



CLINTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016, 6:30 P.M.
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING

MEETING MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Towne called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Towne led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **SELECTMEN PRESENT/QUORUM:** Chairman Jeffrey Towne, Vice Chairman Ronnie Irving, Selectman Edward Blanchard, Selectman Geraldine Dixon and Selectman Stephen Hatch. Also present Town Manager Pamela Violette, Deputy Town Clerk Earla Haggerty and Deputy Town Clerk Katina Hubbard.
4. **ACTION ITEMS:**
 - a. **Approval of Selectmen's Minutes** – Selectman Dixon moved to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2015 meeting as presented. Selectman Hatch seconded the motion. Vote: 5 – 0.
 - b. **Fire Chief Gary Petley – FEMA Grants** – Chief Gary Petley was present to request approval for two FEMA grants for the Fire Department. The first grant for replacement of 12 year old airpacks and the second for Ambulance replacement.
 1. The first grant application was for replacement of or 15 SCBA's (air packs) which had been purchased in 2003 on another FEMA grant. Given the units had a 15 year usable life and the equipment is now in its 12th year of use the Chief was beginning to think about replacement options – this FEMA grant being favored over outright purchase. Chief Petley explained that written estimates came in at \$95,625 so the department's share would be 5% or \$4,782. Chief Petley further explained that should the grant be awarded to Clinton Fire Department the 5% match would be paid out of the Capital Reserve Account for Equipment.
 2. The second grant application was for the replacement of the 2002 Ford 350 Diesel Ambulance. The Chief explained it was holding up well with an average of 9,000 miles per year but due to age replacement was eminent. The estimated replacement cost for an ambulance came in at \$150,000 and although the Chief thinks the request is a long shot he is willing to submit the application if the Selectmen are in agreement. Selectmen Hatch asked Chief Petley what the turn around time would be. The Chief answered that it would be a year or more because it was a federal funding source which is always slow.
- c. **Asplundh Tree Expert Company – Contract Agreement** – Selectmen Irving and Blanchard expressed mild dissatisfaction with Asplundh's performance during the last contract but recognized the line between what Asplundh does for CMP and the town sometimes becomes blurred. After a short discussion regarding assignment and supervision of work for the new

Selectman Dixon motioned to authorize Chief Petley to submit two FEMA Grant applications for the purposes stated. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

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contract Chairman Towne stated that the provision on page 3 regarding Montgomery County, Pennsylvania should be changed to Kennebec County, Maine. Selectman Dixon motioned to approve the contract with Asplundh Tree Expert Company which will terminate December 31, 2016 with the amendment of paragraph (e.) on page 3 and to authorize Chairman Towne to sign the contract. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a. **Highway Study** – Chairman Towne opened the discussion by asking whether or not the Board wanted to put the Highway Maintenance Contract back out to bid given there had only been one response to the previous bid. After lengthy discussion regarding brush cutting, ditching and culverts and how to calculate cost for each it was decided to revise the portion of the contract regarding vegetation control. It was further decided the Selectmen provide a guidance document and a pre-bid information meeting at the next Selectmen's Meeting to be held on January 26. Chairman Towne offered that the return date for the bids should be February 9th, which is also a Selectmen's Meeting date.

6. SUPPLEMENTS AND ABATEMENTS: None

7. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

a. **Budget Presentation – FY 2016-2017** – Town Manager Violette provided the Board with copies of the budget and advised the budget was significantly higher than last year's budget because of the changes in the Code Enforcement Office and the Assessing Office. Town Manager Violette advised that the municipal budget would be approximately \$400,000 over the municipal cap for FY 2016-2017.

Chairman Towne stated that there would most likely be a use of the fund balance for the new year. Selectman Dixon stated there would definitely be cuts in the budget. Selectman Hatch asked Town Manager Violette if health insurance had increased 6.5% to which she responded in the affirmative. Selectman Irving responded that with the contracts already in place and overhead cost there were only so many places to cut safely because there were unavoidable obligations to be met. Selectman Irving further reminded the Board that the roads had to be kept healthy because the down side was to spend more to repair roads allowed to deteriorate and causes more costly vehicle repair for residents.

8. UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS - None

9. TREASURER'S WARRANT: Selectman Blanchard moved to approve Treasurer's Warrant # 44 in the amount of \$277,072.24. Selectman Dixon seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0. Warrant approved.

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – January 26, 2016

1. Informational Meeting regarding Highway Service Contract
2. FY 2016-2017 Budget
3. Foreclosed Property
4. Parks & Recreation Committee

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11. COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING MATTERS NOT RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA - The Board's rules of procedure have imposed a 15-minute time limit.

There were no comments or questions from the public.

12. Executive Session – Poverty Abatement – 1 MRSA 406-6. F.

7:41 p.m. – Selectman Hatch moved to go into Executive Session for Poverty Abatement per 1MRSA 406-6. F. Selectman Dixon seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

8:00 p.m. – Selectman Hatch moved to exit Executive session. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

Results from Executive Session – Selectman Irving moved to approve poverty abatement for 2013 real estate taxes in the amount of \$1,677.48 seconded by Selectman Hatch. Vote: 4-1. Selectman Dixon Opposed. Motion approved.

13. ADJOURN: 8:03 p.m. Selectman Dixon moved to adjourn. Selectman Irving seconded the motion. Vote 5-0

Respectfully submitted,



Earla J. Haggerty
Deputy Town Clerk