

**□ TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**December 7, 2010**

**1. □ Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Kent Burdin and Peter Martell, and guests, Bill Pearson from the Observer and Katie Palmer of Bar and Grill fame.**

**2. □ Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.**

**3. □ Balance sheets distributed and accepted.**

**4. □ Letter from Stearns to LePage distributed and discussed, no action taken.**

**5. Request from Harris World and the Trio – CoreLogic partnership regarding electronic assessment information read and discussed. Dexter questioned if there were any benefit to the town or would more work be created by signing on to their program. It was decided to wait for more information.**

**6. Inquiry to change the official name of a private road discussed. The Peirce family would like to change Point Road to Peirce Road. Dexter moved and Burdin seconded that if the family could garner 100 per cent support from all residents on the road, and would be willing to replace the sign, then it should be allowed. Unanimous.**

**7. Manager provided progress report on developing costs and issues with credit-card payments for taxes and other possible sales. There is a provision that allows the percentage based costs to be passed directly to the customer rather than the vendor. Many towns report that customers often decide to pay by check when they learn this. It was suggested to wait for further legislation and more study at this time.**

**8. Manager reported that Central Maine Power Company has not energized the apparatus for our Christmas wreaths. Sherry French had been successful in obtaining over 40 sponsors of poles and Jeff Moore had completed the 28 free-labor installations as agreed. The wreaths were purchased, strung with LED lamps, and hung on the new brackets by the town crew; and so we wait. Hopefully, the lights will be on soon.**

**9. Manager read request for funds from Guilford Historical Society. After discussing the balance in the programs account, it was moved by Dexter and seconded by Burdin to donate \$1500.00 to the society.**

**10. Proposed Memorandum of Agreement from Piscataquis County Commissioners' Office read and discussed. It was pointed out that it was largely the same language and points as outlined over a year ago by the manager; that there was an added provision that could cost the town additional funds for overtime hours, and that the agreement was proposed as being between the town and the commissioners rather than the Sheriff's Office. Manager was directed to reply that we would sit down for a meeting after the holidays and the decision on the current Sheriff's salary was made.**

**11. A Public Hearing for Katie's Bar and Grill regarding transfer of liquor license and the issuance of a special amusement permit at their new location on School Street. Katie Palmer stated that the location would be much better for business and parking and allow room for growth. Dexter moved to approve the transfer; Martell seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote. Dexter also moved to approve the Special Amusement permit that would allow live music and dancing subsequent to State Fire Marshall's office approval. Martell seconded this action and it also carried unanimously.**

**12. The recent plan by the Town of Abbot to close the Back Road to through trucks was discussed. They have asked the Town of Guilford to allow them to place signage to warn truckers to prevent unsafe backing up situations. Burdin made the motion to allow sign placement and the motion carried following a Dexter second.**

**13. A brief update was given on the December 4th county-wide Holiday Christmas activities. While some events were under attended, the tree lighting drew a good crowd in spite of less than favorable weather and many guests enjoyed hot chocolate and goodies at the historical Society.**

**14. The date for the Budget Committee meeting was set for February 14th at 7:00 pm at PCHS, with a storm date of the 16th as per Burdin's motion which was seconded by Martell.**

**15. Health care costs and spiraling price increases were discussed. The manager was directed to schedule a meeting with the company representative to review available options with the board of selectmen and employees in early January, following which recommendations will be made for the 2011 budget.**

**16. Under assessors' issues, a list of tax acquired properties was read. It was moved by Dexter and seconded by Burdin to offer Virginia Anderson 30 days to redeem her former property on Elm Street by paying all outstanding property taxes in full within that time. Unanimous. It was further moved by Dexter and seconded by Burdin to offer the same arrangement to Donna Harmon for her Sebec Shore Road property. This motion carried by a three to one vote. These would be conveyed by quitclaim deed if provisions are agreed to and met as outlined. The Fred Davidson property on Morse Avenue is to be advertised for sale by bid per a Dexter motion and a Martell second with a unanimous vote. The former Desmond Variety property on Elm Street is to be sent out to bid for sale following the town attorney's opinion of title and the Walter Mayo Jr. property on Water Street is to be handled in the same manner. Both of these actions were agreed following motions by Dexter, seconded by Martell and unanimous votes. Pursuant to a Burdin**

**motion, seconded by Dexter, it was agreed to abate the 2008 tax on a deleted account for Thomas Freese heirs, as a housekeeping measure.**

**17. Under Other Business, it was noted that Gordon Construction company had replaced the vandalized Elm Street tree as per the \$900.00 estimate and work was ongoing on both the municipal road opening policy and the facilities use policy.**

**18. There being no further business, following a motion from Burdin and a Lander second, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM.**