

Selectmen's meeting minutes for 04/16/2024

In attendance: Willie Ingraham, Joshua Larrabee, Jeffrey Stevens, Ivy Larrabee, Jacky Binette, Charles and Nellie Littlefield, Hans Schmidt

Meeting called to order at 5:55pm by Joshua Larrabee

Previous meeting minutes were reviewed. Voted all in favored for approval.

The warrants were reviewed and signed.

Expense Report and Revenue Report reviewed by all Selectmen.

Charles and Nellie Littlefield were in attendance to review the quitclaim deed their lawyer had written for the Howard Property, discussed in the town meeting. Jacky reviewed the details, noting that though she is not a title attorney, the referenced lines could be applied to a couple different points. She recommended to reach out to their lawyer and review to clarify. Ivy will call Jeremy Martin on 04.17.2024 to discuss.

Hans was in attendance to review his personal property bill. He stated these pieces of equipment were no longer of taxable value and requested an abatement. Josh stated that if we were to abate this, we would have to extend this to the entire town to be fair and this was not in the budget for abatement. Josh stated Jacky and the Selectmen have been reviewing the personal property accounts to evaluate and trying to plan on what's best for everyone in the future. Hans agreed to pay 2023 personal property in anticipation of a different course of action in the future on these accounts.

Josh proposed for 2024 personal property that the town only bills out to residents that have a business. This would allow us to reduce the amount of inaccurate accounts in the system. We have sent out declarations for residents to declare a business or not, and requested an accurate list of personal property to start a depreciation schedule. All three Selectmen voted in favor of this.

Jacky requested the sketch program to be added to TRIO. The selectmen approved Ivy to call and request a quote for this to be added. This would be listed under the assessor budget.

Jacky is changing her workdays to Tuesdays. This will allow us to have all Selectmen available to review anything that comes up at the Selectmen Meetings.

Jacky presented the Selectmen the Certified Ratio Declaration from the state. She discussed where we sit as a town in assessment values and that that could mean for commitment. They discussed the different options and spoke of putting some figures together to do some test commitments to see how they come out.

Jacky also stated we have received 44 personal property declarations out of the 120 we sent.

Account PP91 has requested an abatement as the resident has passed away and the personal property is no longer accurate. The Selectmen voted all in favor of this being approved.

Dorrit and Tony Emerson have requested an abatement on their real estate account.

They were being billed for two homesites, and their daughter's house. Jessicas homesite and house are being billed on her own account separately. The Selectmen reviewed the associated documents and voted all in favor of this abatement.

Jim and Denise Keller have requested review of their listed acreage. Jim stated he is being billed for 144 acres, but only owns 122. He and his wife presented documentation in this request. Jacky measured and reviewed. While she sees where he may feel this is inaccurate, she is unable to come up with the figures he has found with the documentation he has presented. This was a plot plan from the 1980's, not including all line measurements. Without a survey done of the property Jacky does not feel there is information enough to reduce the listed acreage. Jacky will contact Jim when she is in the office again.

Josh noted 14 tons of salt was hauled for the sand pile. We have had a few late spring storms that have caused us to need just a little bit more salt and sand. The Selectmen only approved what was absolutely needed so we can ensure the sand shed is empty for maintenance on the blocks.

Josh reviewed the culvert at the end of Travis and Amber Doughty's driveway. The Carlen culvert was also reviewed. He measured both and will make arrangements for these to be fixed.

Willie reviewed the pothole in front of Philip Shibles house on the Knox Station Road. He worked with Bo and hauled gravel to fill this in. He noted some water drainage issues to be reviewed here to correct this.

Josh received a quote from Jacob Archer for roadside tree trimming. Josh gave Archer a list of roads that needed to be done. The quote came back at \$45,000. Josh stated this was higher than he had expected and they will have to review the priority roads to be done. Dutton Pond Road being one of them.

We have received an award letter from FEMA for the May 2023 storm. We will be receiving \$13,147.74.

We received a roadside mowing quote from Sandra Greeley. The figure came in at \$2,800.00. We tried to anticipate an increase for 2024, however this was a bit more than we budgeted at \$2,500.00. This is tabled for now for further discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55