**Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes**

**December 5, 2022**

**7:00 PM** Meeting called to order by Selectman John **Quinlan.** Also present was Selectman Jack **Esposito** and Selectman Howard **Brown.**

The Board discussed the Highway Garage diesel tank project. **Quinlan** met with Crosby a week ago to go over the details. This was a project started years ago but never completed. We’ve had the two tanks for over ten years. They are going to lay a concrete pad and build an enclosure for the two tanks to store off-road diesel. **Esposito** questioned the interior of the tanks; Ciardelli inspected them and they are fine. The pumps will be wired through the generator. **Quinlan** feels it is a prudent investment to get this project finished. We will be able to operate independently for at least 48 hours in the event of a major power outage. **Brown** motioned to allow Crosby to spend $6,000 in repairs on the diesel tanks seconded by **Esposito.** All in favor.

The Board discussed the revaluation due in 2024. **Esposito** noted that the difference in cost between statistical and cyclical is not recovered in taxes. **Esposito** motioned to do a statistical revaluation through CNP for 2024 seconded by **Brown.** All in favor.

The Board continued their discussion on the elderly exemption. The Board agrees that the income limit needs to be adjusted, but the amount is still in question. **Esposito** will call the NRPC to find out the demographic information from the census. They may be able to give an opinion on a reasonable number. This will have to be in the form of a Warrant Article at Town Meeting.

The Board discussed the audio/visual project. The first half of the project will be completed in 2022; the remainder will be done in early 2023. The internet service has been upgraded in the office to accommodate; the second phone line will be connected next week.

The Board reviewed the minutes of November 28th. **Esposito** motioned to accept the minutes of 11/28 as written seconded by **Brown. Esposito** and **Brown** in favor; **Quinlan** abstained.

The Board reviewed the list of annual donations we give; we will increase the amount given to the Blue Bus due to fuel cost increases. Joan will cut the checks on Monday.

The Board discussed the need for a town credit card. The Board discussed the Police Departments pay in lieu of holiday. They will discuss further with the Chief. The Board discussed closing the Transfer Station at noon on both Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. They will get a full day’s pay for both.

**Esposito** noted that we have three months until Town Meeting. He asked if the library has come up with numbers for the proposed new library/road. **Quinlan** stated that the RFPs are due by January 4th.

**Esposito** noticed that they increased the fundraising total. He asked how close are they to their goal? **Quinlan** thinks they are at over three million dollars; they have been getting a lot of big donations. **Esposito** noted that they have a long way to go.

**Brown** noted that the Budget Committee suggested getting full size town reports. Joan will have Becci check with Puritan Press to see if it would be cost effective.

Joan will set up Department Head meetings for the Budget Committee. **Esposito** stated for the record that the Board had told Joan she did not have to attend last week’s Budget Committee meeting as it was an organizational meeting. There were some questions from the Committee as to why she was not there; she will attend all future meetings.

The Town Christmas party is scheduled for Thursday, December 15th at noon. We will close the office for two hours in order to enjoy lunch.

**7:50 PM** As there was no further business before the Board, **Esposito** motioned to adjourn seconded by **Brown.** All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Cleary