

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

April 5, 2011

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Kent Burdin, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guests Bill Pearson from the Piscataquis Observer, Dan & Vicki French, Jeff Cross, Katie Palmer, Rocky Tilley, Martha Ward, and Paul Zimmerman.

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

3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.

4. Letter from Foxcroft Veterinary Services read, detailing their guidelines and as-space-available acceptance policy. The primary change noted was that only Animal Control Officers will be allowed to bring in strays, the general public will have to contact their local ACO.

5. A letter from Moosehead Enterprises (cable carrier) was read explaining their notice to ratepayers that a one dollar per month increase would start April 1st.

6. A draft school budget was received from SAD#4 Superintendent Paul Stearns, but the numbers are quite preliminary and subject to change. It is very likely that more cuts are coming, so it is too early to calculate any expectations on its effect on property taxes.

7. On a motion from Burdin, seconded by Dexter, it was unanimously voted to declare the certified ration of town assessments at 100% as in the past several years.

8. The Board was presented with a draft audit pending final field work and adjustments by the auditor showing fund balances in an acceptable range. It was also noted that RFP's should go out again for audit services.

9. Chairman Thompson opened the scheduled public hearing for liquor license approval for Martha Ward and Paul Zimmerman, doing business as Red Maple, Inc. A resident asked for an explanation of the process and the details of a special amusement permit. The manager explained the process, grounds for refusal, and the different types of amusements that could be permitted, stating that this particular application requested both live music and dancing. It was noted that the board does not issue either license, rather decides whether or not to raise objections prior to State of Maine Department of Public Safety review. The State grants or denies the actual licenses. Lander moved to approve the application, Martell seconded it, and it was accepted by unanimous vote

10. Thompson opened the second advertised hearing, a liquor license transfer of location for Katie's Bar and Grill to 28 Elm Street. A neighboring property owner expressed some concerns regarding increased traffic, parking, blocking the street, and noise. Katie Palmer replied that they had plans to increase parking capacity and that she would not be having dancing or big bands, but rather musicians with acoustic instruments were planned. She stated she had many years experience in this business and had a reputation for operating a well run establishment. The resident asked what the town would do if problems arose and the manager stated that they would re-install the Dead End sign that had been removed and would expect and communicate that expectation that law enforcement would handle their part. Lander moved to approve the application and, following a second from Dexter, it was unanimously so voted.

11. The name of Richard M. Hunt was presented as a candidate to represent Guilford on the SAD#4 school board and with a Burdin Motion that was seconded by Martell, he was appointed by unanimous vote.

12. Under assessors' issues, a tree growth application was approved and signed, assessment routes were chosen and the accompanying notebooks distributed accordingly, and abatements were signed for personal property taxes dating from back in 1998 to 2008.

13. Under Other Business, no topics were presented.

14. Following a motion from Lander and a Burdin second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.