

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – OCTOBER 24, 2017

MINUTES:

Meeting called to order at 5:00PM. 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 Mark Hemenway, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2017, meeting.

MOTION: No tax refunds were presented by the Tax Collector

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the Selectman that Senator Witkos had provided info on the latest State budget that will be voted on during the week of October 23rd. If this budget holds, the Town will lose about \$127,000 in municipal aid as compared to what was budgeted and approved at the Town Meeting in May. Although the annual audit is not completed, it is expected that the surplus from the prior fiscal year will be sufficient to cover this shortfall and the revenue from the Tax Sale (in excess of \$200,000) will be used to build the General Fund back to a higher level. The cost share to the Town for the Resident State Trooper will remain at 85% for the next two years if this budget is passed.

DISCUSSION: The Legislature passed two new property tax exemptions for veterans, including one for Gold Star families. Based on requests from residents in the past, the Selectmen agreed to look at these new laws that took effect on October 1, 2017, as well as our current ordinance. Once that review is complete, they will determine if a change is appropriate to benefit our needy veterans and will take action to revise and/or update the ordinance(s).

DISCUSSION: Freightliner has agreed to hold the truck for the Town until November 10 with no financial penalties. Per Rich Novak, there is another town waiting to purchase it if we do not. The Selectmen will ask the Board of Finance whether they should proceed with this purchase, or not, in light of the pending State budget. This was authorized as a capital project at the Town Budget Meeting. Don Stein took the action to reach out to Rich Winn, BOF Chair, to let him know of the situation and see if he wanted to bring this to the Board of Finance.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 on a motion by Ray Pech, seconded by Mark Hemenway.
Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman

The next meeting of the BOS will be the Regular Meeting to be held on November 14 at 7:00PM.