

## TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

August 4, 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 Nathalie Marsh, Carrie Fellows, Katie and Bill Palmer, and Diane White.
  
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
  
3. Balance sheets distributed.
  
4. Read letter from Superintendent of Schools detailing plan to close Guilford Primary School and the time line for the various steps in the process. If the district votes to return it to Guilford, the town must then vote to accept it, so no changes will occur prior to March of 2010.
  
5. Manager read articles from the Portland Press Herald and the Bangor Daily News which reported that Board Chair William Thompson was one of the three finalists for Maine Teacher of the Year.
  
6. Receiving no bids for the tax acquired property, manager was directed to re-advertise with different publications and to begin the process again.
  
7. Nathalie Marsh, representing the Abaris Club, presented a club project via photos and poster of their plans for cemetery signage. They propose to raise funds and to place granite signs at each of four town owned cemeteries. Two have been ordered and will be placed at Elmwood and Lawn cemeteries this fall.
  
8. Carrie Fellows and the manager related details of the two day seminar they attended along

with members of Guilford Historical Society and P.C.M.S. in Portland with MCHP, the recent grant driven program that will allow Guilford to develop an historical web presence highlighting five exhibits on-line and providing internet access to hundreds of Guilford's historical photos and documents. The progress can be followed at [www.mainememory.net/mchp](http://www.mainememory.net/mchp).

9. From the River festival report given by Fellows, the board was informed that the attendance was up by quite a bit and more vendors and more activities were involved this year, but sponsorship dollars were down some. Nevertheless, the festival made a profit and plans are already under way for next year. A pledge of \$1000.00 has been secured from Maine Highlands Federal Credit Union to provide funding for additional live music. Manager reported that the River Festival account was increased by \$1200.00 and the W.G. Blake sponsored duck race netted an additional \$1100.00 for the skate park project.

10. In a continuation of the River Festival report, manager told of the presentation made as part of the Miss Lilac Pageant, a legislative sentiment expressed by the 124th Maine Legislature regarding Guilford being the Lilac and Chickadee Capital of Maine. The presentation was made by Representatives Pete Johnson and Paul T. Davis, Sr. and the document now is displayed at the town office.

11. A liquor license application was reviewed as per the published notice for a public hearing for Katie's Bar and Grill on Elm Street. Lander moved and Dexter seconded a motion to approve and the vote was unanimous. Their scheduled opening date is at the end of August.

12. The MMA ballot was presented and Lander moved that no vote be proffered, deferring to the nominating committee's choices. Burdin seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

13. Manager reported that the Bureau of Labor made an inspection of all premises and detailed several areas where changes were required from providing an exit sign over the town office door to establishing better training records in the Fire Department. Fines were levied but manager has requested they be waived as all hazards will be mitigated by the due date of September 30th. The Department will review the request after that date. All inspection results are posted, as required, in the respective buildings.

14. Chairman Thompson requested that motions be made for appropriations to the various non-profit organizations that have requested funding, as per the August meeting tradition. Dexter moved and Burdin seconded a motion that Penquis not be granted funding this year as they had received stimulus dollars. Dexter moved and Martell seconded that Pine Tree Hospice be granted \$600.00. Martell moved and Burdin seconded that Womenscare be granted \$1000.00. Dexter moved and Martell seconded that Eastern Area Agency on Aging be granted \$1500.00. Martell moved and Dexter seconded that the Community Health and Counseling be granted \$1000.00. Dexter moved and Martell seconded that Red Cross be granted \$1514.00. Lander moved and Burdin seconded that Guilford Historical Society be granted \$1500.00. Dexter moved and Lander seconded that the Abaris Club be pledged \$1275.00 toward their cemetery signage project as per item #7 above. All votes were unanimous and a total of \$8389.00 was granted or pledged.

15. Under assessor's issues, four abatement requests were granted and one supplement was issued. Two homestead exemptions were granted.

16. Under other business Martell requested that the town provide a financial assist to Pirate Rec of \$1500.00 to go toward their \$4500.00 expenses for the season, with Pirate Rec raising a third and the Town of Sangerville agreeing to contribute a third of the bill. Burdin moved to pay this sum from the recreation budget, Dexter seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

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