

GUILFORD SELECTBOARD MEETING

January 23, 2012

PRESENT: Richard Clark (Chair), Troy Revis, Jr., Anne Rider, Penny Marine (Town Clerk), Katie Buckley (Town Administrator), Dan Zumbruski (Highway Foreman/Road Commissioner)

I. Call to order - 6:37 PM.

II. Recognition of Public

- None

III. Approval Minutes

- Anne moved to accept the minutes from January 9, 2012. All were in favor. Motion carried.

IV. New Business

- Land Records Update – Penny Marine – In the latter part of 2011, it was learned that some of the Town’s land records, which were digitally stored were lost and paper copies had not yet been made. Attempts were made to restore the lost data – of the 450 records in question, 275 were indeed irrecoverable. Penny provided an update on the status of the recovery effort to date. She has been contacting lawyer’s offices, banks, etc., to request that they resend this information. Anne asked Penny how many of the 275 have been received thus far; she did not give a clear number. She (Penny) explained that some records (very few) may never be recovered because the originals were lost due to tropical storm Irene. Anne asked if Penny if she thought that she would be able to recover most of the lost records; Penny felt as though she could (80%-90%) but it will take a great deal of time and effort. Anne asked if those properties for which records were not recovered would not be able to be sold. Katie explained that it wasn’t that they couldn’t be sold but rather that a clean title for those properties could not be provided. ACS had told Penny that they had completed backing us up; she has learned that this is not the case. Katie clarified that the Guilford Town Office records are being backed up properly on site, it is on ACS’ end (one of their 4 levels of redundancy) that they are working out the kinks. Penny presented the invoice from Prov for his attempts to recover from our wiped hard drive; ACS will pay half of this invoice. Anne suggested that ACS should put an audit process in place for town offices so that ACS has an awareness of whether or not their clients are performing as they should. Penny said that they are starting to do this. Anne thanked Penny for her hard work on this matter.
- Executive Session – Troy moved to enter executive session at 6:54 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. He invited Penny, Katie and Dan to join. Anne seconded. Motion carried.
- FY13 General Fund Proposed Budget – The amount which must be raised in taxes to defray the expenses for the General Fund in the proposed budget for FY13 is \$733,997.37 versus \$724,796.56 in FY12. The difference is \$9,200.81. Anne moved to approve the FY13 General Fund budget as drafted. Troy seconded. Motion carried. Katie remaindered the Board that it is important to note that when looking at just the expenses for the General Fund, there is an increase in FY13 over FY12 – it is offset by the fact that there is also an increase in revenue for FY13. The result is that the amount which must be raised in taxes remains relatively the same FY13 vs. FY12, assuming the value of the Grand List remains the same.
- FY13 Highway Fund Proposed Budget – The amount which must be raised in taxes to defray the expenses for the Highway Fund in the proposed budget for FY13 is \$633,860.00 versus \$624,459.00 in FY12. The difference is \$9,401.00. Anne moved to approve the FY13 Highway Fund budget as drafted. Troy seconded. Motion carried.

- VCRD Community Visit Program – Paul Costello, Executive Director, Vermont Council on Rural Development, presented to a group of Guilford residents earlier in the evening (from 5:00-6:30 p.m.) about the Community Visits Program opportunity for Guilford. Anne inquired what the next step in the process would be to follow up from the meeting. Katie said that she felt a group of interested residents must form and officially state their desire for consideration to the Program to the Selectboard. The SB would in turn act as the communication vehicle between this group and VCRD. She indicated that she would speak with Mr. Costello the next day to learn more about the process. Dick will suggest to Maryellen Franklin that she coordinate with others to form this group.

V. Old Business

- Waterline Project – Update - Results of public meeting (1/11/2012), Results of meeting with Bratt (1/18/2012) – The public meeting at the Grange on 1/11/2012 was very well attended. A fact sheet for the Waterline Project was distributed to all in attendance with the purpose of clarifying misinformation, answering questions and keeping the meeting on task. There were a variety of questions raised by the audience, all of which were answered completely. Dick, Anne, Katie and Pat Beu (Town Attorney) met with officials from the Town of Brattleboro – Barb Sondag (Town Manager), Steve Barrett (Director of Public Works), Rick Ethier (Highway/Utilities Supt.) and Bob Fisher (Town Attorney) on 1/18/2012 to discuss the Consecutive Exempt Agreement between Brattleboro and Guilford which is being drafted for the service and maintenance of the proposed waterline. It was agreed by all in attendance that the attorneys should partner with the State’s Drinking Water folks to gather more information surrounding statutory issues. A future meeting date was discussed but not set.
- Waterline Bond – Details of Process: Public Hearing, Australian Ballot – The bond vote for the waterline (\$195,000 to extend the main route to the Fire Station and the Town’s Emergency Shelter at the Guilford Community Church) will take place by Australian ballot on Town Meeting Day, Tuesday, March 6, 2012. The polls will be open from 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. for legally registered voters to cast their vote. As a part of this process, the Town must hold a public hearing for the bond vote. It will take place Monday, February 27, 2012, 6:00 p.m. in the Guilford Central School cafeteria.
- Town Pound – Update – Jackie Gaines is not interested in having the Town Pound on her property. Katie asked the Board if the Highway garage area might be considered as a potential spot. Anne felt that this was not a good option. Dick said that he would talk to Walter Thorn (current Guilford Dog Officer) to see if he would consider housing the Pound on his property.

VI. Highway

- The sand supply in the Sand Shed is quickly depleting; Dan will replenish it this week.
- Work continues on the Town’s FEMA claim for tropical storm Irene.

VII. Finance

- Warrants:

○ PR	01/14/2011	\$	5,915.56
○ PR	01/22/2012	\$	5,188.21
TOTAL PAYROLL		\$	11,103.77
Warrant # 14		\$	18,934.86
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$	24,123.07

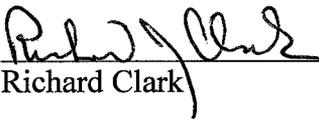
Troy moved to pay the above stated PR Warrants 1/14/2012 and 01/22/2012 and Warrant #14.
All were in favor. Motion carried.

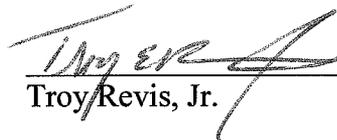
VIII. Communications

- State of VT Natural Resources Board District Environmental Commission #2 – Hearing Recess Order #2W0485

Anne moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 PM. Troy seconded. Motion carried.

The next Selectboard Meeting will be held on Monday, February 13, 2012 at 6:30 PM at the Town Office.


Richard Clark


Troy Revis, Jr.


Anne Rider