

APPROVED

**Minutes of the Bridport Select Board Meeting, January 9, 2017, Bridport Town Clerk's office, at 6 P.M.**

Members present: Leonard Barrett, Chair, Sue Walker, Jerry Forbes, Earl Audet, and Joan Huestis, Recording Clerk

Others present: Dusty Huestis, DPW Road Foreman, Irene Zaccor, Town Treasurer, David Bronson, Cemetery Committee, Robert Coffey, Auditor, Dan Thomas

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Leonard Barrett at 6 P.M.

The motion was made by Earl Audet and seconded by Sue Walker to approve the minutes of the select board meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup> and December 27<sup>th</sup> as presented and the minutes from the December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended. Motion passed. All in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Irene Zaccor, Town Treasurer, reported over \$340,000 in the treasury. She also presented bills totaling \$31,995.44 for payment. She also reported delinquent taxes were below \$62,000.00 for the year and below \$89,000.00 for the 3 years. Irene also presented papers for the select board to sign in regard to a NBM loan. The motion was made by Sue Walker and seconded by Earl Audet to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. There was no discussion. Motion passed. All in favor.

Motion was made by Sue Walker and seconded by Earl Audet to pay David Bronson for his work regarding the Howlett quit claim deed. There was no discussion. Motion passed. All in favor.

**Public Comment:**

David Bronson, chair of the Cemetery Committee, spoke regarding an additional page the committee would like to place in the upcoming town report. This page is a list of stones that have had work done to them in the Central Cemetery. He also requested \$6000.00 for the cemetery in the 2017 budget, and offered \$1000.00 to the town, from the cemetery budget, toward mowing the Central Cemetery.

Dan Thomas asked permission to tap the trees on the green. It was agreed that Dan would reduce the number of buckets on each tree this year, due to most of the trees being old.

**Auditors:**

Robert Coffey, auditor, asked about notification and publication of the 2016 Town Report. There was much discussion about due dates. A post card will be sent to each voter explaining how the Town Report is available this year. The Town Report will be on our Website for the first time this year. People can view, download and print from the Website. There will also be a limited number of hard copies printed that will be available at the Town Clerk's office. The report must be available to each resident 10 days prior to Town Meeting Day, March 7, 2017. Hard copies will not be delivered as in previous years.

**Road Report:**

Dusty Reported that Dick Hoskins, from the state DOT, will be at the town garage Thursday at 9:30 A.M. He will advise the Town regarding the class 4 road portion of Basin Harbor Road that goes through the Sunderland property. Also present at the meeting will be Dusty Huestis, David Bronson, Jerry Forbes and Earl Audet. Dusty and Leonard will meet with Eric Denu about trees on his property that are very close to the road.

**Flag Pole:**

Leonard has a call into Saratoga Flag Company to get a price on a new flag pole installation. The present flag pole has been moved twice and is listing to the side and no longer straight. This will be an article in the Town Report Warning to approve the cost of the new flag pole.

**Sunderland Bridge:**

The board is working on replacing the Sunderland Bridge on the Crown Point Road. It is expected there will be a 2% increase in cost over the proposal given last year from Carrara's. It is the desire of the board to continue to work with Parent Construction and Carrara and not rebid the project. The Town will apply for a state grant to help cover costs. The project will be in excess of \$315,000.00. This will be an article on the Town Report Warning.

**Budget:**

The board is continuing to work on the budget.

**Old Business:**

The Mobilitie WIFI pole is still being worked out at both lawyer's offices.

**New Business:**

Storage space in the Town Vault:

The present vault is in need of some upgrades. Irene Zaccor presented information about a map/plat cabinet that allows better access because the maps are hung vertically instead of stored in drawers as they are now. This cabinet could be placed in the vault, possibly with some reconstruction of the vault. Vault upgrades will be an article on the Town Report Warning in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Class 1 and 2 road mileage:

The motion was made by Earl Audet and seconded by Jerry Forbes to approve and sign the paperwork from the state regarding class 1 and class 2 roads.

Reviews:

The board will meet with town employees, Dusty Huestis and Mike Sheldrick, on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 at the town garage.

Appraisal Equalization:

The town is at 101.8% CLA according to the State of Vermont. This is in regard to property values.

**Executive session:**

The board went into executive session at 7:46 P.M. Irene Zaccor was also present at this session. The board came out of executive session at 8:06 P.M.

The final budget meeting will be held on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9 A.M. at the Town Clerk's Office.

The motion was made by Jerry Forbes and seconded by Sue Walker to adjourn at 8:16 P.M. Motion carried. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned

Joan Huestis, Recording Clerk