

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTPERSON'S MEETING

February 4, 2020

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Thompson at 7:00 p.m. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Peter Martell, Mike Dexter and Paul Zimmerman. David Wilson, town manager was also present.
2. Motion made and seconded to approve the previous meeting's minutes. Vote was unanimous.
3. No balance sheets were available at this time.
4. Scheduled Guests: None.
5. Appointments. None.
6. Miscellaneous correspondence was passed around by the town manager. No questions or comments. The Board did sign an Assessor's Return Note from the County Commissioner's Office during this item.
7. Old Business. Fire Department By-Law Amendments. The manager explained that the amendments had been posted at the fire station since the last meeting. Chief Libby reports there were no questions or comments to him on the amendments. Motion was made and seconded to accept the revisions to the current Guilford Fire Department By-Laws. Vote was unanimous.
8. Assessor's Recommendation – Per the request of the Board, LeeAnn Sally was asked her opinion on the value of the property that Willie Williams wished to purchase from the town. The value, as compared to other similar size parcels was between \$1,000 - \$1,300. The manager asked that due to the fact that the parcel in question has no commercial value other than to Mr. Williams and also that the town would be asking for a permanent Easement and that Mr. Williams planned to place taxable structures on the parcel, he'd like to see the asking price be set a bit lower. Motion was made to put to the voters in March a request to sell the parcel to Mr. Williams, with Easement attached, for the sum of \$500. Motion seconded, vote was unanimous.
9. New Business. Application for Junkyard Permit (renewal). The manager explained that this matter has passed through the Planning Board and is a renewal for a junkyard at 272 Water Street. Motion was made and seconded to approve the renewal of the permit. Vote was unanimous.
10. Cemetery Policy. The manager stated he'd been working with Jeff Libby to create a simple policy on the municipal cemeteries, costs for burials, etc. The manager presented a policy and said that Zac Herrick of Herrick Excavation is interested in becoming the town's Sexton and offered a contract with Herrick which refers to the policy for pricing. After review a motion was made and seconded to contract with Herrick Excavation for the Town's Sexton duties. Vote was unanimous.

Second motion to adopt the town's Cemetery Policy was made and seconded. Vote was unanimous.

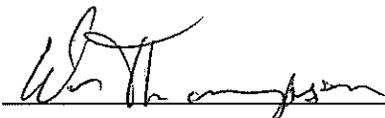
11. **Renewal of Municipal Fire Contracts.** The manager explained the renewal for the agreements with Parkman, Abbot and Kingsbury are due. No changes to the existing contracts or contract prices. Vote was made and seconded to renew all three contracts and forward to their respective Boards for their approval. Vote was unanimous.
12. **Riverfest.** Paul Zimmerman stated the first meeting of the Committee was a success with a better than expected turnout. He stated the Committee has a secretary keeping minutes and he'll make sure the Board received copies on an ongoing basis. The manager explained that he and Paul had worked on a simple set of Committee By-Laws that will be brought to the next Select Board meeting for approval.
13. **Planning Board Recommendations –** The manager presented amendments to the current Property Maintenance Ordinance that he and the Planning Board have worked on over the past few months and endorsed. The revisions primarily include updating referenced titles and statutes, and strengthening the procedures for dealing with property nuisance complaints. Motion was made and seconded to endorse the amendments to the voters in March. Vote was unanimous. The second Ordinance to talk about was a proposed Adult Use Marijuana Ordinance. The manager explained that Guilford current did not have an Ordinance in place and in the event anyone receives state licensing to sell or cultivate marijuana for retail sale under the new law, without an Ordinance in place the town would be forced to allow it. The manager presented a draft Ordinance and explained the wording is similar in nature to one he'd drafted for Howland with the assistance of that town's law firm at that time. The manager also said that it was only recently discovered that Guilford didn't have an Ordinance in effect and time was a factor if the Board wished to see the Ordinance on the March vote. The manager asked, if the Board was agreement, to endorse the draft to the Planning Board which are scheduled to meet February 5th and to the voters for approval if the Planning Board agrees with the wording in the draft. Such a motion was made and seconded. Vote was unanimous.
14. **Manager's Report.**
 - A. The manager asked for a nomination to receive this year's Spirit of America award. After discussion a decision was made, and for anonymity the name is to be announced at the March town meeting.
 - B. The manager thanked Mr. Tony Davis of Davis Brother's Furniture for the holiday decorations that he displayed on Elm Street at his own expense. It was mentioned how impressive the display was and that added to the holiday season.
 - C. The manager questioned the Board on the date of tax commitment. He stated that the town's new budget begins February 1st with vote to approve in mid-March, however traditionally the town hasn't committed taxes until the week of July 4th which creates a significant gap in time to begin a new

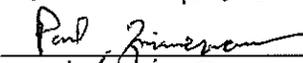
fiscal year's cash flow. The manager stated he would like to see, over time, the date of commitment closer to the passing of the budget. The manager suggested moving the date ahead two weeks each year until a permanent date closer to the approved vote is achieved. The consensus was in agreement with the manager.

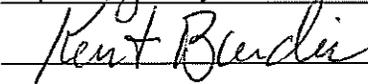
- D. The manager mentioned that he'd presented at the high school recently and the plan of having a student summer work crew was very popular and highly endorsed. The manager also mentioned the enthusiasm in the 'Sponsor a Park' campaign whereas banner sponsorship along the ballfield fencing on Water Street will be sold to area businesses with all proceeds benefitting the youth sport programs and the parks.
- E. The manager asked if this year's Town Report could be dedicated to Barbara Reardon of the Library Board of Trustees. All were in agreement to this choice of dedication.
- F. The manager stated the annual meeting of the Budget Committee will be held on February 10th at 5:30 p.m. at the town office.

15. Any other business – The increasing cost of children's summer recreation programs was discussed. After having consulted with the recreation director it was determined that Guilford residents would be charged a total fee of \$30 for the summer programs and non-residents would be charged \$60. This is to offset the increased costs for programs and the increased attendance at the programs which is also driving up the costs.

16. It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.



Peter Martell


Paul Zimmerman


Kent Barden

Select Board of Guilford



Clerk