

**Town of Whitefield
Select Board Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2016**

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

Select Board actions

- 1. The minutes for July 5 were approved 4-0-1 (Tony abstaining).**

- 1. Accounts payable and payroll warrants were signed.**

- 3. Solar power. Richard Simon from the Power Company came to explain his proposal for installing solar panels on the fire station, and addressing concerns with regulatory uncertainty. He would indemnify the town against the loss or change of net metering and guarantee a power price of 10% below CMP rates. After 3 years, this would be reviewed and rebates made if appropriate. The system would be leased with a buy-out opportunity after 6 years; if there is no buy out, the lease would continue largely unchanged. He is amenable to negotiate the specific terms of the lease to address town concerns. As part of the discussion, the Board considered various options for new heat pumps in the town office. Generally, it was felt that for now we could use the existing, older pumps for some heat in conjunction with the furnace. In the end the Board voted 4-1 (Lester opposed) to have Richard develop more detailed plans and proposals.**

- 4. Cemetery lot. The Board signed a lot ownership document for a lot in the Coopers Mills cemetery to Williamson.**

- 5. Fuel prices. Aaron reported on proposals by several fuel companies for purchase of propane and oil for next winter. The low price was from Fielding's, our current supplier. The Board voted 5-0 to continue with Fielding's and Aaron will determine contract amounts.**

- 6. Will Turner trusts. Aaron gave an overview of information provided by our accountant on the Will Turner Trusts. Each has a principle that cannot be used and earnings that can be used for specified purposes. Aaron will follow up and get more information on the uses for each fund and summaries of the balances.**

- 8. Internal controls. Aaron would like to schedule a workshop for office staff and the Board to go over internal financial controls. This may be on a Monday or Wednesday afternoon when the office is closed; the press would be notified of the meeting.**

9. Coopers Mills cemetery. Lester reported he has been laying out lot locations in the cemetery. He and Tony will continue this work on Thursday.

10. Executive session. Pursuant to 1MRSA, §405(6)(A), the Board voted 5-0 to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Following the session, no action was taken.

Next week: year end budget numbers, trust funds balances

Assessor's Actions

Boynton lot on Heath Road. George Fergusson came in to present his thorough report of investigations of the location of land David purchased from the town some years ago. From the complicated trail of deeds, it appears the land is actually within the bounds of a Map 11, lot 10. The owner of that land has been paying taxes for the entire parcel. After discussing this and related information, the Board voted 5-0 to abate all outstanding taxes owned by David. George also said he is quite certain that Map 11, Lot 6 was actually owned by Uhl. That account is foreclosed and the lot was identified by a non-existent designation. We will need to seek our attorney's advice on how to proceed with this parcel.