

**Town of Whitefield
Select Board Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2013**

**Present: Steve McCormick (arrived late), Tony Marple, Frank Ober,
Lester Sheaffer and Dennis Merrill
Administrative Assistant Aaron Miller**

Select Board actions

- 1. The minutes of the September 24 meeting were approved 3-0-1.**

- 1. Quit claim deeds were signed for Nancy Ripley, Mark Fenderson and Randolph Sherwood (purchase of parcel on Cooper Road).**

- 1. Clary Lake dam. Pleasant Pond Mill representative Paul Kelly came in to discuss his recent filing of second petition to abandon the dam. A request for a 180-day extension has been granted for the first application. The purpose of the second petition is not clear. Mr. Kelley agreed that preserving the dam and lake level would be the best outcome and the best way to achieve that goal would be to use a third party mediator. Mr. Kelley said there has not been an offer to buy the dam that conforms with the law. He provided estimated costs for repairing the dam, \$30,000-\$40,000 but noted that restoring the water level could lead to lawsuits.**

- 1. Potential legislation. Board members received a letter from Sen. Chris Johnson soliciting ideas for legislation. The letter was received after the deadline. As an alternative, the Board decided to invite our legislators to a meeting to discuss our concerns.**

- 1. Community TV. Mary Ellen Crowley of Community TV in Newcastle will come in on Oct 29 to discuss expansion of public access TV in town.**

- 1. Winter salt. One load of salt will be ordered for delivery on Friday and this will allow completion of stockpiling sand and salt for next winter.**

- 1. Safety equipment grant. Aaron reported the grant application to MMA for safety equipment has been filed.**

- 1. State valuation. We have received the State's valuation for Whitefield: taxable value of \$186,100,000 as of April 1, 2012.**
- 1. Budget review. The Board had a general discussion about the current year's budget and where we stand with expenditures. Most budget lines are on track for where we are in the budget year. The budget report needs to include county and school lines to present a complete picture of expenditures.**
- 1. Proceeds from sale of property. The Board discussed what to do with any extra money from the sale of tax acquired property. One option is to return the extra money to the former owner. The other is to retain the extra in the Town's surplus account. On a vote of 5-0, it was decided to pose the question to voters at the annual town meeting. In the meantime, no action will be taken to sell property where this situation would be an issue.**
- 1. The Board voted 5-0 to go into executive session to discuss an application for general assistance.**

Assessor's actions

The Board signed abatements previously approved for Bradley Bowden and William Gauvin.