

SPECIAL MEETING OF ST. JOHNSBURY SELCTBOARD

JANUARY 25, 2013

The St. Johnsbury Selectboard met on the first floor of the Pomerleau building on Friday, January 25, 2013 5:30 p.m. for a special meeting. Present were Chairman Jim Rust, Vice Chairman Alan Ruggles, Bernie Timson, Kevin Oddy, Rodney Lamotte.

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance at 5:30 pm.

Attendance: Town Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Jewell, Director of Public Works Hugh Wescott, Police Chief Clement Houde, Fire Chief Troy Ruggles, Dispatch Manager Mark Gilleland, Assessor Linda Colby, Interim Town Manager Merelise O'Connor, Gary Bumps, Scott Beck, Cindy Robillard, Brian Christman.

Press Attendance: Taylor Reed of Caledonian Record.

All board members were given copies of the budget and copies of request / needs from each department head. Merelise went over the process that we had taken with putting the budget together. She explained that it was done by Gross Budgeting, not by revenues. Every department head spoke about their needs. Starting with Chief Houde going over his requests for more full time & part time personal and new equipment needs. His requests were for an unmarked cruiser; new hand held radios, computers, and ammo. Next was Mark Gilleland going over his requests for more full time personal, and new equipment needs. His request was for upgrades to antennas, computers and radio's. Next was Assessor Colby who just wanted to make sure that money is put back into the budget for a reappraisal. Next was DPW Director Wescott going over equipment needs, with quotes and payment plans of needs equipment? His request was for a VacCon Truck, Grader, Holder, Ten Wheeler, & a pickup truck. Next was Fire Chief Ruggles going over his requests for equipment, and a fire truck. His request was for new hoses, air packs, and monitoring devices. Chairman Rust asked about our revenues and them being down so much, and about the expected taxes. Town Clerk Jewell stated because of not have CJC it looks like we have about \$100,000 less in revenue, but we have \$100,000 less in expenses. The tax revenue that was put in on a figured tax rate, based off the proposed budget. We found some errors on other numbers in dispatch and public works that needed to be adjusted. Town Clerk Jewell spoke about her budget and request was for an extra full time position, because a current employee will be retiring next year. Her budget is also up due to the new land records computers that were installed to digitize our records. She also asked for additional money out of her reserves for record restoration to start scanning land records for the past 40 years. Chairman Rust wanted to make sure the budget lines were clear on the

reason some of them were up significantly. Interim Manger O'Connor made the suggestion that we can put foot notes at the bottom of the expense pages to show the offsetting revenues. Cindy Robillard had a question about the assessor's office and zoning office becoming a full time position. Chairman Rust suggested that the board take the budgets home over the weekend and come back on Monday with comments, and questions.

A motion made by Timson, seconded by Oddy to adjourn at 7:45 pm, vote was unanimous.

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