Town of Whitefield Select Board Meeting Minutes June 30, 2015

Present: Sue McKeen, Tony Marple, Frank Ober (delayed), Lester Sheaffer (delayed) and Dennis Merrill Administrative Assistant Aaron Miller

Select Board actions

- 1. The minutes of June 23 were approved 3-0.
- 1. Accounts payable and Payroll warrants were signed.
- 1. Road work. The 2105 work plan from the roads committee was reviewed. The Board agreed with the concepts and moving ahead with hiring a consultant to determine which roads should have soil borings done and to send out a RFP for geotechnical firms.
- 1. Animal control contract. The Board voted 4-1 (Lester opposed) to renew the animal control contract with Lincoln County. The new contract is similar to the previous one but with a provision for cost sharing of equipment used by the various towns.
- 1. Recycling fence. The Board voted 5-0 to hire Lowe's (through a subcontractor) to install a new chain link fence to help contain plastics blowing around. Approximate cost is \$500.
- 1. Foreclosures. Aaron said he has notified MMA of the foreclosed buildings we own so liability insurance can be added if needed. The Board reviewed the status of foreclosed accounts:

Carlton. Making sporadic payments but somewhat behind.

Bills. Making regular payments.

Curran. A newly discovered mortgage holder has been notified. On hold pending their response.

Minoty. Making sporadic payments but is behind. Review situation in September.

Peaslee. Payment recently received on new agreement.

Dube. Payments are current.

Pipkin. On hold until July 24 to see if owner will repurchase.

We will begin sending monthly reminders to parties with payment agreements to help them stay on track.

- 1. Accident insurance. The Board discussed a proposal from MMA to provide accident insurance for volunteers doing work for the town but took no action.
- 1. Insurance underwriting. Aaron reported that MMA insurance underwriters will visit on July 17.
- 1. Fire station lease. The Board voted 4-1 (Lester in favor) against moving to terminate the lease with Cooper Mills Volunteer Fire Department until their building is improved and the town can use it once again.
- 1. New office person. Aaron will be advertising for a part-time office assistant.

Next week: Roadside mowing contract, opening bids for surplus equipment, purchasing policy, public meeting on personal property taxes.

Assessor's Actions

Assessor's Agent Tom Hays came in to present several abatements. All were approved on 3-0 votes.

- 1. Fairservice on Hemlock Lane due to the condition of a mobile home.
- 2. Chase at 164 Wiscasset Road due to the poor condition of a building.
- 3. Chase on Townhouse Road due to the poor condition of the home and garage.
- 4. Chase at 175 Wiscasset Road due to building condition.
- 5. McGuire on Howe Road (old Crowe Rope) due to recharacterization of building from manufacturing to warehouse structure.

The Board had a general discussion about old personal property accounts. Tom will prepare a list of these accounts for future review.