

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

August 2, 2016

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 Rod Edgerly, Richard Panciera, and Jeff Libby. Also two prospective bidders on the plowing contract.
2. Motion made and seconded to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed.
4. Latest letters from MRC were shared. They now have 108 communities and over 105,000 tons of MSW committed to the new facility.
5. Plow bids were opened and an immediate motion was made to accept the lowest bid based on the initial year figures. In the discussion phase, the letter explaining the bid requirements was read and it was noted that the low bid changed as multiple years were considered. During the discussion, one bidder withdrew and the apparent low bidder was awarded the bid. Lawson Landscaping will be invited to the contract stage.
6. We have received payment from our insurance carrier for the lightning damage to our radio communications and have elected to go with RCM to replace and upgrade our system with one that will be programmable and upgradeable in future years.
7. Compensation for the Fire Chief was discussed again and it was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to increase the stipend to \$4,000.00 annually for the chief; increase the assistant chief to \$1,000.00 and the second assistant chief to \$750.00, with all "officer in charge" rates being changed to minimum wage. It was noted that the record keeping, legal responsibilities and job requirements had increased over the years and the town needed to approach the local average wage/stipend amounts. First responder and secretary positions will be discussed at a later date as it was further acknowledged that they, too, have had more requirements added for certification.
8. The SAD#4 Budget was soundly defeated again at the Round II validation vote and will be revisited yet again. It appears that another district budget meeting will be held August 29th at 7:00 PM immediately following the informational meeting at 6:00 PM, and if approved, another Budget Validation referendum will occur in all six district towns on September 8th.
9. By all accounts, the Bicentennial version of our annual River Festival was a great success. Breakfast at the church, Fun Run and 5k run, fantastic parade, dedication of Dave Gaw Diamond, sentiments from the Maine Legislature and remarks from a representative of Susan Collins office as well as from Congressman Bruce Poliquin. Clive Meidahl, event planner of Guilford's sesquicentennial celebration 50 years ago was called to the sound stage for a few remarks also. Then Elvis, Cold Blue Steel and Blue Water took the stage for the rest of the day up until the 9:00 PM fireworks. Meanwhile the Fire Department kept kids cool with a spray, lots of food and craft vendors, a pie-eating contest, return of the pig scramble, duck race, water slide, bounce house and many other things to enjoy including several class reunions filled the perfect-weather day. And the fireworks were claimed by many to be, "The best ever seen around here."

10. Rod Edgerly presented a petition requesting that the speed limit on the lower end of Blaine Avenue from the school to the town garage be reduced to 30 MPH. The process was explained by the manager and the possible outcomes following the results. The board then requested the manager to present the request to M.D.O.T.

11. The annual decision on the recipients and respective amounts to be given to non-profits was then discussed and voted with the following awards being determined: American Red Cross, \$1350; Community Health and Counseling, \$675; Pine Tree Hospice, \$650; Eastern Area Agency on Aging, \$1350; WomanCare/Spruce Run Alliance, \$1000; Guilford Historical Society, \$1350; American Legion, \$300; and Life Flight foundation, \$300.00.

12. It was announced the GHS would be holding a Guilford Bicentennial 2016 Cruise-In and Drive-In Movie on Saturday, August 20th at the Guilford athletic fields, There will be vintage, classic and antique autos, live music featuring Con Brio Brass Band and Music Maker DJ, from 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM, to be followed by a showing of Herbie the Love Bug at 8:30 PM, all FREE of Charge, presented by the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Mid Maine.

13. Manager reported that he would be attending the MTCMA Institute from August 9th through the 12th and that Bill Thompson would be acting manager in his stead.

14. The previously tabled cable contract with Moosehead Enterprises was again tabled with one board member requesting further information.

15. It was noted the Hardwood Products Company had donated LED replacement lights for two of our lampposts. The improvement was so noticeable that the town purchased the same bulbs for the remaining five lamps and Hardwood again installed them at no charge. Thanks to our corporate neighbors and to Bill Pinkham and crew for the insight, and the gift of time and materials.

16. The MMA Executive Committee and Officer's ballot was presented. Manager was selected to place a vote on behalf of the town as a member of MMA.

17. Under Assessor's business, eleven abatements were awarded and five supplements assessed.

18. There being no "Other Business",

19. Following a motion and a second, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.