

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

December 4, 2018

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Rick Lander and Peter Martell.
2. Motion made and seconded to approve minutes. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed.
4. Distributed MRC Newsletter.
5. Read Thank You Note from Guilford Historical Society for the town's donation.
6. Read Plumbing Inspector Frank Ruksznis formal resignation letter.
7. Distributed 2016-2017 Audit reports.
8. School Street rebuilding project buttoned up for the winter months. Some temporary steps have been taken to allow for proper snow removal this winter. The bills to date exceed the bond funds by approximately forty thousand dollars and the overall budget by as much as twenty-five thousand. Manager suggests holding back payment of current invoice until spring as the work is not finished and some was done under unfavorable weather conditions.
9. Reminder given that David Barrett from Maine Municipal Association will be here December 12th for a 6:30 PM meeting to start the manager selection process.
10. Manager gave a report on the Hometown Holidays events organized by the Historical Society. Weather was good for the evening and the chorus, led by Julie Harrington did a fine job. The bonfire crackled and many children made reindeer food, had treats, met with Santa and enjoyed the tree lighting followed by a story at the library. Between 50 and 60 attended. The tree was donated by John Johnston of Parkman.
11. Manager reported that the FEMA catastrophe money had been sent to the State and should be forwarded to the town shortly. Guilford will be reimbursed for part of it emergency expenses.
12. The first meeting with the web site providers will be Wednesday, December 5th. A contract with *Further North Consulting* was negotiated and signed for the coming year as directed.
13. CEO, Keith Doore, at the Planning Board's request, asked that the town consider setting fees for building permits. As no one was present to speak to this, the matter was tabled.

- 14. Manager announced that next month was the usual date to select a candidate for the Spirit of America Tribute Foundation Award. All were encouraged to bring in their nominations to the January meeting.**
- 15. The Town of Dexter will be supporting a constable's attendance at the Criminal Justice Academy and underwriting some of his expenses, as the candidate will be out of work for 18 weeks during that time period. We were asked to contribute toward this effort. Manager directed to negotiate a commitment from the applicant before awarding any funds.**
- 16. The Annual Budget Committee meeting date was set for February 11th, with a storm date of the 14th. Postcards will go out to members in advance.**
- 17. First call for any warrant articles that board members may want added to the annual town meeting warrant. Deadline will be February 4th, 2019 in order to allow time for acceptance, printing and posting.**
- 18. A Junk Yard Permit for Chip's Auto Sales was presented and approved at the former Lyle Cookson site. It will now be more geared to sales and a museum.**
- 19. Support letters for the American Legion and Mt' Kineo Lodge #109 were signed to be forwarded to the State Gambling Control Unit for a five year period.**
- 20. Tax collector gave an update on tax acquired properties: there were four as of November 1st when the 2016 tax liens matured. One owner stated they had sent the balance on October 23rd and subsequently sent it by certified mail. It was received and a discharge given. Another owner has requested a buyback and has agreed to pay all taxes owed and clean up the property. The board agreed to give the former owner 10 days to redeem this. A third property, a vacant home has not and will not be redeemed, thus will be sold at bid. This property has had a lead-paint survey and is affected, which must be disclosed and may reduce the value. A fourth property consists of a mobile home on a small lot that the sanitary district has claimed by prior lien. The town has 90 days in which to trump that claim by simply paying the overdue lien. This was tabled at the November meeting with the manager to discuss plans with sanitary district officials. They do not want to claim this as there is some question as to proper notice to all parties of interest. Manager will check with abutter and offer it for the amount of the outstanding liens.**
- 21. The 2019 River Festival's fate is uncertain at this point, yet the town had made a three year commitment with Central Maine Pyrotechnics to provide fireworks displays, 2019 being the third year. It was decided that whereas there were available funds in the River Festival account, to send in the required deposit and proceed with fireworks whether or not the festival continues. The date will remain consistent; the last Saturday of July.**
- 22. The municipal flags are at half mast per order of Governor Paul LePage for thirty days in memory of President George H. W, Bush.**

23. Municipal Review Committee elections are being held with several candidate trying for a seat on the board. Manager appointed to cast the vote for Guilford.

24. Under assessors' issues, two tree growth renewal applications were approved and signed.

25. Executive session per1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) (personnel matter) Time in: 8:06; Time Out: 8:21.

26. Under "Other Business", It was moved and seconded that the town office be closed at noon on December 24th, 2018 as paid time off. Chairman Thompson asked what the school assessment increases had been over the last five years. Nearly \$400,000.00 since 2013.

27. Moved and seconded to adjourn at 8:35 PM.

Selectmen of Guilford

Clerk