

Selectmen's Meeting  
December 16, 2014

**Attendance:** Lori Bennett, C. Wayne Miller, Kristin Venza, Kim True and DJ Curtis.

Lori Bennett called for the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:06 pm and then called the meeting to order.

Wayne Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of November 11 and November 25, 2014. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristin Venza and approved 3-0.

**Visitors:**

**Report of officers and committees:**

**Animal Control Officer- Jacqueline Frye:**

No report

**CEO- Eric Gulbrandsen:**

**CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY**

1. BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED:  
Alberta Ridlon, 113 Ridlonville Rd., R1, 11A permit renewal \$25
2. R. V. PERMITS ISSUED:  
NONE
3. CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY ISSUED:  
NONE
4. VIOLATION NOTICES ISSUED:  
NONE
5. TIMBER HARVEST NOTIFICATIONS:  
Sorrentino, R9,27-5, Knights Hill Rd.
6. OTHER:  
NONE

**Clerk – Alberta Ridlon:**

Alberta left a message to the Selectmen regarding a change in the cleaning personnel.

**SVFD - Corin Meehan:**

**Department Report- December 2014**

**Calls:** There were three requests for service during the reporting period, two motor vehicle collisions, and a mutual aid call to the town of Lovell.

**Meetings and Trainings:** The department trained on chimney fires and structural size-up.

**Monthly Expenses:** \$3,887.74 Total

\$1,470.00; Fire Tech & Safety, for fire suppression equipment and tools, \$1917.99; The Fire Store, for fire suppression equipment and tools, \$319.75; United Communications Corporation, for one pager and an additional charger, \$180.00 payroll

**Comments:** Unfortunately, we were unable to complete two important capital projects within the fiscal year. These were delayed by a variety of circumstances, mainly due to the possibility that we would be actually be able to accomplish the projects without the use of taxpayer funds. In our desire to be fiscally responsible, we simply ran out of time. We will be requesting the carryover of \$3500.00 for the most important of these projects at town meeting.

Also of note, several other portions of the budget were not spent. This was due to a much slower year call-wise than our higher averages (down 50% from last year), as well as personal schedule conflicts that prevented members from attending several training courses.

I feel it important to mention these items to allay the perception that our budget proposals are above what is needed. Fire department budgets are difficult to pin down exactly, and more difficult when attempting to control costs to fit within limited funding. Some years are more expensive than others since operational costs are difficult to predict.

Operationally, things are continuing to go well. We have been able to have at least three responders for every call on weekdays, a good standard for any small volunteer department these days. We are responding on more mutual aid requests, which is indicative of our resurgence as a viable fire department. This benefits the town because we are now able to meet our commitment as part of a regional mutual aid system which we also benefit from.

As always, we hope that all citizens that are capable of serving will step up and help protect our community. Recruitment and retention continue to be difficult in the volunteer fire service.

**Road Commissioner – Stephen Bennett:**

Lori reported on the roads regarding ditching that was done by Camp Encore Coda. Sam Ingals Road was discussed, shimming should work well there. Smarts Hill is starting to get pretty bad, Lori said, it would be nice to shim that also. Depending on available funds, there are a few other small areas also needing to be done. Lori said we need guard rails for the Sweden Trading Post sharp corner. Also some better signs in that area would be good.

Wayne said the big doors were left open at the sand shed and we should remind Troy to keep them closed.

**Visitors;**

Kim True from the Bicycle Coalition spoke to the Selectmen regarding improving biking in Maine. The Coalition puts on a weeklong 350 mile bike ride for about 250 riders and have 50 volunteers. For 2015 they have contracted to bring the bikers to Camp Tapawingo for one night. They want to offer to the Town to partner on the ride. They propose a service organization to put on dinner on Sept. 17, 2015 and breakfast next morning. They pay to use local people. They are very interested in Pie Tree and have stopped in there.

The Selectmen discussed various organizations that might be interested in helping them.

Kim said she would like to have a contact person from Sweden by the first week in January. Lori said they could use her name as the town contact for now.

**Admin. Assistant – Diana Curtis (DJ)**

DJ gave the Administrative Assistant report to the Selectmen. She also gave them 2015 Budget worksheets for Articles, Winter Roads, Town Bldg. Maintenance, Misc. Agencies, Conservation Comm., Cemetery Care, State Aid Roads, Town Re-evaluation, Contingency Fund and Legal. She gave the Selectmen the first draft of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Lori made a motion to appoint Julie McQueen, Ron Shorey, Bruce Taylor and Chris Chadbourne to serve as the Budget Committee; motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne and approved 3-0.

**Old Business:**

Nate fixed the furnace door at the Town Meeting Hall, reported Lori.

**Communications:**

Email from Smith and Assoc. regarding the 2015 audit. DJ will call for more information.

**Mail Received:**

Letter from Charlotte Hobbs Library requesting \$1600  
Conditional use permit for Timothy Althouse

Next meeting will be December 23, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

Lori made a motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm. Kristin 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it was passed 3-0.

Respectfully

Diana J. Curtis  
Adm. Asst. to Board of Selectmen