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Town of Thetford • PO Box 126 • Thetford Center, VT 05075 • (802) 785-2922

## **Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes Thetford Town Offices**

Thursday, December 15, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

### **Stuart Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.**

Selectboard members present: John Bacon, James Dixon, Jessica Eaton, Bill Huff, Stuart Rogers

Others present: Jill Graff (Town Treasurer), Marty Moses (Selectboard Assistant)

Community Members present: Todd Wagner, Bob Watson, Tim Ulman, Tim McCosker, Mariah Whitcomb, Chad Whitcomb, Nathan Maxwell

### **Budget Discussions & Town Meeting Info for 2017**

#### **Fire Dept. & Emergency Management 6:03 p.m.**

Mariah Whitcomb recommended that the capital equipment fund increase an additional \$1000. There was discussion about the cost to replace generators.

Chad Whitcomb explained that a Fire Warden is a position required by the town and appointed by the state with a recommendation from the town. The town is required by state law to provide forest fire suppression. Chad Whitcomb said there was a significant increase in the cost last year, but the costs were absorbed by the fire department, and the money was not in the fire department budget. The equipment needs to be purchased, so it's either separated out as a line item for Fire Warden, or included in the fire department budget.

Chad Whitcomb explained that state regulations now require electronic reports for emergency medical calls, instead of paper as it is now. This will require computer and internet access in the rescue truck.

Chad Whitcomb gave an overview of the gear that needs to be purchased. Chad Whitcomb explained that there is a schedule for rotating gear to ensure that everyone has gear that is within the 10-year limit for liability.

Chad Whitcomb reviewed the capital equipment fund with the Selectboard. There are 4 trucks at the Fire Department; 2 pumper trucks and 2 tanker trucks. Chad Whitcomb explained the

reworking of the schedule, which will reduce the length of time before a truck is replaced. The resell value of the trucks will increase and there will be a savings of \$346,000 to the town over a 20-year period. Chad Whitcomb said this will keep level funding instead of a big bump in the budget when multiple payments will come due.

There was discussion about how this would impact the fund balance and the general budget. The Selectboard likes the plan, and will get back to the department after more discussion.

### **Recreation 7:21 p.m. w/Nathan Maxwell, Recreation Director**

The Selectboard asked Nathan Maxwell to give an explanation of the line item for Youth Sports Equipment. Nathan Maxwell said that line item is most of the recreation budget. Nathan Maxwell explained the uniform replacement schedule. Nathan Maxwell said he was trying to get a scholarship through the Byrne Foundation for uniforms.

Nathan Maxwell pointed out the areas of the budget that he had reduced, and explained he was not going to make too many changes until he had a year of experience with the department.

There was discussion about the current fees. Nathan Maxwell said his goal would be a yearly increase of 10% in fees for the next 5 years.

There was discussion about for-profit businesses which have previously been accessed through the Recreation Department. Nathan Maxwell said he could put a link to those businesses on the Recreation website. People would then be able to access those businesses, but they would not be directly connected to the town recreation department. Nathan Maxwell said this change could take place by the end of February.

There was discussion about the scoreboard at Thetford Elementary School. Nathan Maxwell said it would cost about \$2000 to replace the current scoreboard. The Selectboard agreed that a new one should be purchased. John Bacon said the scoreboard should have its own power circuit and breaker.

### **Town Clerk 8:18 w/Tracy Borst**

Tracy Borst said that Town Meeting will be on March 4<sup>th</sup>, and pre-town meeting is on February 27. Tracy Borst said the Selectboard members whose terms are expiring should have received the petition and the consent for nomination in the mail. The petitions are due back January 30<sup>th</sup>. Tracy Borst sent the list of terms that are up to the Listserve. There was discussion about the Library Trustees.

There was discussion about organizations that should not be under the umbrella of the town. Tracy Borst said the committees under the town need to follow the Open Meeting Laws.

There was discussion about the benefits of being a town committee. There was discussion about the town webpage.

There was discussion about the committees moving to an appropriation if they are currently a line item in the budget.

There was discussion about the Town Report.

### **Old Business**

The Selectboard received an email from Alexis Jetter, for the Friends of Treasure Island, requesting a key to the house at Treasure Island. The Selectboard agreed that a key should not be given out, but a member of the Selectboard would meet with the group for a walk through of the house. Jessica Eaton said she would meet with the group.

There was discussion about Lifeguards and the management of Treasure Island for 2017.

There was discussion about DPW equipment.

**Motion** by John Bacon at 9:12 p.m. to adjourn the regular Selectboard meeting. Seconded by James Dixon. **VOTE unanimous (5-0-0)**