

Town of Whitefield
Select Board Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2017

Present: Frank Ober, Lester Sheaffer, Tony Marple, Sue McKeen and Dennis Merrill

Note: the meeting was postponed from January 24 due to a storm

Select Board actions

1. Tony recommended Dennis for the Spirit of America award, but Dennis was opposed so the matter was dropped. The award is intended for volunteers; the Select Board is paid for its service.
2. The minutes for January 17 were approved 5-0
3. Accounts payable and payroll warrants were signed.
4. Fire department. Chief Higgins came in to discuss a possible replacement of the old utility truck (c. 1978) which is no longer serviceable. The truck's use was to transport refill equipment for air tanks and other support equipment. The Department is investigating a used truck in MA for about \$13,000. The cost might at least be partially covered by various donations, with the balance coming from the existing budget by deferring other capital purchases (hoses and air packs). The Chief said this would not adversely affect long-term capital needs.
5. Budget. The Board reviewed using surplus and anticipated revenues to reduce taxes next year. The amounts are excise tax \$350,000, road grant \$46,000, miscellaneous revenue \$56,000 and surplus \$300,000. Previously, miscellaneous revenue has not been budgeted and instead taken from surplus in the following year. On a comparative basis, this additional revenue will result in a lower mil rate next year, but a partial "bounce back" would occur the following year.
6. Budget Committee. The Budget Committee convened at 7 PM with members David Hayden, Lisa Kalloch, Barry Tibbetts, Mike McMorro, Charlene Donahue and Chris Delisle present. The committee voted on the various budget areas:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vote</u>	
Administration	\$265,369	6-0	
Townhouse	\$900	6-0	
Fire Department	\$82,000	6-0	
Town Roads	\$400,375	6-0	with \$50,000 from carry over
Winter Roads	\$250,000	6-0	
General Assistance	\$5,000	6-0	
Recycling	\$3,500	6-0	
Miscellaneous	\$3,300	6-0	
Contracted Services	\$33,800	6-0	
Capital Improvements	\$34,000	6-0	with \$25,000 from surplus

Red cross	\$100	6-0	
Midcoast Maine	\$1,000	6-0	
Maine General	\$1,137	6-0	
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$1,000	6-0	
New Hope for Women	\$580	6-0	
Whitefield Food Bank	\$4,500	6-0	with \$2,500 from Worthy Poor
Young at Hear	\$150	6-0	
Children's Center	\$1,150	6-0	
Healthy Kids	\$1,000	6-0	
Life Flight	\$0	6-0	requested \$575
Maine Public	\$0	6-0	requested \$100

7. Select Board budget vote. The Select Board also voted on parts of the budget it had not previously voted on:

Red cross	\$100	4-1	
Midcoast Maine	\$1,000	4-1	
Maine General	\$1,137	4-1	
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$1,000	4-1	
New Hope for Women	\$580	4-1	
Whitefield Food Bank	\$4,500	5-0	with \$2,500 from Worthy Poor
Young at Hear	\$150	4-1	
Children's Center	\$1,150	4-1	
Healthy Kids	\$1,000	4-1	
Life Flight	\$0	5-0	requested \$575
Maine Public	\$0	5-0	requested \$100
Capital Improvements	\$34,000	5-0	with \$25,000 from surplus

In all cases, Lester was the dissenting vote.

Assessor's actions: None

Dennis Merrill, Chair

Lester Sheaffer

Franklin A. Ober

Tony Marple

Susan McKeen