

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Date: December 12th, 2011

Attendees: Selectmen- Michele Gaillard, Sukey Heard, Larry Wilson

Town Clerk- Jennifer Hall

Treasurer- Mary McDonald

Also in attendance- Patrick Manuel, Tim Harkins, Alan Walton representing the RSU; Lisa Holley, Barbara Boyce, Janet Kehl, Damian Sokol, Virginia Santerre, Robert Santerre, Nancy Brown-Stump, Roz McLean, Roger Heard, Maggie Woodruff, Kay Beveridge, Karen Robbins, Gretchen Sibley

Larry called meeting to order at 6:00 PM

1. **RSU Members Discussion-** Michele welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the RSU members to speak about the budget and voice their concerns as well as hear resident concerns. Supt. Manuel spoke about the budget and that it was being looked into now for the following year and that it won't be public until 3.5.12. The RSU was expecting a 1 million dollar shortfall and now it is only a \$450,000 deficiency and that all cost centers will be considered when looking at cuts. Tim added that the budget process doesn't start until Feb/Mar timeframe but felt it is important to be proactive with the budget since there is less and less to be cut out each year. There was a survey sent out to try to get an idea of how the RSU residents felt about the cuts, what needed to be cut, and what they were willing to do to not have as many cuts have to take place. The SAG was mentioned in that it is very unique to Arrowsic because we don't have a school in town. Supt. Manuel is very supportive of our local SAG and wants to get together with those interested in it to make it work. A question about grant writing came up and that is an area to be explored. Karen Robbins asked about being even more proactive and starting the process even earlier with a vision of what the RSU should look like for education as opposed to reacting to a budgetary crisis. Tim agreed and said that it is something he would like to see happen and has wanted to have happen in the past. Also mentioned was that The Help a Kid is now a 501(c) 3 foundation and there is fundraising going on and a website being developed to help the foundation become successful. The RSU members had to leave for a board meeting to be held at another location so a ten minute break was taken so that the Selectmen could continue with Town business.
2. **Treasurer's Report and Warrant Articles-** Warrant #14 for \$55,182.02 approved and signed.
3. **Notice for committee reports-** Has been distributed to all chairs.
4. **Sign contract for animal control-** The town population is now 427 so the contract for animal control for the Town is now \$320 annually from January to January. Sukey signed the contract and mailed it back to Lincoln County.
5. **Preliminary discussion of Generator Contract-** Tabled
6. **Website Business-** Michele will update the calendar. There has been a request to advertise a home-based business on the Town website. There will be a notice in the next Arrow stating that if any advertising is to be done in town, there first must be a home-based business permit issued.
7. **Mail-** Fields For Our Future has requested funds from the Town.
8. **Minutes-** January 23 approved
9. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Hall, Town Clerk