

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 8, 2008

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:02 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander, and Peter Martell, and guests Linda Packard, Dodie Curtis, Al Hunt, Laurel Hunt, Chris Reardon, Allen Emerson, Gary Grant, Jeff Libby and, from the Observer, Fran Emmons.

2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Burdin, to amend minutes of previous meeting to include discussion as to whether or not the Fire Department account known as the D.W. M. account was public or private. This question had come up at the end of the prior meeting and was never resolved. Minutes accepted as amended. Unanimous.

3. Balance sheets distributed.

4. Martell discussed Medical Building Committee meeting of January 2nd. The group inspected the building and noted several floors are in poor condition and the committee intended to try stripping and waxing one room as a pilot. If this process was satisfactory, all tile floors to be redone. Other items needing attention were some gouges in walls, leaky faucets, outside staining, a non-working exterior light fixture and possibly carpet replacement. Dexter suggested looking into carpet squares which are replaceable. Martell mentioned the group is seeking a long term solution prior to lease renewal which comes up in 15 months.

5. Al Hunt stated that the Partnership Food Pantry is doing well and wanted the board updated on its progress and plans. He then introduced Mr. Chris Reardon of S.A.V.E. Virtues and distributed his biography via pamphlet to the board. Chris is a well known consultant, speaker and adviser with several areas of expertise in starting and running businesses, both small and very large. He spoke of his association with Al and his pantry and explained how he planned to assist in achieving the goals of getting people from the food pantry line onto their feet on their way to self-sufficiency. Chris' group will train Al's group to in turn train local clientele as a means of reducing area hunger by helping people take control of their own destinies.

6. The Fire Department returned with an alternative request regarding the generator they wished to purchase for the fire station and municipal building. They now are offering to contribute \$4000.00 towards its purchase and installation if the town will pay the balance; approximately \$3500.00 plus the propane to fuel it. The Chief and Town Manager were asked if funds were available for the difference, and noted that there is nearly \$8,000.00 remaining in the Supply Account. Burdin moved to approve this request, and following a second from Lander, the motion carried unanimously.

7. On a motion from Martell with a second from Dexter, it was agreed to approve the liquor license application renewal for 28 Elm Street. Unanimous.

8. Dodie Curtis addressed the board with the by-law amendments proposed for Guilford Memorial Library. She explained the changes which consisted of language clarifying that the library is now a municipal department, identified the Trustees' roles, and explained the duties of the secretary and treasurer in supplying data to the town office. Following the change of the words town clerk to town treasurer, the by-laws were approved on a motion from Burdin, seconded by Lander. Unanimous.

9. The slate of officers voted in at the previous meeting of the Guilford Fire Department was presented and approved. Motion was made by Lander, seconded by Burdin and was unanimously accepted.

10. Manager announced that Moosehead Enterprises had increased its basic cable rate by \$1.00 per month (to \$24.00) and had added two channels to its programming.

11. Burdin moved to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation as per MRSA ss 405 (6)(A)&(D). Seconded by Lander, the board went into session at 8:32 pm. Following a motion by Dexter with a Martell second, the board voted to come out of executive session at 8:47 pm. The board then voted unanimously to increase the rate of pay for employees by \$.50 per hour, to more closely align the public works positions, and to increase the manager pay by \$1500. annually.

12. First notice given for any articles the selectmen may wish to appear on the warrant for the March town meeting.

13. The date for the annual budget committee meeting was set for February 11th at 7:00 pm at P.C.H.S. following a Lander motion and a Burdin second.

14. Under Assessor's Issues, a list of abatement request reviewed by the agent was presented and decisions made on all but one. Selectmen agreed to visit and inspect one of the residences.

15. Under Other Business, Thompson stated he had attended an abatement hearing at the County Commissioner's Office and we would get the results within 60 days. He noted this was only the second one out of all the requests to go to hearing. Manager commended the board for the extra effort and results obtained in attempting to hear everyone out and resolve the many requests.

16. Burdin moved the meeting be adjourned. After a second by Lander, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:47 PM.