

**Minutes**  
**West Rutland Selectman Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 21st, 2020**

**Present:** John Harvey, Bill Kulig, Chet Brown, Jayne Pratt and Nick Notte

**Others Present:** Mary Ann Goulette, Seth Pietryka, Bill Harvey, Paul Kulig, Mike Moser, Lisa Wright and Pat Trepanier

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by John with the pledge of allegiance.

**Agenda Approval:** Motion by Chet seconded by Bill to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved.

**Public Concerns:** None

**Discussion Items:**

**a. Budget Discussions:**

- a. **Library** – Bill Harvey and Paul Kulig presented the library budget and report. They are not asking for an increase in the \$50,000 annual allocation. The investments have been producing. The library has 891 registered patrons, 110 of them are new in 2019. New bylaws have been adopted. A library trustee is voted every three years by the town.
- b. **Highway** – Discussion on each line item. Equipment savings at \$70,000. We need to replace Steve's truck as this is its 12<sup>th</sup> winter. Frank presented 5 options of trucks ranging in size from Dodge RAM 550 to a Freightliner 4 x4. This route has all hills so Frank is recommending a larger truck with four-wheel drive. He recommends the Freightliner 4 x 4 at \$96,059 with the Viking body at \$61,850 (similar body to our other trucks can use the same chain). Patriot in Westminster will give us the best price and trade in at \$38,000. Chet made a motion to purchase the Freightliner 4x4 M2 106 from Patriot with the Viking body for \$157,909 less the trade in at \$38,000 costing a net of \$119,909. Seconded by Nick. Mary Ann to look at loan and lease pricing. Cost of living is 2.8%. Salt budget is up \$20,000 the pricing has increase and we are using more. Haven't had any inventory carryover in a few years. The sidewalk repair increase \$5K so we can complete the west side of Clarendon Avenue. The salt shed bond will finish in 2022. Overall increase of 5.5%.
- c. **Listers** – Lisa and Pat were present to discuss their work over the last year, noting the reappraisal and the \$35 million increase in the grand list. They are requesting an increase in salaries due to their experience and qualifications. Lisa is requesting \$45/hour for the chair and \$20/hour for the listers. Mary Ann has budgeted \$20,000 with includes 4 hours per week for each lister plus 2 hours a week for a clerk. Motion made by Chet seconded by Nick to set the lister's chair salary at \$40/ hour and the listers at \$20/hour. Motion approved.

- d. **Admin** – Discussion on office structure, hours worked. Treasurer now needs to travel to Woodstock Avenue for banking. Motion made by Jayne seconded by Bill to increase the Treasurer’s salary to \$14,500. Zoning is requesting an increase to \$22.50/hour. His three-year appointment is expiring. Bookkeeping is working more hours. Computer software is up \$9,000 due to a \$5,000 cost increase in NEMRC. We are also going to the cloud with our grandlist for \$2500 and NEMRC for \$900. Three elections next year. Admin increase of 6.6%
- e. **Recreation** – Salary is increased from \$6,000 to \$12,000. Need to hire some for programming events. Would like to see events using the new renovated recreation building and the Town Hall auditorium. Removed the phone from the building. Reduced capital improvements to \$20,000 for future pavilion.
- b. **Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement** – We received the draft agreement from the planning commission. Many towns have been asking for this type of document. Mary Ann asks that we review it and we can discuss at a future meeting.
- c. **Town Manager Report:**
  - a. **Review bond materials for Town meeting:** We are applying to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Fiscal Year 2019. We will need to ask the voters for the full \$730,000 in construction costs less any grants. Mary Ann hopes we will see a 50% grant based on the Town’s average household income numbers.
  - b. **New sidewalk bid:** We will go back out to bid for the sidewalk project. We will split out the school portion and Thrall Avenue in case we have to scale back the project due to higher costs. We will also extend the timeline into the fall.

**Action Items:**

- a. **Approve Certificate of Highway Mileage Report** – Motion made by Chet seconded by Jayne to approve the Certificate of Highway Mileage Report for 2020. Motion approved.

**Board Member Concerns:** None

**Approved Orders:** The board approved the pay orders.

**Adjournment:** Nick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm and Jayne seconded. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Goulette