

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 6, 2015

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 pm. Present were selectmen Mike Dexter, Kent Burdin, Rick Lander, and Peter Martell.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed.
4. Read notice from Maine Service Center Coalition inviting Guilford to join this advocacy group. No action taken.
5. Received a card and check from Melissa and Paul Stearns kicking off the first donation to the fireworks fund for the 2015 River Festival. The fireworks have been a tremendous hit at this annual event and through donations, we hope to continue to provide this display.
6. Presented Letter of Engagement from our auditor for the 2015-2016 year with no increase in cost. Martell moved and Dexter seconded approval; unanimous.
7. Manager announced that Maine Highlands Federal Credit Union, which had initially agreed to participate in the cost of the replacement sidewalk in front of their Hudson Avenue location, had decided to pay the entire project cost of \$6,700.00! This act of civil consciousness is very much appreciated. They have done a great job refreshing their appearance which will be more evident in the spring.
8. A proposed amendment to the Guilford Land Use Ordinance changing the rules on keeping poultry has been received. A public hearing is required to inform the public about any proposed changes to the land use ordinance as at the town meeting when a vote is taken, only yes or no votes are accepted; there can be no further amending. Consequently, a hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 3rd at 7:00 pm at the Selectmen's office.
9. A date for a meeting of the board with True Textiles, Inc., to discuss 2015 assessments was set for Monday, January 12th at 4:15 PM.
10. A public hearing will also be held to discuss a Shoreland Zoning Ordinance update. The town must either accept the state model ordinance or develop its own. This will immediately follow the Land Use Ordinance hearing on February 3rd.
11. The County Budget was presented as adopted by the commissioners for the coming year with an increase of 3½%. The overall County valuation has experienced a 7% drop while Guilford's values have remained stable. We will realize a 5.8% rise in our assessment, which

translates to an increase of \$10,034.00 for a new bill of \$182,354.00.

12. Manger advised that a gift from the estate of Beverly Herrick for \$1,000.00 was delivered by Paul Herrick for the benefit of town cemeteries. This was accepted with gratitude.

13. Michelle Nichols was reappointed Registrar of Voters for a two year term.

14. The slate of officers for Guilford Fire Department was presented for board acceptance. Following a Lander motion and a Burdin second, the slate was unanimously approved.

15. A septage contract as required by Title 38 §1305(6)) was received from Patterson Bros. of Abbot. Moved by Lander, seconded by Burdin and unanimously approved.

16. Reminder given that the Budget Committee meeting will be held February 9th at P.C.S.S. at 7:00 PM.

17. Second notice given for warrant articles.

18. Burdin moved and Martell seconded the motion to go into executive session for a personnel matter as per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A). Time in 7:37. Time out 8:05. On a motion by Lander, seconded by Burdin, it was voted to give a raise to town employees of \$.25 per hour beginning January 5th. The manager was given a two percent raise.

19. Under assessor's Issues, one abatement request was read and denied.

20. No discussion under Other Business.

21. Following a motion from Lander with a second from Burdin, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.