

Selectmen/Assessor's Meeting Summary
February 24, 2016

In attendance: Select Board – Wesley Daniel, Duane Vigue, and Berkley Linscott; Town Clerk/Treasurer – Ann Dean; Public: Tom Johnston

Wesley Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Duane Vigue moved to accept the summary from 2/17/16 as written, Berkley Linscott seconded, all in favor.

Duane Vigue moved to accept the warrants as written \$4,666.74/payroll and \$4,195.20/vendor, Berkley Linscott seconded, all in favor.

Public Works Report – Wesley reported for 2/14 – 2/20 - 14th, plowed and sanded; 15th, holiday; 16th-20th plowed and sanded, washed out trucks, and checked roads for downed trees after the wind storm. Duane Vigue moved to accept the report as read, Berkley Linscott seconded, all in favor.

CEO Report – None

Town Clerk/Treasurer Report – Ann Dean reported that Donald Grinnell came in to explain LD1 to she and Wesley Daniel. Ann completed the LD1 on Thursday. The absentee ballots, for the 3/25/16 Selectmen vote, are available as of yesterday. The request form is on the website. Beth Birmingham, the Courier, called for a copy of the proposed budget and the contact information for all four candidates so she can give them a call or email. Leticia will be here on the 8th to help with the ARCGIS mapping program. Stanley Millay will be attending a class in Knox County on the ARCGIS software. The audit report went to The First. Dean Brewer came in to drop off printed copies of the audit report and all the adjustments have been completed. Denise Hylton will take over the check reconciliation as part of her Deputy Treasurer duties.

Ann Dean spoke with Debbie from MMA regarding health insurance. She explained the entire process which will take 6 months to change. It's possible to offer 3 plans and the employee can choose to buy up or down. There was some discussion regarding plans, HRA, and premiums. Duane Vigue will call Debbie for an updated premium sheet.

Wesley Daniel made a motion to sign the Mei-Ling Cheung's Comprehensive Plan Review Committee appointment paper, Duane Vigue seconded, all in favor.

Town Warrant Discussion

Berkley Linscott asked why we are not putting the lowest quote for air conditioning for the office in the article. Ann gave Berkley a copy of the quote and explained that it was \$13.00 less than the figure in the article.

There was a contentious discussion over Article 6, conflict of interest and when to recuse oneself from discussion and voting. Wesley Daniel recused himself from voting. Duane Vigue made a motion to recuse the prior revision of Article 6 from the February 10, 2016 meeting. After discussing what MMA explained to Duane he made a motion to change Article 6 to read “To see if the town will vote to allow the select board to negotiate and pay wages at a pay rate not to exceed prevailing wage rates set by the Maine State Department of Transportation, for compensation of personnel labor costs pertaining to the Town of Washington roads crew, and to allow the select board to negotiate the rate per hour cost for equipment used in maintaining public roads for the ensuing year. *Current prevailing labor rates set by the Maine Dept. of Transportation are as follows:* Highway Crew Supervisor \$21.91/hr; Truck Drivers (2,3,and 4 axles) \$14.73/hr; Front End Loader Operators (class 3 classification) \$17.66/hr. *Current Labor Rates for the Town of Washington roads crew positions are as follows:* Road Foreman \$21.01/hr; Regular Plow Truck Drivers \$16.21/hr; Reserve Plow Truck Drivers \$14.44/hr.” Berkley Linscott seconded, 2 in favor – 1 recused.

Berkley Linscott said he got a lot of flak on an office administrator. He said we should have it written a bit different than it is in article 27. He thought that if it's approved we have to put it into place right away. Duane Vigue said it's just an authorization to create the position not necessarily fill it. Duane also stated most towns are heading in this direction. Wesley Daniel explained we have to ‘sell’ all the articles on the warrant. Wesley also stated that if we had a board that wants to do something and has the time to do it you may not need it. Berkley said we don't get a very good turnout at the town meeting to vote. Berkley asked the rest of the board if they remembered how the tax collector used to get paid – 1.25% of what was collected. Wesley reminded him that was when there were fewer residents.

Wesley Daniel made a motion to sign the 2016 Town Meeting Warrant, Duane Vigue seconded, all in favor.

Questions and Comments

None.

Wesley Daniel adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anderson