



Town of Plaistow ♦ Board of Selectmen
145 Main Street ♦ Plaistow ♦ NH ♦ 03865

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:

DATE: October 26, 2015

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:33 PM

SELECTMEN:

Selectman, Steve Ranlett, Chairman
Selectman, Joyce Ingerson
Selectman, Julian Kiszka

John Sherman Vice Chairman,
Selectman, Tammy Bergeron- Excused
Town Manager, Sean Fitzgerald - Excused

AGENDA:

MINUTES

J. Sherman motions to approve the minutes of October 19, 2015. Second by J. Ingerson.
Vote: 4-0-0
Motion passes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

TAX RATE SETTING

S. Ranlett states he spoke with S. Fitzgerald and he recommends using \$550,000 from the unexpended fund balance to keep the town's tax rate flat.

J. Sherman states that the Selectmen, when they meet with the Department of Revenue to set the tax rate, are authorized to use money from the unexpended fund account to offset an increase in property taxes. This has been done in the past. J. Sherman continues to explain the unexpended fund balance. He states another option is to take \$750,000 from the unexpended fund balance to bring the tax rate down through this would leave the unexpended fund balance too low. Discussion ensues.

J. Ingerson states she would like to stay with the \$550,000 amount. She would like to see all the revenue/receivables year to date. She is also concerned about what type of impact this action will have next year when the full revaluation is completed.

J. Kiszka states he would like to use less than the \$550,000 from the unexpended fund balance but he agrees with \$550,000. He notes that in 2008 the Town had to take a Tax Anticipation Note and he would like to avoid that stating the Town is not in jeopardy of needing to do that this year. Discussion of Tax Anticipation Notes ensues.

J. Sherman motions to direct the Town Manager to withdraw \$550,000 from the unexpended fund balance as part of the tax rate setting with the DRA. J. Ingerson 2nd, keeping the tax rate level at \$5.98 per thousand.

Vote 3-1-0

Motion passes.

J. Sherman states he is not opposed to the \$550,000 he would just prefer \$750,000. He agrees the \$550,000 is reasonable; it's just a matter of opinion.

J. Sherman notes the letter from Superintendent Dr. Earl Metzler regarding the tax rate setting is in the FYI folder. S. Ranlett reads the letter aloud. J. Sherman notes most of the work for the School Department's portion of the tax rate setting is done by the Business Administrator and he working without an assistant this year, and this is also the busiest time of year for them, so they were delayed. J. Sherman mentions we just need to get the tax rate set to get the tax bills out without any further delay.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

S. Ranlett reviews the Town Manager's report. The Budget Committee will be reviewing the Water Department's budget tomorrow. This is the last budget they will look at as all others have been done. A few budgets will come back to the Selectmen to review some minor changes.

There will be a ground breaking for the over 55 Chandler Ave project on Friday, November 6th at 10:00AM. S. Ranlett cannot attend but J. Ingerson will be there.

J. Ingerson requests an explanation of the "Right of First Refusal" in general terms. Basically any property that comes up for sale may have a person named in the deed who is allowed first preference on the sale.

J. Sherman notes the hours of the Town's Trick or Treat are 5:30 - 7:30 PM on Saturday October 31st.

ACTION ITEM REVIEW

The items are reviewed.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

SIGNATURE FOLDER

S. Ranlett states the manifest and signature folder are going around.

SELECTMENS REPORTS

J. Sherman

- Mentions a close friend of Sean's father passed last week. His name is Gary Gulman and he was an accomplished comedian. He came in third in the National Competition "Last Comic Standing". He also had a show on Comedy Central. J. Sherman sends the Board's condolences to the family.

S. Ranlett

- Will attend the Hazard Seminar on 11/17 at Searly School.

J. Ingerson

- Nothing to report but she would like all drivers to be very cautious on 10/31 to help keep the Trick or Treater's safe.

J. Kiszka

Nothing to Report

S. Ranlett thanks Lori Sadewicz, Mary Beth Walker, Will Corcoran and all others who helped with this year's assessment process.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:02pm

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle Hamel
Recording Secretary