

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting

7:00 pm

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

Town Offices

Present: Chair, Kathy Barrett, Vice Chair, Pam Marsh, Roger Boise, Kathleen Ready, Treasurer, Barb Torian and Clerk, Pam Kingman

Absent: Charlie Roy

Visitors: Delinquent Tax Collector, Sue Ford and Former Auditor, Angie Dunbar

AGENDA RESULTS:

VISITORS BUSINESS:

- 1. Delinquent Tax Collector, Sue Ford:** Is here to ask the Selectboard to authorize her to hire a lawyer to conduct a tax sale on April 24, 2013 on the Hubbell property located on Hunt Road. Our current Town Attorney has never conducted a tax sale. Sue would like to hire Jim Ouimette who does have experience. Pam Marsh made a motion to authorize the Delinquent Tax Collector to hire Attorney Ouimette to run the tax sale and to collect fees incurred by the delinquent taxes on the Hubbell property with the understanding that his fees are paid through the tax sale. Seconded by Kathleen Ready. 4 yes / 0 no
- 2. Former Auditor, Angie Dunbar** – Angie, Iva Menard and Polly Darnell are all willing to serve on a Financial Oversight Committee that would help out the professional audit by spot checking financials, checking the Selectboard minutes and compiling the town report. The Selectboard will draft a job description and will discuss how they envision the Committee would work, as well as the question of compensation, and get back to the former auditors.
- 3. General Fund Budget Adjustment:** During the budget process, the Selectboard and Treasurer were aware of a large surplus in the General Fund Budget that they could not explain. The only part of the budget could not be checked was the amount we paid to the schools. Back in January, Kathy Barrett, who is and elected Auditor for Mt. Abraham, asked the Superintendent's office to verify that New Haven had paid the full amount since we had such a large unexplained surplus. She was told that the amount the Town paid was correct. Kathy also has an email from the Superintendent's office stating the amount we had paid was the correct amount. The bill Barb Downloaded from the State website said "final bill" on it, and she paid that amount, thinking that that was the final amount. Then in late March, 2013 she received a call from the Superintendent's office saying we still owe the School \$218,997.33; and that bill said "preliminary" on it. Since this has happened, Barb has called the towns of Bristol and Monkton to see how they handle their schools monies and both

Treasurers were very helpful. Pam Marsh called Garrett Baxter, attorney at VLCT to find out how to deal with this after the budget was already voted on in March, VLCT said one of the ways is to hold a Special Town Meeting and vote. Kathleen Ready spoke with Garrett Baxter today; he suggested to Kathleen the Selectboard could hold an informational meeting on how the townspeople may want to deal with it. Kathleen likes this idea, speaking to the public to see what they want the Board to do. She said the public can decide if they want the board to decrease the road budget and increase the General Fund. The Board discussed their options. Kathleen Ready made a motion to hold an informational meeting to discuss the issue on how to pay the school bill. There was not second to the motion. Pam Marsh made a motion to set a Special Town Meeting for Monday, May 20, 2013 @ 7pm in the Town Hall, with voting to be on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 from 7am – 7pm. To warn a Supplemental General Fund Budget of \$218,997.33. Seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 1 no (Ready) Kathleen Ready supports raising the money to pay the bill, but she would like to have a discussion with the townspeople. Pam Marsh made a motion to warn an article to change the time of the Annual Town Meeting on the Monday before the first Tuesday in March to 6:30 pm, seconded by Kathy Barrett. 4 yes / 0 no Kathy Barrett and Barb Torian will draft a letter to send out to the public before the Special Town Meeting.

TOWN OFFICE BUSINESS:

1. **Town Hall Applications:** 1) Pam Marsh made a motion to approve Brenda Jones application to use the cafeteria on May 5, 2013 from 1 – 5 pm to hold a baby shower. Deposit and fee received. Motion seconded by Kathleen Ready. 4 yes / 0 no. 2) Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve Suzy Roorda's application to hold free Bone Builders classes starting in May 2013. Fee is waived, deposit received. Motion seconded by Pam Marsh. 4 yes / 0 no. 3) Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve Suzanne Calabro's application to hold a grade 5/6 dance in the gym on Saturday, June 1, 2013 from 2 – 10 pm. The dance will be from 7 – 9 pm, seconded by Pam Marsh. 4 yes / 0 no
2. **Revised Zoning fee schedule – ZA,** Dave Wetmore had revised the old fee schedule for the Selectboard to look over. There were some minor tweaks the Board would like to see. Defer approval until the April 16, 2013 meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 3/23/13, in the amount of \$3,187.78, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no

2. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve payroll for the week ending 3/30/13, in the amount of \$3,921.07, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 3 yes / 1 abstention (Boise)
3. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the pay orders for the week ending 4/2/13, in the amount of \$251,077.46, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no
4. Outside Audit – Defer until the April 16, 2013 meeting until the Selectboard has a chance to review it.
5. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the JTown Treasurer obtaining a tax anticipation line of credit in the amount of \$650,000, at a rate of 1.5% per annum with People's United; due on October 10, 2013. Seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no
6. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the Banks Resolution for Tax Anticipation Borrowing (Line of Credit), seconded by Kathleen Ready. 4 yes / 0 no
7. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve the Non-Arbitrage Certificate Tax Anticipation Borrowing (Line of Credit), seconded by Pam Marsh. 4 yes / 0 no

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. **Road Update:** The Road Crew has been out sweeping intersections and starting to grade the dirt roads.
2. **Equipment Update:** All equipment is in good working order.
3. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve the Cobble Road Agreement between Middlebury and New Haven, seconded by Roger Boise. 3 yes / 1 no (Marsh) because she is concerned that although the agreement calls for the Towns to meet to discuss work before it is done, there is no provision, such as a mediation clause, as to what happens if there is a disagreement over the work to be done.
4. Katie Reilley had previously emailed the Board the 2012 Bridge Inspection Reports. The Selectboard is no longer required to sign off on these reports.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Piano in the Town Hall – A couple of years ago Julie Olson from Beeman Elementary asked about removing the piano. It is still on the stage in the Town Hall. The Selectboard agreed to let Julie Olson have the piano removed.
2. Beeman is also asking to repaint the back wall of the stage for their upcoming play. The Board agreed to Beeman painting the wall.
3. Streetlights – Ethan Bellevance from Efficiency Vermont has contacted Green Mountain Power re: determining the undepreciated book value of existing streetlights. He attached a spreadsheet with the information. The next step is for Efficiency Vermont to draw up an Incentive Agreement for the Town. This will ensure New Haven's place to have all existing streetlights changed over to LED's in 2013 – 2014.

4. Estimate on Emergency Lighting in the Town Hall from Bolduc Electric came in at \$300 - \$350. The Board approved the estimate. Pam Kingman will contact Victor Bolduc.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Set Meeting Schedule – Kathy Barrett asked the Board to set their meeting dates for the first and third Tuesday of each month. This way Pam Kingman would only have to post the warnings at the Village Green Market and the Town Office, eliminating the Post Office. The rest of the Board did not agree with this idea, feeling that a lot of people use the New Haven Post Office, and that the posted warning informs the public as to what is on the agenda for each meeting.
2. Appointments – ** See attached sheet*** Pam Marsh made a motion to approve all the Appointed Officials for 2013, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 4 yes / 0 no
3. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the Fireworks Display Permit for Addison County Fair & Field Days on Saturday, August 10, 2013 beginning approximately 9 -9:30 pm. Seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no
4. Roger Boise made a motion to approve the Liquor & Tobacco License for the Village Green Market, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 3 yes / 1 abstention (Marsh)
5. Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the Liquor and Catering License for Tourterelle, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 4 yes / 0 no
6. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve a letter of support to the Five-Town Health Alliance in Bristol, seconded by Pam Marsh. 4 yes / 0 no

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Kathleen Ready made a motion to approve the minutes from March 19, 2013, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no

OTHER BUSINESS:

MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:

Adjourn: 9:30 pm

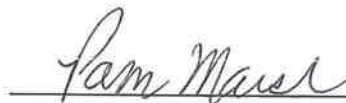
Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved:



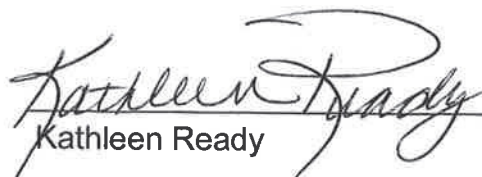
Chair, Kathy Barrett



Vice Chair, Pam Marsh



Roger Boise



Kathleen Ready