

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

July 7, 2009

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander, and Peter Martell, and guests CEO Keith Doore and Josh Salm of the Piscataquis Observer.

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

3. Balance sheets not distributed as incomplete this month due to processing delays.

4. Read e-mail from library requesting to use fundraiser proceeds for a library bag sales project and the purchase of insulated window treatments. Lander moved to allow both projects, and Burdin seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

5. Code enforcement officer Keith Doore reported on the Board of Appeals hearing regarding the property at 24 Oak Street and stated that the appeal for a variance had been denied by the board. Brian Reynolds, the appellant, did not attend as he said he was unavailable. Keith discussed the options that were open to Mr. Reynolds as well as those before the board. In view of the fact that work could not progress without a building permit and the current structure was half completed and open, it was moved by Burdin to declare the building dangerous as per state statute. The motion was seconded by Martell and carried unanimously.

6. Manager announced for the record that the 2009 mil rate was set at .0218 or \$12.18 per \$1000.00 of property value, a decrease of .62 from last year. This good news was blunted by the discovery that a large amount of business personal property had not received the appropriate depreciation, a condition that would take a large bite out of the overlay.

7. In response to a request from Guilford Grizzlies to use the Water Street baseball diamond for a softball tournament, it was decided that the field was built according to baseball dimensions rather than softball guidelines and they did not want any damage done by rearranging the base paths. Motion made by Burdin, seconded by Dexter, carried with unanimous vote.

8. Manager read notice from State Department of Education informing the town that although the local residents had voted against forming an RSU, the state had shoved one down our throats and we are officially known as RSU 89, d/b/a SAD#4.

9. The tax acquired property at Blaine Avenue which was not sold at prior bid is to go out to bid once again with a minimum bid requirement. Burdin moved and Dexter seconded the motion that the minimum bid be \$5000.00 and advised manager to re-advertise and start the process again.

10. Manager gave an overview of the successful grant application by several partners from town in which they were awarded a grant of up to \$7500.00 to build an establish an historical website depicting the resources and heritage of the town. The Maine Community Heritage Project had selected Guilford's application as one of eight towns invited into the year long process to preserve and promote the history of Guilford. Partners are the Guilford Historical Society, the Guilford Memorial Library, the Economic Development Board, SAD#4, (or RSU 80), and the Town Office. The progress can be followed at www.mainememory.net/mchp .

11. Manager informed the board that he would be attending the Maine Town and City Managers Institute this August for training.

12. Under assessor's issues, one abatement request was granted and another was scheduled for a visit. A tree growth penalty was assessed, a homestead exemption was granted while another was denied, and a veteran's widow's exemption was granted.

13. Under other business Martell reported that the fire department was purchasing a new ventilation saw with donated funds from the Don Moore account.

14. Lander moved that the meeting be adjourned. After a second by Burdin the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:25 PM.

