

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – June 12, 2018 MINUTES:**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Nick Lukiwsky.

**DELEGATIONS:** No delegations were present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment was made.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2018 meeting.

No tax refunds were received from the Tax Collector.

**DISCUSSION:** The Selectmen discussed the revenues and expenditures through May 31, 2018, which indicate that the Town will end the fiscal year with a surplus primarily due to the tax sale, which will help to overcome the shortfall in State revenues for the current fiscal year and for FY 2018/2019. That should help the General Fund remain at the current level or actually increase by a small amount. On the expenditure side, the General Government budget should come in with a small surplus due to the application of Town Aid Road funds to help cover highway department overtime and road salt expenditures during this winter. In other budget areas, the Resident State Trooper will be about \$14,000 over budget due to an appropriation that did not accurately reflect the State invoice, and an increase since the State estimated the cost last year. The salary account is down due to a changeover in personnel, which also helps with Social Security/Medicare costs, utilities are under budget, while tree work and computer expenses are over budget.

**DISCUSSION:** The Selectmen reviewed the two bids received on the four properties that had not sold at the tax sale, and which were recently advertised for sealed bid. Hoskins Greenway, LLC bid \$20,050 for 34 North Canton Road, which was over the minimum required bid, so the town and he will proceed to closing on the property. There was a single bid of \$5,000 for 67 New Hartford Road, which had a minimum of \$10,000, so that bid was not accepted. The other two properties on Riverton Road (Nos. 56 and 67) received no bids. The Selectmen agreed that they would take further action on the properties that did not sell in the future as plans for another tax sale develop.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the Selectmen that Carmen Smith was hired to replace Francine Beland in the Assessor's office, and that Donna Murphy, a certified Assessor, will be hired for 5 hours per week to provide mentoring and to sign certain documents that must be signed by a person with the appropriate certifications. The Town will be reviewing applications and resumes received for the Assessor's Assistant and for the opening in the Highway Department. Once people are selected for interviews, a committee which will include Selectmen and the department heads will be convened to select candidates.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the Selectmen that Mayor O'Leary of Waterbury, who is Chairman of the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, has sent out a letter stating that due to some of the concerns of the Towns, they would hold a forum on June 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss this organization, its finances and the

liabilities, and the required legal agreement. This forum will then be used to formulate a new agreement to address the issues that were preventing many of the towns from executing the current agreement.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein attended a meeting at the NHCOCG to meet the summer intern who will be helping the towns with working towards certification under the Sustainable CT initiative. The EDC and the BCC have both agreed that they want to work on achieving certification and that the first step is to identify those actions we have already accomplished and those that should be relatively easy to accomplish. The intern will attend the next EDC meeting to try to get this process started.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein provided a copy of a resolution to be voted on at the next NHCOCG meeting that supports the efforts by CivicLift, a website provider to create pages for each of the towns in the region. This will be a free service that will highlight town events and businesses or tourist attractions. If the town wants a customized page, it will cost \$1,000 and if a business would also like a customized page highlighting that business, there will be a charge. The Selectmen agreed that this initiative was worth trying and since it was free of charge, there was little-to-no risk associated with it.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein provided a copy of an agreement proposed by GovPayNet, a credit card service that would allow credit card payments to be made in Town Hall. The Town Attorney had a few concerns about the agreement, so this was tabled until the next meeting. Don Stein will also reach out to other towns that currently use the service to get feedback on the service and will have further discussions with Andy Glassman on this subject.

The Selectmen signed the Rate Bill and Tax Warrant prepared by the Tax Collector that dictates the terms of tax payments, the mill rate as set by the Board of Finance and that authorizes the Tax Collector to collect taxes in accordance with State statute.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 on a motion by Nick Lukiwsky.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein  
First Selectman

***Upcoming Meetings – the Selectmen agreed to cancel the regular meetings of 6/26, 7/10 and 8/14 due to vacation schedules. They will hold a special meeting at 9:00AM on July 3 and at 7:00PM on July 31. The regular meeting of August 28 will be held.***