

Arrowsic Selectmen's Meeting

June 10, 2013

Present: Sukey Heard, Michele Gaillard, Bill Savedoff, Mary McDonald
Phine Ewing, Karen Robbins, Bob Rogers, Michael Kreindler

Treasurer's Report and Warrant:

Warrant # 22 (\$6,333.08) was reviewed, approved and signed.

Alewives Account Balance:

Phine and Karen attended on behalf of the Conservation Committee, to question whether the Maine State Planning grant money for the alewife project needed to be transferred into the alewife account prior to the end of the year so that it would not fall into surplus. Mary assured them that it would be done at year end, prior to closing the books.

Properties Committee Clarification:

The Selectmen engaged in a discussion with Bob Rogers and Mike Kreindler regarding town landscaping and landscape maintenance needs. Presently Dick Elwell mows around the Town Hall and Fire Barn, but other regular (weeding, weed wacking) and seasonal (leaves, branches) maintenance is not being consistently attended to. Several years ago, there was a larger "garden" committee who performed some work but it has since disbanded. Bob Rogers remains committed but doesn't want to be the de facto Arrowsic gardener nor does he have the time to create and oversee a group of volunteers. Michael Kreindler is willing to manage larger maintenance projects if approved and appropriately funded by the Selectmen to be contracted out. Further discussion tabled until July 8.

Town Meeting Preparations:

The Selectmen determined who among them would address the various articles if questioned at Town Meeting.

Arrowsic Student Enrollment:

Sukey has been working with the RSU1 Staff to determine the accurate Arrowsic student head count for billing purposes. Twice each year, in April and October, the RSU reports head counts by town to the State, with the lagging average used to assess local education costs. It has not been RSU policy to provide the information to the towns for verification prior to reporting. Sukey has proved that their Arrowsic numbers for the upcoming billing period are inflated by two students, which will cost the town \$22,000 this year. The RSU has indicated that there is no remedy at this point. The Selectmen will write a formal letter of grievance to Superintendent Manuel regarding the over-assessment, requesting that we not be charged for the extra students, and that the incorrect head count, reported to the State this April, be adjusted by 2 students, to accurately reflect our enrollment.

Education Review Committee:

The Selectmen received an email from a citizen who has attended several planning meetings for the ERC, with questions about the scope and role of the committee and whether it needs to be created by ordinance. The writer also wondered whether the former School Committee has been formally disbanded. The Selectmen discussed how they could provide

support to the process of creating this committee. The Selectmen will mention the committee and its plans so far at the Town Meeting and ask for interested folks to sign up. Bill agreed to go to the next ERC meeting.

Firewood Donation:

A generous citizen contacted the Selectmen with the offer of ½ cord of wood for a family in need. The Selectmen discussed and determined a recipient. Sukey will facilitate the transfer.

Arrowsic Scholarship Recipients:

On advice of the Scholarship Committee, the Selectmen voted to designate three Arrowsic Scholarship recipients, Madeline Arsenault, Masha Heath, and Amelia Neilson, who will all receive \$1,000 and the good wishes of the Town of Arrowsic.

Internet Access at Town Hall:

Bill and Jennifer have both been working with Fairpoint to come up with the most economical telephone/fax/internet package, with interestingly different results. Since Bill received a lower quote, we'll have him order the service.

KELT Support Letter:

The Kennebec Estuary Land Trust asked for a letter of support from the Town as they seek accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Committee. The Selectmen happily obliged.

Minutes:

Minutes for 5/22/13 were approved as amended. Sukey will send to Paul Kalkstein to post on the website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Gaillard