

Arrowsic Selectmen's Meeting

August 12, 2013

Present: Michele Gaillard, Bill Savedoff, Mary McDonald

Treasurer's Report and Warrant:

Warrant # 3 (\$7,927.48) was reviewed, approved and signed. Mary informed the Selectmen that there have been changes in the City of Bath accounting staff and the statements sent for solid waste are very different and hard to use. Hopefully the situation will remedy itself soon.

RSU Rebate:

The Selectmen received a letter from RSU1 indicating that they had received a \$6,547 rebate from the State for special education costs in the 2012-2013 academic year, which would be allocated to Arrowsic in the 2013-2014 academic year, reducing our costs. The lower amount will be used for the tax commitment. Mary will contact the RSU office to discuss how to deduct it from our payments.

Maine DOT Reduction:

Mary received notification that rather than the \$12,372 that we expected from ME DOT to cover the costs of maintaining the State road in Arrowsic (Rte. 127), we will be receiving \$8,628. The Selectmen will contact Jim Stump to see how he plans to handle the shortfall to his budget.

Animal Control:

Jeremy Blaiklock, the Arrowsic ACO, stopped by to review an animal control issue and remind us that he is more than willing to consult with us if we hear of any issues with domestic animals in town. Jeremy said that dog registration is a State law and any violations end up with the District Attorney so it is usually preferable to solve the issue on the local level.

Town Ordinances:

The Selectmen plan to investigate whether a proposed town noise ordinance regarding barking dogs was ever passed. Although the records seem to be complete, they are not organized in a way that makes them easy to find. Bill suggested that this would be a good project to the Town Clerk.

Election Update:

Staffing for the election set. Town Hall will be open from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm per State law. Information will be posted on the website and a series of reminders sent.

Town Clerk Transition

Sukey and Bill have met with Linda Warner, a new resident on Indian Rest Road, who has had municipal experience and would like to become our new Town Clerk. Linda has also met with Liz, who is impressed with her knowledge and skills. We are awaiting a letter of resignation from Jennifer so at this point the dates for training and turnover are a bit unclear. We would like to propose that Jennifer work with the new Town Clerk candidate for

several Town Hall business sessions. Jennifer is also resigning as the Registrar of Voters and we are in the process of finding suitable candidates for that job.

Jennifer has asked the Selectmen to consider selling her the Town laptop that we purchased for her 4 years ago. Michele will look into the present value of the equipment and propose a price.

Honors Garden:

Sukey received a request from a resident to plant a memorial tree in the Honors Garden and is working with the resident and the former members of the Garden Committee to make it happen.

Education Committee:

Bill has been working with a group of residents to come up with the structure and parameters for a town committee that will assume some responsibility for education issues. They have had several successful meetings already and hope to discuss the functions of the committee and its organizational structure in upcoming meetings.

Town Communications:

The Selectmen have been discussing taking a more systematic approach to our official communications with town residents. We have had success with the Google group but to a limited number of residents. The Arrow is mailed and supposedly reaches all households but is expensive to produce and potentially wasteful. Bill believes that we should survey the residents for the preferred methods of communication and use the results to come up with an integrated plan that will more consistently and efficiently meet the needs. Bill is working on the survey.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Gaillard