

**St. Johnsbury Selectboard
Regular Selectboard Meeting
Monday January 13, 2014 in the Pomerleau Building**

Present; Selectboard members Chair Kevin Oddy, VC Alan Ruggles, Jim Rust, and Tom Moore, Town Clerk Stacy Jewell, Town Manager John Hall and Assistant Town Manager David Ormiston.

Press; KATV, Channel 7 LSC and Caledonian Record

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

On a motion by Ruggles and T. Moore the minutes of the Dec 23 2013 meeting were approved. Rust voted no.

The warrants were tabled to later in the meeting under the manager's report.

On a motion by Ruggles and T. Moore Liquor licenses were approved for Eastern & Main Market, Catamount Arts and the Lamplighter Lounge. Rust abstained

On a motion by Rust and Ruggles the board approved putting an article on the town meeting ballot that if voted in the affirmative would make St. Johnsbury Baseball exempt from property taxes for five years.

Chad Whitehead made a presentation describing three options on how use the \$300,000 cost underrun we may realize from the Westside Project.

Option 1 is to return it to the federal government.

Option 2 is to reroute the waste water line that presently goes underneath the old Hood plant on Railroad St. at a cost of approximately \$300,000.

Option 3 is to install new water, sewer and storm water infrastructure on Green St. and Boynton Ave. at a cost of \$1,300,000. That would require the \$300k underrun, the \$780,000 in unused borrowing authority and \$220,000 in additional revenue.

The board will consider what course they will take as they prepare the budget.

On a motion by Ruggles and Rust the board appointed Chad Robillard to the Development Review Board, for a term of (2) years.

On a motion by Rust and T. Moore the board approved engaging Batchelder Associates to perform the 2013 fiscal year audit. The fee is \$40,000 with a completion date of no later than April 30, 2014.

Dave Ormiston presented a fiscal 2013 snapshot as of January 10, 2014. There are still several adjustments to be made before the 2013 books are closed. At this time the General Fund has a deficit of approximately \$10,000, the Highway fund a surplus of approximately \$130,000

The town manager reported that the tax sale is on schedule for Feb. 4 at 9AM. Public notices have been published in the paper and several owners have been in to pay the past due taxes or sign payment agreements which allows us to remove the properties from the sale.

On a motion by Rust and T. Moore the board approved and signed the Certification of Road Mileage required by VTRANS which included an additional .18 miles to the Class 3 road mileage. This is the southernmost section of Bay. St which intersects Main St. Bay St was extended to (South) Main St in the 1980's but it had never been added to our mileage inventory.

On a motion by Ruggles and T. Moore approved the salaries of Assistant Town Manager David Ormiston at \$52,000, Finance Officer Lesley Russ at \$52,000 and Human Resources Person Holly English at \$38,500. Rust voted no.

On a motion by T. Moore and Ruggles the Warrants were approved. Rust voted no.

On a motion by Rust and Ruggles the board authorized the Chair to sign a letter to the State of Vermont Dept. of Taxes that states that we use the ProVal Manatron software program for our grand list. We do NOT use the Microsolve CAMA software provided by NEMRC.

The chair had received a request from the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force asking the town to include \$100 in our annual budget to help to support the Dry Hydrant Program. The board asked the manager to contact Troy Ruggles for his recommendation.

On a motion by T. Moore and Ruggles the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM