

**Board of Selectmen
Minutes
February 22, 2011
Center School Office
7:00 p.m.**

Select Board Chair Paul Newlin called the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Whately to order on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at 7:15 p.m. Also present were Selectmen Joyce Palmer Fortune, Town Administrator/Town Clerk Lynn Sibley and Municipal Secretary Maryellen Cranston. Payroll and vendor warrants were reviewed and signed.

Town Administrator Update – FY12 financial picture – Lynn reported that FY12 is looking good. Currently the Town has a \$55,000 deficit. This is using no free cash and not funding any items on the capital plan. The Town has about \$250,000 in free cash. The discussion centered on using some free cash to replace the money paid for the fire station roof in the stabilization fund and set some money aside for an ambulance. One possible scenario is to use free cash to fund the fire alarm panel at the school and painting town hall. The larger items could be put on the ballot for debt exclusion. Lynn reported that Deerfield Urethane is looking for an exemption from the personal property tax because they file returns in Massachusetts as part of Bayer Corporation. Lynn will check with Town Counsel to get their opinion. **Federal Surplus Property purchases -** The recent federal surplus property list had generators and two Oshkosh trucks. Lynn was not able to get more information on the generators so they probably will not be pursued. Keith is seriously considering the Oshkosh trucks as well as a cargo van that was on the list for \$1000. **Sand/Salt follow up** – Lynn reviewed with the Board the responses she received on how towns handle letting residents take sand and salt. No towns responded that they forbid residents from doing this. Some towns set up a separate bin for residents' use. The Board felt that if the current system starts to be abused, then a system could be set up to make it less accessible. **Thank you** – Lynn expressed thanks to Paul Fleuriel, Jr. for cleaning up the sign in front of the Center School office. **Town Hall painting** – Lynn reported that the Franklin County jail will have the painting of town hall on their calendar this spring. Lynn's goal is to get the job done for around \$5000. There may need to be a little more money if a lift needs to be rented.

Town Clerk – Dog Licenses – Dog licenses are available. **Nomination Papers** – Nomination papers are available for anyone interested in having their name on the local election ballot.

Highway – Haydenville Road Bridge Update – The Selectmen's office received a complaint from a resident regarding the traffic light at the Bridge being too long. Lynn will contact Northern Construction to see if they can adjust it. **Haydenville Road/Mountain Street Status** – Lynn reported that Keith and she met with Paul Guertin from Coler & Colantonio. Mr. Guertin had made a proposal to Williamsburg that for \$8000 he would be able to produce a set of pretty good figures so the project would be able to get on the TIP list. Mr. Guertin suggested that Whately's share of that cost would be \$1000. The Town is waiting for a response from Williamsburg. **Williamsburg Road Bridge Update** – There was nothing new to report. **Backhoe** – Keith has picked up the backhoe from Warwick. **Signature** – The Board signed an agreement for Survey, Design and Permitting Services for the Haydenville Road Reconstruction project between Shawn K. Kimberly and the Town of Whately.

New Business

Insurance Bids – Lynn reviewed with the Board the results of the two bids she received for insurance services from MIIA and the Joseph Insurance Agency. While both bids were close for property insurance, Lynn felt that the \$9000 in rewards and dividends credit received from MIIA made it financially worthwhile to accept MIIA's bid. The Board was in agreement.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Palmer Fortune, Acting Clerk

Documents Used at Meeting and are on file in Selectmen's Office

Payroll and vendor warrants for warrant #17.

Emails from Geoffrey Rogers date 2/14/11 and 2/16/11 regarding federal surplus property.

Salt policy from the Brookfield Board of Selectmen

Insurance quotes from MIIA and Joseph Insurance Agency

Agreement for Survey, Design and Permitting Services for the Haydenville Road Reconstruction project between Shawn K. Kimberly and the Town of Whately.