

BOARD OF SELECTMEN –January 10, 2017

MINUTES:

Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Mark Hemenway.

DELEGATIONS: No delegations were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No representatives from the public were present.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Mark Hemenway and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2016 Meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mark Hemenway, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to approve the following tax refunds:

\$ 165.61	Glenn Korner	refund
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DISCUSSION:

The Selectmen reviewed the expenditures and revenues through December 31, 2016. The revenues appear to be ahead of the budget for this time of year, which is positive, and the expenditures are on track; i.e., at the 50% point in the fiscal year, the expenditures are also at 50%. Similar to last month, the only two areas of minor concern are legal and IT expenses, but these should both be manageable within the context of the overall budget. Highway expenses are under control and, at the moment, it appears that we will be able to carry much of our Town Aid Road funds over to the next fiscal year.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the Selectmen that there will likely be a reduction, maybe a significant one, in State grants and municipal aid during the upcoming fiscal year due to the projected \$1.5 billion budget deficit at the State level. There is no way to predict how much or which grants will be affected, but there is a probability that the ECS grant will be the most affected due to its magnitude in both the local and State budgets. The First Selectman is working with COST and CCM and participating in legislative meetings in an effort to help these organizations minimize the negative impact. The 2017/18 budgets will take into account these projected revenue losses and will need to provide for minimal increases. The Town is currently negotiating its employee union contracts and Regional 7 and the Elementary School have just completed their negotiations, so all salary costs will be based on those negotiations. The Capital committee is working to put together a 20-year plan at the request of the Board of Finance. That plan will be dependent on both the Selectmen and the Board of Education looking at short term and long term needs, and the projected life of equipment.

DISCUSSION: There were no updates regarding the State funding of the wildlife census on the Greenwoods property nor on the opening day of the campground in American Legion State

Forest. These issues could be affected by the State budget crunch, but the impact is still unknown.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein said that the Town's declarations for Exclusive Service Areas for water supply are complete, with the Town being undesignated, except for the area where there is an existing inter-local agreement with Winsted on the western side of Route 44, and with State forest land and property being claimed by the State.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mark Hemenway, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to add to the agenda an Authorizing Resolution of the Board of Selectmen to allow the Town to enter into an agreement with the CT DESPP, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and to approve said resolution.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Mark Hemenway and passed unanimously to enter Executive Session at 8:15 with only the Selectmen, to discuss union negotiations.

The Selectmen left the Executive Session at 8:30 – no motions were made during the Executive Session.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30. It was noted that the January 31st meeting will be at 5:00PM, per the published meeting schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman