Town of Rowe - FY 2014
Board of Selectmen – Minutes
Wednesday, November 6, 2013 - 4:00 pm
Rowe Town Hall

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Select Board Chair Marilyn Wilson at 4:00 pm.

Present: Select Board Chair Marilyn Wilson, Vice-Chair Susan Gleason, Secretary Janice Boudreau
Select Board Member Noel Abbott was absent from the meeting

Audience: Joyce Boutwell, Jodi Brown, Betty Lenth, Paul McLatchy III, Robin Reed

Executive Session

Motion to convene into Executive Session: Chair Wilson made a motion to convene into Executive Session under purpose # 2 of the Mass Open Meeting Law :
To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and to reconvene in Open Session.
Roll call vote to convene into Executive Session: Chair Wilson – aye, Vice-Chair Gleason – aye
Select Board Members convened into Executive Session at 4:01 pm to review minutes of the October 31, 2013 Executive Session.

Reconvened into Open Session

Select Board Members reconvened into Open Session at 4:05 pm.

Old Business

1. Special Town Meeting Warrant: Articles to be added to the Special Town Meeting Warrant included:

- School Septic Article: submitted by the School Building Committee
- Fire Department: needed upgrades to equipment and will provide costs
- Police Department: needed upgrades to equipment and will provide costs
- Custodian Wages: increase to accommodate Gracy House cleaning
- Treasurer's Stipend: needs increase due to added duties. Chair Wilson presented a summary of Treasurer duties and the explained the need to have a stipend that would attract a wider pool of qualified applicants. It was agreed to check into having the position voted upon to change the position from elected to appointed and whether a ballot question could be voted upon at a Special Town Meeting.

2. Discussion re: Earned Time- It was agreed to table discussion about Earned Time until Selectman Abbott was present. Interim Administrative Assistant presented worksheet to assist in comparing current benefits with proposed Earned Time Benefits .

Minutes

Motion to Accept Minutes: Following review, Chair Wilson made a motion to accept the Minutes of October 9, 2013 with amendments. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Gleason, was accepted. (2/0/1) Selectman Abbott was not present.

New Business

1. Security: Pepper Spray Training; Better Town Hall Corridor Lighting : Chair Wilson raised concerns about the safety and security of Town Employees and visitors to the Town Hall since many other towns were experiencing problems. There was some initial discussion about what possible security measures that could be implemented and how to improve the lighting in hallways. Following discussion, it was agreed to revisit after giving it more thought.

2. Community Innovation Challenge Grant for Regional Collection and Recycling of Agricultural Plastics: Jan Ameen of Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (FCSWMD) sent a proposal to area towns asking to support their Community Innovation Challenge Grant (CIC) to conduct a pilot program for recycling agricultural and wood pellet bags and offer the program on a permanent basis.

Motion to Support CIC Grant: Chair Wilson made a motion to sign a letter of support for the CIC Grant Community Innovation Challenge Grant for Regional Collection and Recycling of Agricultural Plastics proposed by Franklin County Solid Waste Management District. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Gleason was accepted. (2/0/1) Selectman Abbott was not present.

Correspondence Reviewed
Warrants: FY14 Warrant 10 and Payroll Warrants were reviewed and signed

Audience Members left the meeting at 6:00 pm.

Present for the Tax Classification Hearing Only: 6:06 pm to 6:40pm - Assessor Heidi Cousineau, Assessor Clerk Sandy Daviau, Assessor Carrie Silva and Assessor Chair Rick Williams participating via remote.

3. Public Hearing:Tax Classification: Assessors Chair Williams opened the Tax Classification Hearing at 6:06 pm to determine the FY14 Tax Rate. Chair Williams presented factors involved in adopting the Minimal Residential Factor. In addition, a Town Fiscal Year Financial Information Comparison, Levy Limit Table, LA5 Options Table and Assessors Mini Recapitulation Sheet were reviewed and discussed.

Motion to Accept Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund Override: Following review and discussion, Chair Wilson made a motion to accept the FY 2014 Stabilization Fund Override of $173,954.00 to transfer to Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Gleason was accepted. (2/0/1) Selectman Abbott was not present.

Motion to Accept Tax Rates: Following review and discussion, Chair Wilson made a motion to accept the FY 2014 Residential Tax Rate of $6.07 and Commercial, Industrial and Personal Property FY 2014 Rate of $13.38. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Gleason was accepted. (2/0/1) Selectman Abbott was not present.

Motion to Accept Minimum Residential Factor: Following review and discussion, Chair Wilson made a motion to adopt the minimum allowable Minimum Residential Factor for FY14 of .051614. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Gleason was accepted. (2/0/1) Selectman Abbott was not present.

Assessors Chair Williams explained the Assessors, Town Clerk and Select Board will need to sign and certify statement to be true on the Department of Revenue (DOR) website prior to final DOR approval.

Adjournment: Chair Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Gleaon was accepted. (2/0/1) Selectman Abbott was not present for the vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau
Secretary

Approval Date: NOVEMBER 20, 2013

Approved:

Marilyn Wilson, Chair

Susan Gleason, Vice-Chair

Noel R. Abbott, Selectman

Attachments:

- Agenda 11/06/13
- CIC Innovation Challenge Grant Application – FCSWMD
- Town Fiscal Year Financial Information Comparison
- FY14 Levy Limit Table
- FY14 Classification Options Table
- FY14 Assessors Mini-Recap Sheet
- Personnel Worksheet Earned Time Benefits