

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Date: 10 March 2008

Agenda: Treasurer's Report & Warrant Article
Snow Removal Issue
Accrued Interest in Fund Accounts
08 09 Proposed Warrant Changes
Audit for Annual Report
MMA Risk Management Application
Annual Meeting Site - Georgetown
ATV Signs for the Marsh
Other
Mail
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Selectmen (TS) – Larry Wilson
Sukey Heard
Michele Gaillard
Treasurer – Ray Paradis
Town Clerk – Heather K Baker

Attachments: A. Warrant Article #17
B. Holbrook letter, dtd 27 Feb 2008
C. Jim Stump e-mail, dtd 10 Mar 2008
D. Proposed Town of Arrowsic Warrant Article Changes for Fiscal Year 08-09

Larry called the meeting to order at 6:06PM.

Warrant Articles & Treasurer's Report

- Warrant #17, attachment A, accepted and approved as submitted.
 1. Snow Removal Issue – Dick Holbrook & Sons Inc. has written the Selectmen requesting a review of this year's snow removal contract and a renegotiation for a monetary adjustment, see attachment B.

The road commission has reviewed the issue and requested an accounting from Ray of the current monies remaining in the road commission account as well as an accounting of what has been spent to date for sand/salt by the town, see attachment C.

TS determined that once the information has been delivered to Jim Stump it is up to the Road Commission to determine the best course of action with regard to amending the current contract to cover unexpected snow removal costs, in 2007/2008, within the warrant limits of his budget.

Michele would like to know how many days Holbrook plowed to assess the degree of difficulty in a bad year to establish a benchmark for future contracts.

Warrant Articles & Treasurer's Report (cont.)

Ray will discuss the money issues with Jim and return to the Selectmen with a recommendation.

2. Accrued Interest in Fund Accounts - Currently all the interest accrued at year end from all our accounts was being split by the auditors between the Fire Department (FD) and Town Hall Capital Improvement (CI) funds. The interest being accrued in these accounts is not apparent to the town residents. The Selectmen and Ray agree that it is very important that there be clarity with all the accounts.

Ray recommends at year end any bank interest that is not ear-marked for either CIF or FDF be transferred to Surplus.

Sukey would like a warrant article added at town meeting to explain the amount of interest earned in these two accounts and how that will affect the allocation amount being requested that year.

Michele made a motion to discontinue dividing the interest between the two funds and place the entire amount into the Surplus account. TS voted unanimously to approve the motion.

08 09 Proposed Warrant Changes

- Ray proposed three warrant article changes as follows:
 1. Election Officials – Remove election workers who are currently exempt from income tax, by Federal Law, from Article 5 and create a new article for exempt election workers, see attachment D, Article 5 & 6.
 2. Proceeds from a tax delinquent property – Currently Article #63 requires the proceeds from the sale of a tax delinquent property go to the Town Capital Improvement Fund (CIF). Ray recommends that these proceeds should go into Undesignated Surplus in lieu of CIF and that CIF be funded on an “as needed” basis to avoid the potential of being over-funded by the sale of a tax delinquent property, see attachment D, Article 63.
 3. Reduce Tax Commitment – Ray recommends that the Undesignated Surplus Fund should be 25% of the commitment in keeping with State recommendations and other references he has on file. The current fund is at approximately 45%. His long term thinking is to use 25% ratio as a starting point to reduce the current tax commitment, see attachment D, new article and pages 2 & 3.

Ray recommends reducing the overall commitment by \$125,000. Michele proposed to reduce the overall commitment by what we put back into the budget from the previous year. Ray says that will be approximately 33%.

TS unanimously accepted an amended proposal of \$100,000 for warrant approval.

Audit for Annual Report

- Larry would like a copy of the final audit in CD format for the Annual Report from Purdy Powers as soon as possible.

MMA Risk Management Application

- Sukey will use 2006 audited figures when filling out the application.

Annual Meeting Site - Georgetown

- Michele will confirm the use of the Georgetown School for the next Annual Meeting. She had written to request the use of the school and believes she's received a confirmation.

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ATV Signs for the Marsh

- Marsh ATV riders believe they are within their rights to ride in marsh areas on private property because they have permission to ride on the property from the owner. The State however prohibits ATV operation in marsh areas whether these locations are on private or public property. See February 25th meeting minutes for addition information.
- Larry has acquired "No ATV" signs for posting in marsh areas from the State.
- TS approved a motion to make these signs available to any resident that would like one. Larry will ask Maria Grill to post sign availability in the next *Arrow*.

Other

- Fire Barn on Rte 127 – A group of Fire Department volunteers, Property Management Committee members and the Selectmen will meet at the fire barn to discuss needed building improvements and determine how much money will be requested in the next warrant to complete these renovations. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday the 15th or Sunday the 16th at 10AM at the fire barn.

Mail

- Susan Elkin letter, dtd 27 February 2008 – Sukey has worked with Susan to ensure that she, Susan, has received all the information available to her from the Town Hall.
- TS feel every town official involved has done their best to accommodate her in her quest to acquire information relative to her hearing on 11 March 2008.

Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes for 25 February 2008 were approved as submitted.

Larry adjourned the meeting at 8:49 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Heather K. Baker

Heather K. Baker, Town Clerk