

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

December 2, 2008

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:03 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander, and Peter Martell, and guests Danielle Gioia from the Town Library, and Josh Salm from the Piscataquis Observer.

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

3. Balance sheets discussed and correspondence read.

4. Manager stated that the bid notice to sell the 97 Ford ton truck had gone to the local papers and interest was already being shown in this vehicle.

5. Manager also stated that bid notices had gone out for the demolition and removal of the Edes Building and there was a great deal of interest from contractors in this work. Martell suggested that interior photos be taken to record the extent of the deterioration.

6. Linda Gilbert, treasurer of Guilford Development Corporation, the governing body of Riverbend Homes, informed the board through a letter that the directors had agreed to send a P.I.L.O.T. to the town of \$20,000.00 for 2008 and 2009 and, beginning with 2010, to contribute an amount that would equal 75% of the rate they would otherwise be assessed.

7. Manager detailed some issues created on Elm Street by wrong directional parking, but stated most of the other problems had been resolved. Some signage may be added to remind drivers to park correctly, facing with the flow of traffic. It was also brought up following the recent snow event, that some of the staff at the medical building are parking in a manner that hinders snow removal. Manager directed to discuss this with tenant.

8. A request from the Maine Tourism Association for membership and dues was set aside with no action taken at this time.

9. Danielle Gioia from the Library Trustee board presented a proposed budget for 2009 for the library. Manager agreed to get together with her and the board to address further issues.

10. Chris Reardon of SAVE Virtues and the John Adams Institute requested funds to go toward the purchase of a vehicle to assist the local food pantries. A pledge of \$1500.00 had already been received. It was noted that Partnership Food Pantry distributed 40,000 pounds of food in Guilford last year, but now their present transportation has worn out. It was moved by Lander and seconded by Burdin to contribute \$1000.00 toward repairs or replacement, at the manager's discretion following communication with Mr. Reardon, funds to be taken from Program Requests. Unanimous.

11. Manager explained that the proposed 2009 Piscataquis County Budget projected an assessment for Guilford of \$159,988.20, a decrease from last year.

12. A proposal from the Economic Development Board to establish a Lilac Project wherein lilac trees would be planted at various town locations as well as plantings being encouraged among the private sector was discussed. This would be an aspect of community branding and lilacs would become part of a unifying image within the town. More details to follow. Dexter spoke in support of the project and the board concurred.

13. Dexter moved that the annual budget meeting be set for February 9, 2009, at P.C.H.S. at 7:00 in the evening, storm date to be February 11th, and the committee notified as in the past. Unanimously voted following a second from Lander.

14. First notice given by manager to board to bring in warrant articles for the March annual Town meeting. Lander inquired as to whether or not a warrant article would be required to change the composition of the planning board, and it was determined that the manager would investigate and report back later.

15. Under assessor's issues, three abatements were granted regarding personal property that was no longer taxable.

16. Under other business, Martell asked if there were funds in the recreation account to purchase T-shirts for Pirate Rec. Manager stated there were, and following a Burdin motion with a Dexter second, it was unanimously agreed to do so. Manager was directed to develop a policy regarding the practice of fir-tipping on town property, and to include among its provisions that no tipping would be allowed wherein boughs were sold to commercial enterprises.

17. Burdin moved that the meeting be adjourned. After a second by Lander, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:58 PM.