

- A/P this week is \$8162.36
- **Ending Checkbook balance**.....\$262514.37
- We received a check from USPS for July Rent
- Reminder that on Sept 23rd & 24th Cindy and I will be at the State's Election Conference in Bangor
- Secretary: \$1700 budget have used \$1567.14 balance is \$132.86 left
- I asked about the storage- Cindy wants a meeting before agreeing to anything, she thinks its an inconvenience to have at office for the rec. Sallyann agreed.. didn't hear back from others yet. Hope to have meeting next week.
- Talked to Vernice about using the money from the tax acquired property.
 - Any money after taxes are paid goes into the general fund (undesignated fund)
 - Yes- you can use 50,000 from the undesignated fund to offset taxes (You can't label it tax acquired property) This was already voted at town meeting Article 37
 - Dam Project- If this hadn't been already voted on at regular town meeting then you would need a special town meeting to ask permission. If you decide to use the \$40,000 from the contingency fund then this is article 33... If you are having a special meeting then it should be brought in front of the citizens

Steve/Ken moved to accept and sign the payroll; motion passed. All in favor.
 Steve/Ken moved to sign the A/P warrant; motion passed. All in favor.

TOWN CLERK:

Cindy is on vacation. Her deputy clerk Kristy Palmer is working in the office.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS:

- Bryant Road & Raven Road was worked on today and will be tomorrow. Then we will fixed Littlefield's driveway and Gerrish's culvert, hopefully by the end of the week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Ron/Steve made motion to go into session on a personnel matter 1 MRSA 405(6)A at 6:50 pm
- Out of session at 7:15pm
- No decisions made

RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE:

- Discussion on the storage building.
- We will meet next week to discuss as a committee.
- Ken mentioned maybe adding a security system if that would help ease peoples minds.

Dam Report:

- Steve wants to get a copy of the plans to look at.
- Ron said he will get a copy to Steve.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Black Hills CD:
- Sallyann has been doing some investigating. Hazel Cross was the clerk back then. She stated that she thinks it was for Hutchins Cemetery and interest was to be used for maintenance.
- Ken said that citizens have also told him they thought it was for cemeteries but didn't know any details or which ones.
- Sallyann will continue looking into this if the selectmen would like
- Selectmen appreciate this

BRW:

- Steve: paragraph 6 decommission & removal
- Ken: It states provide relevant information
- Steve: Not a binding contract. This is for last year (no abatement) and this year 2015. Each year the agreement would have to be addressed.
- Barb: Is this agreement the same one as last Monday's night.
- Yes
- Discussion
- Barb: Paragraph 6 might be something in the future to consider changing
- Steve talked about Hollywood Slots Casino & BRW comparisons
- If we went to Augusta we would need to fight income approach and would be relying on BRW for info
- Hollywoods slots and Bangor has invested a lot of money to fight against each other
- Steve- I don't think we made out bad
- Barb: Tell that to the towns people
- Are you going to sign it?
- Steve: In the appeal that BRW filed they asked for 30% abatement, which would cost the town around \$60,000.
- Ken: If we magically won, we would hit a cliff w/ school and county.
- Steve: Mike explained a 3 year lag
- Ken: Could be up to 5 years
- Ron: There is also the emergency hardship that Mike talked about
- Barb: If it is still there
- Steve: Personally, I consider it **Industrial Real Estate**. I don't think we would win and the town has a lot more important things to also work on.
- Bob Gerrish: When I was talking with Phil Bloomstein he brought up that Silkman has stated that there would be no depreciation and he didn't care what the town would charge for taxes. I told him Silkman wasn't there anymore.
- Steve: We would need an argument for replacement cost to take with us if we go to appeal. I am a little nervous about that.
- Ken: I agree to sign this but would like to have the lawyer look me in the eye and tell me this is the best way.
- Steve: This is a year by year agreement
- Steve/Ken made motion to sign BRW settlement agreement as proposed by our attorney, Kristin Collins.
- All in favor
- Ron abstained

NEW BUSINESS:

- Steve handed out copy of the Towns issues
- Discussion
- Ken: move # 7 Freedom Village-abandoned & dilapidated buildings, down the list
- Discussion on Unity's improvements and Freedom's future
- Steve complimented Erna on her minutes and the detail that she writes. Ron and Ken agreed
- Ken asked about school & county if anyone was lobbying for less taxes
- Ron-Have to start early with the budget meetings. The county tax is almost impossible to change
- Steve-County & school depends on our town valuation from the state, it is a slow process.
- Ron- If the state doesn't recognize any of the changes then it doesn't help.
- Ken- County & school formula is the same then?
- Ron/Steve- No, but it is based on the valuation that the state gives us.
- Steve- The town needs to lower our spending and operate the town on less.
- Ken- If the town grows then our valuation goes up. That is good growth. So how do you decide if the growth is good for the town?
- Steve- If we could build a new post office, then the town could earn 35,000 to 40,000 income a year. That would help offset taxes, it would be like 40 new tax payers in town. Unity is experiencing good growth.
- Next meeting Ron will have the print out with towns and their cost for plowing.

Ken/Ron motion to adjourn meeting 8:20 pm

Next Regular meeting will be August 10th 2015 @ 6:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Secretary
Ernestine Keller