Town of Leicester

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 3, 2011

"Unapproved"

** See subsequent minutes for any changes

Members Present: Diane Benware, Ron Riske, Tom Barker, Ken Young, Bob Oliver

Others Present: Julie Delphia, Arlan Pidgeon, Kate Briggs, Pete Fjeld, Bethany Menkart, Donna Swinington, Sandra Trombley, Secretary

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair, followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

Review of Agenda: Agenda reviewed. Moved the ZBA & PC up on agenda.

Attendance Policy for Board Members:

Discussion about the attendance policy for all board members. ZBA and PC members reported the need for active participating members. Donna reported that the Town received the Planning Grant and now we need new members or participating members; as there is much work to be done.

Motion by Tom to remove Tim Johnson from ZBA and PC due to lack of attendance. Second by Ken. All in favor. So approved.

Policy for all boards in town: *A board member may be excused for not attending a meeting or hearing for valid reasons if he or she notifies the board chairperson prior to the meeting or hearing. A board member will be removed if he or she has three consecutive unexcused absences from meetings or hearings, or if the total absences exceed 25% of the total meetings and hearings in a calendar year, at the request of that board, at the discretion of the Selectboard.*

The board reaffirmed Article 9.3 in the Rules and Procedures.

Action: Diane will send Tim a letter.

Approval of Minutes of December 20, 2010:

Motion by Tom to approve the minutes of December 20, 2010 as written. Second by Bob. All in favor. So approved.

Review/Authorize Payment of Bills: Bills making their rounds for signatures.

Reports from Town Officials, Committees:

Road Foreman:

Arlan affirmed that he had ordered the galvanized culvert and the invoice is in the bills. The capital plan in 2008 had a number of culverts listed needing replacement and ditching work.

Ken reported water getting deeper on Ferson Road due to the beavers plugging the culvert again. Arlan needs to get the water down before the trapper can come in.

The stove pipe in the Meeting House needs to be looked at and probably needs to be cleaned.

Action: Bob will talk with Roy D'Avignon.

Discussion about using #2 fuel oil and using an additive with it for Senior Center instead of using kerosene to save 30 cents per gallon.

Action: Arlan will buy a case of power service additive.

Action: Julie will inform Champlain Valley Plumbing and Heating to bring #2 home heating fuel oil from now on.

Discussion about building a shelter around the fuel tank.

Action: Board will look at fuel tank before next Monday's meeting.

Zoning Administrator:

Kate discussed budget for next year; fees and postage. She recommended raising subdivision fees. No action taken by Board.

Lister Report:

Kate's resignation letter will be effective February 28, 2011.

Kate and Julie met with an alternate tax map person. She received a proposal for three years which was roughly two times what we have been paying. Kate doesn't think this person is twice as good. She also met with our existing tax map person. They had conversations about past communication problems and accuracy issues with the Town. The Town has been aware of issues for many years. It is hard to go back and recreate things.

Action: Kate will send a "no thank you" letter to alternate tax map person for foreseeable future.

Julie is still waiting on CLA breakdown data from Listers.

Town Clerk/Treasurer:

Julie reported that delinquent taxes were at $98,000. $115,000 with interest and penalties.

The last day for people to do petitions for Articles is the 20th. For ballot is the 24th. She is in need of a 2nd Constable, Selectboard member for 3 years, a Lister for 1 year and may need Lister for 3 years.

Cemetery Committee: No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Tom to authorize Treasurer to send $100 donation to Addison County Field Days in memory of Frances Monroe; particularly for the building named after her. Second by Bob. All in favor. So approved.

Ron reported that land on Stove Pipe Ave. and Isthmus Road is going to the Federal Government. We need to add both Class IV roads to the map by February 10th.

End of Year Budget Review – Step 2

Julie presented an updated budget worksheet. She has transferred monies as discussed previously. Reviewed line items with some discussion. Board will review for next meeting.

Easement to Sign:

Easement for Fairpoint Communications on Fernville Road and Rte. 53. Permission to replace poles; including any necessary trim.

Action: Board signed off on easement.

OLD BUSINESS:

Audit Info:

Tom Telling will provide a written quote. Sullivan & Powers will provide a written quote.

Other:

Arlan will review the town and highway bridge weight restriction filings. Julie will fax back to Montpelier with no changes.

Limited Public Opinion: None

Motion by Bob to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Second by Tom. All in favor. So approved.

Next meeting, Monday, January 10, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Trombley
Selectboard Secretary