

WEST WINDSOR SELECTBOARD

Draft Minutes

July 10, 2014

Present: Glenn Seward, Tom Kenyon, Bruce Boedtger, Cathy Archibald, George Calver (*Vermont Standard*)

- 1) Call to Order – Selectboard Chair Glenn Seward called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.
- 2) Changes or Additions – Tom noted that the east boundary for the old schoolhouse on the corner of Bible Hill and Harrington Road is the stream.
- 3) Announcements/Public Comment – Glenn said West Windsor received a structures grant from the state and he is inquiring whether the funds can be used to replace the Brownsville-Hartland Road culvert. Tom suggested getting a ballpark estimate from Jon Murphy.
- 4) Set municipal tax rate – Tom said the state required Isle La Motte to drastically increase its state education property tax to cover a deficit in the school budget. Glenn noted that Albert Bridge School has a deficit and is discussing how to deal with it. Glenn said the Superintendent will meet with the School Board Chair to come up with a plan. Tom said he's concerned about sending out tax bills and then having to send out a second tax bill. Bruce and Glenn agreed that the town has to work with existing information. Glenn said he suggested to Superintendent David Baker that the School Board meet with parents to discuss options. Regarding the municipal tax rate, Glenn noted a decrease in the amount of current use revenue budgeted. Glenn said the increase in municipal taxes is not due to increased expenditures, it's due to decreased revenue. Cathy said the state education tax rate is up 22 cents this year for homesteads, and 16 cents for non-residents. Cathy suggested a municipal tax rate of 43 cents. **Tom moved to set the municipal tax rate at 16 cents for town, 19 cents for highway, 4 cents for appropriations, and 4 cents for Act 144, for a total of 43 cents per \$100 of assessed value, due on the last Friday in October, as voted on by the taxpayers. Glenn seconded the motion.** Tom said if current use revenue is higher than expected, he would suggest putting it towards projects for next year to try to reduce the budget. Glenn agreed and said some could also go to the town's rainy day fund. Tom asked about existing commitments. Glenn said the Selectboard planned to put \$10,000 towards 911 signage but we're not going to do that this year. Glenn said we may also have to use some rainy day funds for the Sheddsville intersection project but he's not aware of any other commitments of funds. Tom said he'd like to finish the Sheddsville Cemetery walls and put some money into tree removal. Glenn said if we replace the culvert on the Brownsville-Hartland Road, we will have to commit some funds for that but, if we put in a corrugated metal pipe rather than a concrete box, we can keep the cost down. Bruce asked if Vermont River Management Engineer Todd Menees would be okay with that option. Glenn said he has not talked with Todd yet. Glenn said we'll need to have a contractor give us an estimate. Tom asked about a shoulder for pedestrians. Glenn said he thinks there should be a shoulder on both sides. Tom suggested using funds from the paving fund for the paving portion of the project. **Glenn called for a vote on the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- 5) Sign orders – There were no orders for the Selectboard to sign.
- 6) Adjourn – **Glenn moved to adjourn at 8:17 AM. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Harrison