

**St. Johnsbury Selectboard
Regular Selectboard Meeting
Monday August 26, 2014 in the Pomerleau Building**

SB; Oddy, T. Moore, J. Moore and Murphy, Ruggles was absent

Staff; Jewell, Hall, Ormiston, Wescott

Press; Reed (CR) and KATV

On a motion by Murphy and J. Moore the item on the agenda for executive session was moved to after the approval of Warrants.

On a motion by Murphy and J. Moore the minutes of the Aug 11th meeting were approved.

On a motion by J. Moore and Murphy the warrants were approved.

At 7:18PM on a motion by J. Moore and Murphy made the following motion that was approved by the board. "I move to find that premature general public knowledge of the town's litigation with the Audette Property Appeal would clearly place this Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage because the Selectboard risks disclosing its negotiating strategy if it discusses the proposed settlement in public."

J. Moore and Murphy made the following motion and it was approved by the board. "I move that we enter into executive session to discuss the proposed settlement of the Audette property appeal under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a) (1) (a) of the Vermont Statutes." The motion also invited the town manager and legal counsel to attend the session.

At 7:34PM on a motion by J. Moore and T. Moore the board came out of executive session.

On a motion by J. Moore and Murphy the board agreed to settle the Audette appeal and set the appraised value on the property at \$650,000.

Phil Bickel from Efficiency Vermont did a presentation that showed that the town of St. Johnsbury could save approximately \$36,000 per year on the energy cost of street lights. On a motion by T. Moore and J. Moore the board authorized the town manager to sign an agreement with Efficiency Vermont to have the existing lighting fixtures in the street lights replaced by LED fixtures. The cost should be recouped by energy savings in approximately 18 months.

On a motion by J. Moore and Murphy the board approved a lease agreement on a Holder Tractor with Tax Exempt Leasing Corp. The term is for five years, with an interest rate of 2.79%, in equal payments of \$35,164.44 and payments will start on September 15, 2015 and ending September 15, 2019.

On a motion by T. Moore and Murphy the board approved signing the \$182,136.03 deficit note with Community National Bank. The note is over three years and is to retire the 2013 general fund balance deficit. The bid was awarded to Community National Bank at a rate of 1.25%. Other bids were presented by Union Bank and Passumpsic Bank. J. Moore abstained.

On a motion by J. Moore and T. Moore the board approved renewing the \$2,000,000 Line of Credit on the CSO, Eastern, Western and Main St. project with the Passumpsic Savings Bank for a six month term at an interest rate of .72%.

On a motion by J. Moore and T. Moore the board approved the signing of the "Finance and Maintenance Agreement between the State of VT and the Town for the St. Johnsbury BRO 1447(30) bridge replacement. This is the bridge on South Main St. which is scheduled to be let out for bid in the spring of 2017. The town's 10% share is estimated to be approximately \$250,000. The board will start setting money aside in the next budget. Oddy abstained.

On a motion by T. Moore and Murphy the board approved reducing the speed limit for the North Danville RD, from Route 2 to the Danville town line, from 50mph to 40 mph. The action will be posted for 30 days to allow citizens to appeal the decision before it can be official.

On a motion by J. Moore and Murphy, due to the fact the Ruggles was not present; the board tabled a discussion on the recruitment of a new town manager until the Sept. 8th meeting.