

TOWN OF GUILDHALL  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

MINUTES

**June 17, 2013, 7 p.m., the Guild Hall**

Present: Richard “Stretch” Martin (RSM), Selectboard Chair; Tim Cahill (TC), Selectboard Vice-Chair; James “Pete” Fay (JPF), Selectboard Clerk; Sam Swope (SS), Town Clerk & Treasurer; Richard Burgess (RichB), Fence Viewer; Eileen Thietten (ET), Lister; George Blakeslee (GB), Lister, Auditor, Moderator; Roger Brisson (RogB), Lister, Auditor; Henry Shute (HS), Citizen.

1. **Call to Order:** RSM called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. **Approval of Minutes:**

On a motion by JPF and seconded by TC, it was

**Voted:** To approve the minutes from the regular May meeting (5.20.2013).

3. **Introductions:** RSM noted that none were needed.

4. **Citizens’ Concerns:** None.

5. **Reports:**

**Treasurer:** SS presented his report, which is attached. He said that, once the listers finalized this year’s Grand List (in other words, once all appeals were completed), the Selectboard could set the tax rate.

Also, SS said that, this year, Essex County was giving all towns the option of paying the County tax in two installments, with half due in July and the other half due in November. SS said he had opted to go the installment route, given the Town’s cash-flow situation.

SS presented a letter to be signed by the Selectboard requesting an extension of the loan (\$100,000) from the School District to Aug. 15, 2013, which was duly signed. SS again expressed his appreciation for the School Board’s help with the loan.

On a motion by TC and seconded by JPF, it was

**Voted:** To accept the Treasurer’s report, pending audit.

**Road Commissioner:** TC reported the following work regarding roads: TC had removed a tree that was leaning over the Granby Road; the Town has taken delivery of this year’s chloride; the

initial grading for this year has been completed; and TC marked a sinkhole near the Brisson residence.

JPF brought up a hole in the pavement on Bridge St., near the store. JPF and SS had discussed the situation earlier in the week, and SS said he had called the Vermont AOT Dist. 7 office but had not gotten a response, despite SS's making a specific request for a response in his message.

Water Commission: No Water Commissioners were present, but SS reported that he and Office Assistant Peter Gair had posted the 2013 Consumer Confidence Report and mailed copies to all water users, as required by law.

Zoning Administrator: PR was out of town and therefore not present, but GB and ET reported on the pending Zoning Board hearing (coming up on June 26, at 7 p.m.), which is being held to approve changes to the Zoning Bylaws. GB and ET both noted that the changes were relatively minor and technical.

Listers: GB said that the Listers had received one grievance, which they had denied. He said it would probably be possible to set the tax rate at the next Board meeting.

#### 6. **Old Business:**

Private Cemeteries: TC said that, according to his research, the Town had no jurisdiction over private cemeteries and that, in general, regulations (such as those from the State of Vermont) were surprisingly minimal. He noted that, although municipalities in Vermont have the option of regulating private cemeteries, none currently does.

Salt-Shed Committee Presentation: GB presented a draft charge for the Salt-Shed Committee. During his presentation, he noted that the new Committee felt it appropriate to change its name to the Road Maintenance Facility Committee (RMFC) to reflect the more general nature of its mission (i.e., to consider the future of road maintenance in Guildhall and not just the placement of the salt shed).

On a motion by JPF and seconded by TC, it was

**Voted: to approve the RMFC's charge.**

#### 7. **New Business:**

JPF said that he had been thinking about the possibility of Guildhall collecting its property taxes in installments. SS agreed that this was something to look into ; he said he had also been thinking about this, since installments would alleviate the Town's chronic cash-flow problems, problems which require the Town to borrow money.

#### 9. **Signing of Orders:**

SS presented the orders for payroll and accounts payable for Town and highway accounts for June, and they were duly signed.

10. **Adjournment**

On a motion by JPF and seconded by TC, it was

**Voted:** To adjourn, at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Sam Swope, Town Clerk & Treasurer.