

TOWN OF JEFFERSON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
August 12, 2013

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Jefferson was held at the Selectmen Office Monday August 12, 2013 at 7:00 pm.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Cushman, Assistant to Selectmen; Vern Matson; Mary Gross, Tax Collector

Kevin Meehan opened the regular meeting at 7:10. The Board reviewed and approved the bills for payment next week and signed the warrants. The Highway Department report was reviewed. The warrants were signed.

Norman Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 29, 2013 meeting as written. Tom Brady seconded the motion. The motion carries.

The Selectmen signed the tax anticipation note in the amount of \$750,000 at an interest rate of .85%.

Vern Matson request the Selectmen contact DOT regarding the traffic and pedestrian safety issues in the area of Santa's Village and the motels. Mr. Matson said that it should be requested that a cross walk be installed, signage with the hours of operation, and a reduction of the speed limit to 30 MPH. Norman states that this has been an on going issue, but doubts that as Rout 2 is a US highway that a sidewalk would be installed. It may be possible to extend the 40 MPH. A pedestrian tunnel would be the ideal solution, it has been discussed with DOT in the past. A letter will be sent to DOT expressing the concerns with copies going to Senator Woodburn and Councilor Burton.

Norman said that Nick Staley has said that the Village is willing to pay the cost for police coverage. Mr. Staley said that safety is important to the Village.

Norman has checked with other area police department as to what they charge for special details. Whitefield charges \$55 an hour, \$12 an hour for a cruiser the officer is paid \$40; Twin Mt. \$55 an hour; Groveton \$55 an hour the officer is paid \$44; the County is \$50 an hour with a minimum of four hours paid; Lancaster rate is about the same. The Selectmen discussed whether a special detail rate should be considered. When police services are needed at traffic accidents in most cases the insurance company or if a truck accident, the carrier pays the cost of the officer. Norman said that in paying an officer \$40 an hour this would also cover the cost the vehicle.

Tom made a motion to establish a special detail fee for police coverage, the rate being \$55 an hour including the vehicle and paying the officer \$40 an hour effective immediately. Kevin seconded the motion. The motion carries. Norman abstained.

Mary Gross was in to inform the Selectmen of two potential tax deeds. Mary said that the Phillips' have not made payments as agreed. Arnesen property they have not made any payments. Mary said that she will send a second notice of deeding.

There is a trailer that belongs to Rob Couture that sits on land of his parents. The trailer is valued at \$300, taxes are \$6. It is costing the Town more in sending notices than it is worth, Mr. Couture does not have any interest in the trailer, he has not paid the tax and does not pick up the certified mailings. The Selectmen agreed that an abatement should be issued.

Mary wanted to update the Selectmen on the progress of the Library Committee. They have met with the architects to look at changes that may have to be made to the previous design. It is the Committees intention to talk with the public to get their input as well. There have been several people that are interested in helping, especially in grant writing. The Committee is planning to have a public meeting to keep the Town's people informed and address their concerns. One concern that has been brought up is the cost of maintaining a new building. Mary said that energy efficiency is one of the big parts of the design for the proposed building. Mary said that the Committee would like to continue to have the tax payers support, however they do not expect the tax payers to fund the entire project. It is the plan of the Committee that as long as they get the support of the Town's people at Town Meeting they will be ready to start major fund raising efforts in 2014. Mary said that she would keep the Board informed.

The small trimmer that is being used by the grounds crew needs to be replaced. Cassady Sales & Service has a new trimmer for \$260.00. The Selectmen approved the purchase of the trimmer for \$260 from Cassady Sales & Service.

Norman said that he will review the material and submit the application for the mitigation money to replace the bridge. The application has to be filed by October 11, 2013.

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

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,