

Town of Whitefield
Select Board Meeting Minutes
May 29, 2012

Present: Tom Colpitt, Lester Sheaffer, Frank Ober and Dennis Merrill

Select Board actions

1. The minutes of the May 22 meeting were approved 4-0.
2. Notice to Build application. A new notice to build application was approved by the Board 4-0. Also approved was a new approval form to be used by the Town in response to the applications. The Planning Board previously reviewed these forms.
3. Rescue activity. Lynn Talacko came in to update the Board on two recent EMS calls. One involved a campfire that got out of hand and the other a motorcycle accident.
4. General assistance. The Board noted a recent e-mail from the State saying that information regarding pending changes to general assistance guidelines has been rescinded. Previous interpretation of the legislative intent has been changed and new materials will be sent to the Town. We will stand by.
5. Fire station grounds. We will contact Jim Brann to have him mow the banks surrounding the fire station.
6. Recycling center. Last week a lot of materials were left in the wrong container, causing a great deal of time to be spent cleaning up and sorting the mess. The persons probably leaving the materials have been identified and a bill for the time needed to correct the problems will be sent. (Time spent on this sort of thing takes away from the attendant's time available to help citizens when the Recycling Center is open.)
7. Plowing bids. The Board discussed how bids for the plowing contract will be evaluated. The Town's purchasing policy states, "Selection of vendors. Normally, quotes, proposals or bids will be selected using weighted criteria consisting of price, equipment available, personnel, qualifications, prior work experience, references and work history with the Town. The price shall constitute not less than 80% of the criteria." In this case, the Board will rate references (and work history) as 10%, communications as 3% and equipment as 7%. Combined, these three factors make 20% of the overall rating, with price being the other 80%.
8. General correspondence. A few pieces of correspondence were reviewed; none needed any action by the Board.

Assessors' Actions

1. A resident came in to inquire about abatement of property taxes due to economic conditions. The resident was told to get poverty abatement applications

form the Town Office. The person stated that an application was filed last summer with no word back from the Town. We will look into this.

2. Land values. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to ask the Assessor's Agent to come in on June 12 with final recommendations and documentation for utility transmission, gravel pits and tiered rear land.

3. A resident came in asking that the Board sign a quit claim deed for a parcel of land. He has paid the back taxes. However, he is not the former owner of record and has no apparent valid legal interest in the property. The Board did not want to sign the deed without more information and the opportunity to consult with legal counsel.