letter agrees to the 25% Jefferson, 75% Whitefield split for continued maintenance of the Airport Road/Hazen Road. It also states that Whitefield should bring the road up to current standards.

The notices of the 1.5% pay increases were signed to present to the employees. Debbie Dubois signed the Librarian notice for a 50-cent per hour increase.

Debbie Dubois and Joe Marshall were in to discuss the purposed new library. Debbie said that they are still working to complete this project. It has come to there attention that there are rumors floating around that the Jefferson School will be closing at some point. What the Committee is concerned with is where the Selectmen stand, do they support the construction of a new building. Joe said that they are deep into the process of fund raising they need to know how to continue. Kevin said that until it happens they do not know if the school is going to close. Tom said that he did not want to be the one to make a decision on the matter. He believes that it would be the voters that make the decision. The Selectmen agreed last fall if the school was to close that the Town should accept the building and at that point decide what was the best thing to do, disburse of the building putting the funds toward a new library.

Tom thinks that there should be hearings set up to get information out the to residents so that they will have information to make a decision at Town Meeting. Debbie said that no one knows when the closing of the Jefferson School is expected or if it really is going to close. It seems that this subject keeps coming up just to keep residents in a turmoil. Kevin and Tom said that they would put together a letter to the School to see if they can get an answer. If the Town was to consider taking over the building an engineer should be hired to conduct a study of the building. Debbie said that there was going to be a walk through tour of the building by the steering committee Thursday she is not sure of the time.

Vern Matson said that he did not believe the Selectmen did properly with disbursing the Town owned property on Belle Hunt Road. He said that he would be going to the AG's office to file a complaint.

He told the Board that the only way the land could be sold was to put it out to bid, it was not right to sell it to Mr. Lovejoy. Mr. Matson said that he has paid taxes in this Town for over 30-years and should have had the chance to bid on the property. Mr. Matson said the addition of the Town lot to his lot would have made his lot more marketable. Mr. Matson said that he was told by Linda Cushman on December 1 that the Town intended to keep the property.

Mr. Matson said that he wanted to know when the Board decided to sell the property and when the sale was done. Kevin said that he was sure that the process was done properly. Kevin said that he will investigate and get back to Mr. Matson.

The current use abatement request for the Cook property was reviewed. The assessor said that he had made an error in doing the assessment and had not taken the agriculture use into consideration. As for the greenhouse on the Foster property the assessor believes that the greenhouses are not portable therefore should be assessed.

Jason Call brought in the year-end payments from the trust funds.

The next meeting will be January 11, 2016, at 5:00 pm.

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kevin seconded the motion, motion carries.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.