

Town of Sweden
Selectmen's Meeting
January 8, 2013

Attendance: Lori Bennett, Kristin Venza, Eric Gulbrandson, Jacqueline Frye, Alberta Ridlon, DJ Curtis, John Clifford, Warren Noble, Richard Lyman, Kathleen Lyman

Lori called for the Pledge of Allegiance At 6:05 pm, then called the meeting to order.

Lori made a motion to accept the minutes to December 18' 2012 meeting with three corrections. (Done-ar) Kristin 2nd , voted and passed.

Unscheduled citizens: The selectmen signed an appointment for Jacqueline Frye to the position of Animal Control Officer and she took the oath. Lori made a motion to accept the resignation of Warren Bailey as ACO. Kristin 2nd , voted and passed. Eric Gulbrandson brought in his CEO report. Richard Lyman request the town raise/appropriate \$750.00 for Sweden's bicentennial. There will be a pot luck supper February 23, 2013 for interested parties to help with the bicentennial.

Warren Noble inquired about the necessity of filing papers to run for an election. This is not necessary in the Town of Sweden. Nominations are made on the floor. He asked the selectmen to look into resurfacing the town hall floor. There is an article on the warrant for buildings and grounds maintenance. The selectmen will look into this and get estimates if needed. He informed us of the need of new flags for the town hall and town office and offered to put them up for us.. He asked about filling the holes and culverts on Hardscrabble road. This is scheduled to be done soon. Ron Keisman brought in the bill for the stone that was put on Louis Clark's property for \$495.00. The question was brought up of what was approved earlier. The minutes of September 25, 2012 show an estimate of \$400.00 . No set amount was approved. Ron will send a corrected bill, \$200.00 for the survey of the town hall land.

Finance – DJ: DJ passed our more budget material. Lori and Kristin voted on articles of the warrant for town meeting. Lori made a motion to have the town meeting on March 23, 2013. It was 2nd by Kristin, voted and passed. DJ is to contact Ed Ryan about being the moderator. Lori made the motions and Kristin 2nd the articles that were voted and passed today.

WARRANT FOR TOWN MEETING

To Sarah Rose, Constable of the Town of Sweden, County of Oxford, State of Maine,

GREETINGS: In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Sweden in said county, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at Sweden Town Meeting House, in said Town, on **Saturday, the 23th day of March AD 2013, at nine o'clock in the morning**, then and there to act on the following Articles, to wit:

Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 2. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow monies in anticipation of taxes as may be required to operate the services of the Town.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 3. To elect all Town Officers: (1) Selectmen, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for a period of three years; (1) Registrar of Voters, 2 years; (1) Planning Board member, 5 years; (2) Planning Board alternates, 1 year; (1) Appeals Board member, 5 years; (2) Appeals Board alternates; (1) S.A.D. #72 member, 3 years; (1) S.A.D. #72 alternate, 1 year; and any other necessary officers.

Article 4. To see if the town will increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Sweden by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 5a. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the compensation of the

Town Treasurer and Tax Collector.

<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
\$11,306.00	\$11,645.00	\$11,878.00

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 5b. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the compensation of the **Town Clerk.**

<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
\$7,430.00	\$7,653.00	\$7,806.00

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 5c. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the compensation of the **1st, 2nd and 3rd Selectmen.**

2013

2011 2012

	\$4,682.00	\$4,822.00	\$4,918.00
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Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 5d. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the compensation of the
Fire Chief. **2011** **2012**
2013

	\$1,616.00	\$1,664.00	\$1,697.00
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Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 5e. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the compensation of the
Road Commissioner. **2011** **2012** **2013**

	\$2,040.00	\$2,101.00	\$2,143.00
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Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 5f. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the compensation of the
Code Enforcement Officer. **2011** **2012**
2013 \$2,826.00

\$2,911.00	\$2,969.00	
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Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 5g. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the compensation of the
Cemetery Sexton. **2011** **2012** **2013**

	\$269.00	\$277.00	\$283.00
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Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 5h. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the compensation of the **Administrative Assistant.**

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
	\$16,798.00	\$15,298.00	\$15,604.00

Selectmen recommend

Budget Committee recommends

Article 5i. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the compensation of the **Emergency Management Director.**

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
	\$1,040.00	\$1,071.00	\$1,092.00

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 6. To see if the Town will take from surplus up to \$1,200.00, for payment of interest on tax anticipation borrowing for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$1,200.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 7. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for **Town Charges** for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend appropriate (2-0) \$47,000.00

Budget Committee recommends appropriate

Article 8. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate and take from surplus for the **maintenance of roads and road sides** for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend Appropriate \$150,000.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 9. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate and take from surplus for **snow removal and sanding** for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend Appropriate \$ 125,000.00

Selectmen recommend take from surplus if needed \$ 25,000.00

Budget Committee recommends Appropriate

Budget Committee recommends take from surplus if needed

Article 10. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate to pay for **Lovell Dump contract** and to pay for any additional usage charges from surplus monies.

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$37,238.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 11. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to draw upon the Surplus Account not more than .0003 of the present State Valuation of the Town, \$83,450,000.00 for the care of the poor for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 12. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for **grounds maintenance, upkeep and repairs for town buildings.**

Selectmen recommend \$4,000.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 13. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for support of the **Sweden Volunteer Fire Department Association.**

SVFD requested \$29,820.00

Selectmen recommend \$29,820.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 14. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for support of the **Ambulance Service** for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$2,400.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 15. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the support of the **Lovell recreation programs.**

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$1,500.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 16. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the support of **Charlotte E. Hobbs Memorial Library.**

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$1,500.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 17. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the support of **Sweden Conservation Committee.**

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$375.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 18. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the support of **Harvest Hills Animal Shelter.**

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$400.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 19. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the support of the **Lakes Environmental Association** for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$400.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 20. To see what sum the Town will raise or appropriate for the support of **Seniors Plus.**

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$100.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 21. To see what sum the Town will raise or appropriate for the support of **Community Concepts.**

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$300.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 22. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for the purpose of **REACH.**

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$100.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 23. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate for **Cemetery maintenance.**

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$2,500.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 24. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate and or take from Surplus for the purpose of future **Town Re-Evaluation** and to allow the balance to carryover.

Selectmen recommend appropriate (2-0) \$4,000.00 and

Selectmen recommend taking from surplus (2-0) \$5,000.00

Budget Committee recommends appropriate

from surplus

Article 25. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate and or take from Surplus for the purpose of **Legal Counsel**.

Selectmen recommend Appropriate (2-0) \$3,000.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 26. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate and or take from Surplus for the town's **Bi'Centennial Celebration**.

Selectmen recommend Appropriate (2-0) \$1,000.00

Article 27. To see what sum the town will raise or appropriate and or take from Surplus for the purpose of purchasing **Municipal Software**.

Selectmen recommend Appropriate \$1,770.00
AND

Selectmen recommend taking from Surplus \$10,100.00

Budget Committee Recommends

Article 28. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$50,000.00 of the 2013 anticipated Excise monies collected in 2013 towards the amount appropriated in Articles 5a through 27.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 29. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$10,000.00 of the 2013 anticipated Tree Growth Refund monies collected in 2013 towards the amount appropriated in Articles 5a through 27.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 30. To see if the voters will authorize the raising of the balance so appropriated, not covered in Article 28 and 29 through taxation.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 31. To see if the Town will take not more than \$300.00 from the Snowmobile account for the purpose of maintaining public snowmobile and cross-country ski trails within the Town of Sweden, and allow the Selectmen to spend for that purpose.

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$300.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 32. To see if the Town will accept the highest interest rate set by the State of Maine Planning Office for delinquent taxes committed in the current year. (Rate cannot be greater than the State rate of 7% for 2012.)

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 33. To see if the Town will determine the date from and after which interest shall accrue on delinquent taxes committed for the current year.

Selectmen recommend (2-0) September 15, 2013

Budget Committee recommends

Article 34. To see if the Town will set the interest rate paid on abated taxes to 4 percentage points less than the rate used in Article 32 above by the State of Maine Planning Office.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 35. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for the non-payment of taxes thereon; or by

other judicial process; said real estate to be advertised in two separate issues of local paper within 30 days of sale. To be sold either at public auction or as the result of sealed bids called for and received by the Selectmen; provided, however, that the selectmen be authorized to sell at private sale property so acquired to the owner on record of any such property; all conveyances there-under to be by release deed.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 36. To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2013 annual budget during the period of January 1, 2014 to the March Annual Town Meeting in 2014.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 37. To see if the Town will **take from surplus** up to \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding **capital projects on State Aid roads** and allow the balance to carry over each year.

Selectmen recommend taking from surplus (2-0) \$10,000.00

Budget Committee recommends taking from surplus

Article 38. To see if the Town will take from **surplus** \$2,500.00 for the **contingency fund.**

Selectmen recommend (2-0) \$2,500.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 39. To see if the Town will apply property tax payments to the oldest outstanding taxes before paying current year taxes.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends

Article 40. To see if the Town will vote to approve a transfer of ownership of the Center Schoolhouse as follows: The Town would purchase the building and a surveyed skirt of land around it and the blacksmith shop from the Sweden Community Church, for the price of one dollar. The Town would then sell the properties to the Sweden Historical Society for one dollar, with the following conditions: (1) a “reverter clause”, should the Historical Society not remain active for a period of five years,; (2) protection of the rights of the Church and the Town to

continue to use any leaching field, roadways, wells, and the like, (3) development of the Schoolhouse as a town facility (museum, library, and meeting site).

Selectmen recommend

Budget Committee recommends

Article 41. To see if the Town will authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to execute on behalf of the Town an amendment to the Waste Handling Agreement between the Town and Mid-Maine Waste Action Corporation, dated July 1, 1986 (the “Waste Handling Agreement”) to provide that the Waste Handling Agreement shall remain in effect until the later of May 1, 2035 or termination of the MMWAC Interlocal Solid Waste Agreement, except that, upon one (1) year’s prior written notice, the Town may terminate the Waste Handling Agreement at the end of a fiscal year. (Copies of the specific amendments are on file in the Town Office and available here in the back of the meeting room.)

Selectmen recommend

Budget Committee recommends

Article 42. To see if the Town will authorize or direct the Board of Selectmen to use URIP funds if needed.

Selectmen recommend \$70,000.00

Budget Committee recommends

Article 43. To see if the Town will authorize or direct the Board of Selectmen to close Trull Brook Road for maintenance from Lois Lane to Bridge.

Selectmen recommend

Fire Department – Corin Meehan:



147 BRIDGTON ROAD, SWEDEN, MAINE 04040

Department Report- January 8, 2013

Calls: There have been no requests for service during the reporting period.

Meetings and Trainings: There has been one meeting conducted by the Sweden Volunteer Fire Association in order to schedule the next fundraiser dinner.

Expenses: Fairpoint- Phone Service- \$48.98 (FY13)

United Communications Corporation- 6 Minitor pagers w/ chargers \$1,213.30 (FY12)

A total of \$600.00 in additional invoices has been paid since the last BOS meeting, but all are billed from SVFA accounts and were covered by association funds.

Annual Testing: Flow testing on the remaining SCBA units will be conducted this coming week.

Comments: Despite having to take care of several priority needs that were not previously expected, we were able to end the fiscal year under budget. As stated before, there is a strong need for every budget dollar but addressing most of the remaining needs earlier in the year would have run the risk of putting us over budget. With an operating budget so small, it is difficult to spend every dollar needed while balancing the need to have funds to cover unforeseen expenses. One major call can easily cost a department hundreds of dollars, if not more.

With the holidays, weather, work schedules, and various personal and family matters to take care of, most of our work on the station, training, and other areas has been on hold for the last month or so. Now that we are into the new year, we're be looking forward to continuing the forward progress. There are still many projects to complete and hurdles to overcome, and progress will be slow but hopefully steady. However, we have made many great strides this past year, and we are on a good path to bringing the department closer to an improved state of readiness and condition.

Thank You for the help and support since I've started, and I'm looking forward to continuing to work together in 2013!

Roads – John Clifford: Stonedust is to be used to fill pot holes and culverts. Bump signs will be put up. Molloy Energy bill for sanding was discussed with some questions. The selectmen would like Brian to come in and clarify some details. What is the status of inspections and where garaged.

8:43 PM Lori made a motion to adjourn. It was 2nd by Kristin voted and passed.

Respectfully,

Alberta Ridlon