SELECTMEN’S MEETING MINUTES

SPECIAL: 2014-2015 BUDGET

JANUARY 17, 2014

CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00PM BY DOUG MEDOR

PRESENT: *Doug Medor, Steve Aubin, Robert Creller, Alton Bruso, Guy Palardy and Roxanne Creller*

GUESTS: *Lorraine Mumley and Terry Tatro*

*Lorraine Mumley has asked the Clerk earlier in the day what the Select Board had done with the Historical Society’s request for $1,200 be put in the General Fund budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. The Clerk had explained to Lorraine that the Board had not voted yet but that they were talking about $600 instead of the requested $1,200.*

*Lorraine came to the meeting and explained her disappointment with the Board and stated lowering the donation to $600 was a slap in the face to all who worked on getting the Historical Society ready for opening. Lorraine explained that the Historical Society would be open most of the summer in 2014 and would have to run special equipment every time it was muggy, which will cost money and the archival material that has to be purchased is quite costly. Lorraine asked the Board to reconsider the donation amount before voting on the General Budget.*

*Terry Tatro came in to discuss plowing, mowing and sidewalks, which was a topic at the regular Board Meeting on January 14th. Clerk stated this was a Budget Meeting and asked why it couldn’t be discussed at the regular meeting of January 28th. Terry said it had to do with the budget numbers we’re working with and needs to be discussed. Clerk advised this has nothing to do with the 2014-2015 Budget, as the Board is still putting appropriate funds in the Highway Dept Budget to cover these expenses. The topic was and will be discussed in the future in regular Board Meetings.*

*Regardless, Terry advised the Board that according to Vermont law if the Town does not want to handle said items than the Town has to pay the Village 10% of the Village budget, which at this moment would be $46,000. The Board is obtaining information from the Secretary of State and also the Town Attorney for the next regularly scheduled meeting on January 28th.*

**2014-2015 BUDGET**

**SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT**

*Minutes of 1/07 listed: current payment = $6,442.19/month - $77,306.25 yearly total*

*requested increase = $7,366.67/month - $88,400.00 yearly total*

*Steve Aubin motioned to approved the increase to $88,400/year for 40 hours/week and have this item listed within the General Fund Budget – seconded by Robert Creller; motion carried; Guy Palardy opposed.*

**AVFD**

*Minutes of 1/07 listed an increase in money compared to last year for General Purposes and Dispatching:*

*General Purposes - $55,000.00 (requesting separate article)*

*Equipment - $15,000.00 (requesting separate article)*

*Dispatching - $36,442.50 (within General Fund)*

*The Fire Dept is also asking that Tax Exemption Status be warned as a separate article for the March vote.*

*Guy Palardy motioned to have three items listed separately on March ballot as requested and list the dispatching fee within the General Fund Budget – seconded by Alton Bruso; motion carried.*

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**LIBRARY**

*Minutes of 1/07 stated the Library requested same amount of money as last year, which is $44,000.*

*Guy Palardy motioned to accept the $44,000 requested by the Library and have this item listed within the General Fund Budget – seconded by Robert Creller; motion carried.*

**GENERAL FUND & ALLOCATIONS, CONTRACTS, DONATIONS & MISC**

*Below are the discussed items for the General Fund, which were in discussions 1/07 and finalized at this meeting:*

*Alburgh Springs Community Hall $ 0 (up to $300 will be paid for electricity under upkeep)*

*Robert Creller motioned to give $0 donation to the Alburgh Springs Community Hall due to the fact that the lease has not been finalized and Board has heard nothing plus no one came forward to ask for a donation – seconded by Steve Aubin; motion carried.*

*Aid to Cemeteries $ 9,500 (includes $500 for cemetery on Alburgh Springs Rd)*

*AVFD Equipment $ 15,000 (also to be listed as separate article)*

*AVFD Dispatching $ 36,442.50*

*AVFD General Purpose $ 55,000 (also to be listed as separate article)*

*AVFD Lease Agreement $ 24,600*

*Care Partners/Adult Day Care $ 100*

*Champlain Islands Parent/Child Ctr $ 0 (facility is in South Hero–not Alburgh–had requested $1500)*

*CVAA $ 1,200*

*Franklin County Humane Society $ 300*

*Friends of Northern Lake Champlain$ 1,000*

*GI County Court Diversion $ 250*

*GI County Sheriff’s Contract $ 88,400*

*GI County Tax $ 72,808.64*

*Grace After School Program $ 2,000*

*Green Mountain Transit $ 1,167*

*Historical Society $ 1,000 (had requested $1200)*

*After deep discussion…Robert Creller motioned to put $1,000 in General Fund for March vote – seconded by Guy Palardy; motion carried; Alton Bruso opposed.*

*Islands Food Shelf $ 500 (had requested $1000)*

*Islands in the Sun Seniors $ 2,500 (had requested $5,000)*

*Robert Creller motioned to donate $2,500 to Islands in the Sun Seniors – seconded by Steve Aubin; motion carried.*

*4th of July Bands & Parade $ 2,500*

*4th of July Fireworks $ 4,000*

*LCICC $ 1,000*

*VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force$ 0 (had requested $100))*

*Northwest Counseling $ 1,000 (requested $2,300)*

*Northwest Regional Planning $ 1,918*

*Northwest Solid Waste District $ 2,022 (also to be listed as separate article to get out of district)*

*Public Library $ 44,000*

*Select Board $ 4,000*

*Auditors $ 3,000*

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**GENERAL FUND & ALLOCATIONS, CONTRACTS, DONATIONS & MISC** (con’t)

*Listers $ 25,000*

*Listers Education $ 0 (will take out of money received by State for Lister Ed)*

*Town Clerk $ 18,000*

*Town Treasurer $ 12,000*

*Assistant Clerk/Treasurer $ 21,000*

*Health Officer $ 1,500*

*Town Officer’s Expense $ 750*

*Administrative Expense $ 2,800*

*Prior Year State Appeals $ 0*

*Workman’s Comp $ 5,000*

*FICA / MEDI $ 5,000*

*Retirement $ 1,600*

*Insurance Benefits $ 15,500*

*Building Maintenance $ 5,000*

*Cleaning $ 4,000*

*Mowing $ 4,000*

*Telephone $ 3,500*

*Printing Town Reports $ 2,500*

*Office Supplies $ 4,000*

*Postage $ 3,500*

*Printing Legal Notices $ 4,000*

*Land Record Volumes $ 3,000*

*Computer Training & Software $ 5,600*

*Copier Lease $ 2,050*

*Electric $ 5,000*

*Heat $ 3,000*

*Water/Sewer $ 960*

*Prop/Casual Insurance $ 12,000*

*BCA $ 3,000*

*Ballots/Tabulator $ 3,000*

*Alburgh Springs Community Hall $ 300*

*(for electricity only)*

*Library Building Maintenance $ 4,000*

*Library Electric $ 3,300*

*Library Heat $ 5,000*

*Library Water/Sewer $ 960*

*Animal License (to State) $ 3,500*

*Beach Property (signs) $ 0*

*Hunt & Fish License (to State) $ 2,500*

*Legal Fees $ 10,000*

*Marriage License (to State) $ 1,000*

*Mileage $ 2,500 (mostly Animal Control Officers)*

*Surveying & Permitting $ 0*

*Tax Appeals $ 400*

*Tax Sale Expenses $ 10,000*

*Misc (mostly Foreign exchange) $ 200*

*Abatements $ 1,000*

*VNA $ 8,063*

*VLCT $ 3,028*

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**GENERAL FUND & ALLOCATIONS, CONTRACTS, DONATIONS & MISC** (con’t)

*VT Green Up $ 150*

*Voices Against Violence $ 1,000*

*VT Association for the Blind $ 275*

*VT Adult Learning $ 500*

*VT Ctr for Ind Living $ 175*

*Streetscape $ 0*

*Steve Aubin motioned to accept General Fund & Allocations, Contracts, Donations & Misc as listed above – seconded by Guy Palardy; motion carried.*

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

*Payroll $162,000*

*Workman’s Comp $ 8,500*

*FICA / MEDI $ 12,393*

*Unemployment Compensation $ 2,500*

*Retirement $ 7,500*

*Insurance Benefits $ 48,000*

*Uniforms $ 1,300*

*New Garage Payment $ 32,950*

*Building Maintenance $ 2,000*

*Electric $ 3,000*

*Heat $ 5,000*

*Prop/Casual Insurance $ 8,500*

*Telephone $ 1,500*

*Water/Sewer $ 1,000*

*Diesel Fuel $ 32,000*

*Oil, gear lube, etc. $ 2,000*

*Chloride $ 8,000*

*Culverts $ 2,500*

*Gravel & Stone $ 25,000*

*Hot Mix and Coldpatch $ 3,500*

*Salt and Sand $ 35,000*

*Equipment Rental $ 500*

*Sup/Parts/Repair & Maintenance $ 35,000*

*Truck Lease $ 68,500*

*Tools and Equipment $ 1,000*

*Tires $ 6,000*

*Road/Bldg Construction $ 25,000*

*Contracted Services $ 1,000*

*Blacktopping $ 60,000 (also to be listed as separate article)*

*Cutting Trees $ 5,000*

*Signs $ 5,000*

*Drug/Alcohol Testing $ 1,000*

*Trailer Rent, Radios, Misc $ 1,000*

*Legal Advertizing $ 500*

*Steve Aubin motioned to accept Highway Dept Funds as listed above with blacktopping also going on ballet as a separate article – seconded by Robert Creller; motion carried.*

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**TRANSFER STATION**

*Payroll $ 40,000*

*Workman’s Comp $ 9,400*

*FICA / MEDI $ 3,500*

*Tire Disposal $ 1,500*

*Freon Disposal $ 1,000*

*Electric/Heat $ 2,500*

*Equipment Lease $ 7,000*

*New Construction $ 0*

*Prop/Auto/Liability Insurance $ 5,000*

*Telephone $ 2,000*

*Hauling to MRF $ 2,400*

*Port-O-Let Rental $ 1,080*

*Hauling Trash to New York $ 20,000*

*Hauling Steel $ 2,000*

*Mileage $ 0*

*Supplies-Repairs $ 5,000*

*New Equipment $ 10,000*

*Site Charge to Accept Trash $ 25,000*

*Recycle Tip Fee (MRF) $ 400*

*MSW Fee-NWSWD/State $ 14,500 (also to be listed as separate article to get out of district)*

*Guy Palardy motioned to allow an article at the March vote to ask Voters whether or not to continue to be in the Northwest Solid Waste District or pay a one-time fee to pay off the indebtedness, which will eliminate all future yearly membership fees and save $22/ton for all garbage shipments – seconded by Steve Aubin; motion carried.*

*Legal Advertising $ 200*

*Misc $ 500*

*Steel Boots $ 200*

*Unemployment Insurance $ 1,500*

*Training $ 300*

*Robert Creller motioned to accept Transfer Station Funds as listed above - seconded by Guy Palardy; motion carried.*

**MISCELLANEOUS/COST SAVINGS**

*Alburgh Rod & Gun Club*

*The Alburgh Rod & Gun Club is asking that Tax Exemption Status be warned as a separate article for the March vote.*

*Robert Creller motioned to allow an article be on the March vote to ask Voters whether or not to allow the Alburgh Rod & Gun Club to obtain tax exempt status – seconded by Alton Bruso; motion carried.*

*Delinquent Tax Collector*

*As a cost savings measure the Board discussed moving the duties/position of the Delinquent Tax Collector to the Town Treasurer. Clerk mentioned that a new Clerk would be in place beginning to learn all tasks and it wouldn’t be fair to drop all delinquent accounts in his/her plate at the beginning of the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Alton Bruso stated the new delinquencies wouldn’t start until April 2015, so if the Board voted to move duties it could be transitioned slowly and the current Delinquent Tax Collector could train within that*

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*Delinquent Tax Collector* (con’t)

*time. Clerk advised it would give time to the Town Treasurer to see if another part time Assistant might be needed for the 2015-2016 fiscal year or perhaps make the Assistant Town Clerk/Treasurer a full time position.*

*Robert Creller motioned the Delinquent Tax Collector duties/position be listed as a separate article for the Town Treasurer to absorb duties in the 2014-2015 fiscal year by May 1, 2015 – seconded by Guy Palardy; motion carried.*

*13 East Alburgh Road was discussed to see if the Board planned on demolition, selling, etc.*

*Steve Aubin motioned to have Town Attorney prepare a Warning to sell 13 East Alburgh Road – seconded by Robert Creller; motion carried. Clerk to contact Attorney.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – HIGHWAY DEPT FOREMAN DISCUSSION**

*Steve Aubin motioned to go into Executive Session at 8:36pm–seconded by Alton Bruso; motion carried.*

*Guy Palardy motioned to come out of Executive Session at 8:55pm–seconded by Steve Aubin; motion carried.*

***No action taken.***

**ADJOURN**

*Robert Creller motioned to adjourn at 8:55pm – seconded by Doug Medor; motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne N. Creller

Alburgh Town Clerk/Treasurer