

## TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

December 4, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 pm. Present were selectmen Mike Dexter, Rick Lander, Kent Burdin, and Peter Martell, and guests Bill Pearson from The Piscataquis Observer and Paul Zimmerman.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. A Thank You note from Guilford Historical Society for ongoing support was read which mentioned recent renovations at their building.
5. The draft proposal of the Piscataquis County budget was presented. This draft was received two weeks after the last selectmen's meeting and the final budget meeting of the county has already occurred, so the proposal is moot. Overall an increase of 1.63 percent was proposed.
6. Manager discussed the recent meeting of the PVRDD board of directors that he attended. The board elected new officers and directed their attorney to write a demand letter to EMDC requesting return of municipal funds and all reports and documents pertaining to the same.
7. Manager noted that the Hometown Holidays events were well attended with a large crowd at the tree lighting to greet Santa, many visitors at the historical society, and a good turnout to hear the Community Band at the Community Fitness Center. The unfortunate part was that seven of the ten wreaths adorning the bridge in the center of town, which had been placed just that morning, were stolen during the night. A notice has been placed in the Observer offering a \$100.00 reward for the arrest and conviction of the Grinch-like thief.
8. The Guilford Memorial Library has received a gold star rating from the Library Journal, a national publication, for the fourth year in a row. This is a very positive event for our small town and a testament to our fine library. It was one of only six libraries state wide to be so recognized.
9. Snow removal contracts for the 2012-2013 season were presented at the same terms as last season. It was moved by Burdin and seconded by Dexter to accept them. Unanimous.
10. One of the recent foreclosures was initially contested as to proper notice. Following discussion, it was agreed that legal notice was given and a remedy to redeem the property was proposed. After a motion by Dexter, seconded by Burdin, it was unanimously voted to accept the plan to restore title in the prior owner.

11. An unsolicited offer to purchase the property known as “the annex” on North Main Street was received. Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that it was in the best interests of the town to accept the offer and transfer the property as soon as possible to avoid winter damages and to get it back on the tax rolls as a business.
12. The Budget Committee meeting date was set for February 11th at the high school at 7:00 pm. Cards will go out to all committee members and the public is welcomed to attend.
13. First notice for warrant articles given to the board.
14. Under Assessor’s Issues, it was noted that a recent abatement denial had been appealed to the County Commissioner’s for a hearing by the taxpayer. Three other abatement requests were discussed, one was internal housekeeping on a lot that had been combined and should not have been separately taxed, another was rectifying tree growth status, and a third was granted as a valid request.
15. No items were brought before the board under Other Business.
16. Following a motion from Burdin with a Lander second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.