

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

June 5, 2007

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 Ron and Cathy Harriman from Harriman Associates, Gayle Watson on behalf of Villages of Piscataquis, and Robert McReavy, Sheila Thompson, Joni Slamm and Carrie Fellows from the Economic Development Board.

2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Martell, to approve minutes of previous meeting. Unanimous.

3. Balance sheets distributed. No action taken. Chairman Thompson moved ahead to item #14, the scheduled public hearing and item #15, the presentation by Gayle Watson, both outlined below.

4. Read thank you note from Abaris Club for recent contribution.

5. Read notes from students attending Piscataquis Valley Adult Education cooperative thanking the town for its support.

6. Read letter from P.C.H.S guidance office announcing the names of Jeffery Robinson as Valedictorian and Jesse Soden as Salutatorian for the class of 2007.

7. Read letter of thanks from Tim Smith, Foxcroft Academy athletic administrator, for use of the town tennis courts this past season.

8. The Town of Willimantic has requested that Guilford officials continue to serve in the positions of tax collector and treasurer for the coming year. Following a recommendation by the manager and a motion from Dexter, which was seconded by Lander, the board unanimously agreed to continue.

9. Manager announced that the deed from the Trustees of Guilford Memorial Library had been signed making the facility fully municipal property.

10. The board and guests were reminded that the S.A.D. #4 budget meeting was scheduled for Monday evening, June 11th at 7:00PM at PCMS and were urged to attend. Chairman Thompson also reminded those present to vote in the June 12th referendum.

11. Manager spoke of recent meeting of the economic development board and other interested parties with the architectural firm, C.C.S. regarding the Samuel project. Preliminary plans should be available in two to three months according to principal, Cass Smith.

12. On a motion from Burdin, seconded by Dexter, it was unanimously agreed to hold the July selectmen's meeting which traditionally has been omitted from the annual calendar, on July 10 at the regular time and place. On a motion from Burdin, seconded by Lander, it was further agreed to move the August meeting to the 14th that more could attend.

13. Manager announced that the town received a grant from the Maine Municipal Association safety program to purchase safety cans for flammables for both the municipal garage and the fire station.

14. At 7:03 PM, Chairman Thompson opened the advertised public hearing on the Housing Assistance grant program. There were twelve in attendance. Ron Harriman addressed the group and discussed the stages remaining to receive our funding and the steps toward implementing the grant, explaining that we are probably a month from actually starting the first renovation. He answered questions and the hearing ended at 7:16PM.

15. Gayle Watson made a presentation on behalf of Villages of Piscataquis, a class of 2006 Penquis Leadership Institute project, and their plans to place between 20 and thirty interpretive signs at cultural and historical points throughout the Penquis area. The first sign is installed at Low's Bridge in Guilford. Work has begun on an audio CD that will accompany the maps and signs to create a driving tour designed to cover 134 miles and take about four hours to complete. Initial funding came from a Maine Community Foundation grant and sponsorships are being solicited for future signs.

16. Under assessor's issues, an abatement request was heard and denied; a sample letter sent to businesses was read, and a tree growth penalty was assessed following a motion from Lander, seconded by Dexter, with a vote of four in favor, one abstention.

17. Under other business, the Program Guidelines for the housing grant which spell out the eligibility requirements and selection process of grant awards, were adopted by the board upon a motion from Martell and seconded by Lander. Unanimous.

18. Under other business, Burdin moved the meeting be adjourned. After a second by Dexter, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:36 PM.