

**Town of Whitefield
Select Board Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2013**

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

**Administrative Assistant Aaron Miller
Select Board actions**

- 1. The minutes of the January 2 meeting were approved 5-0.**
- 2. Roads. David Boynton came in to discuss needs for Townhouse Road to prepare it for paving. The necessary work includes seven new culverts and ditching for about two miles. David estimated that the work would cost \$14,750. Subsequently, the Board decided to add an amount to next year's budget to cover this.**
- 3. Budget. The Board continued its discussion of the 2013 – 2014 municipal budget. A few adjustments were made in preparation for meeting with the Budget Committee. Overall, the draft budget is down about \$5,000 from last year. There are a couple of remaining questions to be resolved: the heating costs and truck maintenance items for the fire department.**
- 4. Aaron reported to the Board on the Animal Control Officer's recent activities on East River Road. Several pigs and goats were seized and taken to a shelter. This was done with the guidance of the State animal welfare authorities and pursuant to a court order. The ACO, the State animal welfare staff and the sheriff's office were present. The owner of the animals is to appear in court on January 30. Until that time, the Town is responsible for the animals' care. One pig was found to be sick and had to be taken to a vet.**
- 5. Budget Committee. The Budget Committee convened at 7 PM with Tony Marple, Erik Ekholm, David Hayden, Sue McKeen, Charlene Donahue, Malinda Caron, Barry Tibbetts, and Carl Ribeiro present. All were sworn in. Sue McKeen will serve as the Budget Committee's chair and Malinda Caron will act as secretary. They will meet on Tuesdays 7 to 9 PM. During this first meeting the Select Board went through its proposed budget, discussing various issues and considerations going into preparation of its draft. Next week, the Road Commissioner and the Fire Department will be invited to attend the meeting.**

Assessors' Actions

- 1. Sam Bartlett came in to inquire about the status of combining two of his lots and the removal of a base lot for the land on which his garage is located. The Assessor's Agent will be asked to follow up.**
- 2. A request from Fred Woodbury to combine two lots off Hilton Road was received. One of the lots is less than the 5 acres minimum set by State law. However, that lot has no base lot so the financial consequence of not combining the lots is minimal. The matter will be given to the Assessor's Agent for further review.**