## Weathersfield Select Board Minutes January 28, 2013

Present:

Michael Todd Dan Bover

Norman John Arrison

Dave Fuller

Richard Clattenburg

Others Present:

Jim Mullen, Town Manager

Lisa Slade, Recording Secretary

Alan Hudson Susan Boyer BJ Esty Wes Hazeltine

Diana Day Anthony French William Bedson

1. Call to Order: Mr. Boyer called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. at Martin Memorial Hall.

2. Formally adopt proposed FY14 Budgets: Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve the Solid Waste budget in the amount of \$233,498, Mr. Todd seconded the motion. Mr. Fuller said he feels this budget is up dramatically. Mr. Arrison said this is a budget that can be massaged as the year goes on. Mr. Todd said he disagrees with putting any of Jim's salary to this fund. Mr. Fuller said there is more money in this budget for Administration than there is for hourly help. Motion carried 3 - 1 with Mr. Fuller being the dissenting vote. (Mr. Clattenburg was not yet present)

Mr. Arrison made the motion to recess the budget and warning discussions and move ahead to the Police Committee meeting. Mr. Todd seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

4. Executive Session:

Police Chief Candidate Review Committee Meeting: Mr. Arrison made the motion to go into Executive Session with the Police Committee and Town Manager at 6:40 p.m. Mr. Todd seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

Mr. Clattenburg arrived during the Executive session. The Board came out of executive session at 7:50 p.m.

2. Formally adopt proposed FY14 Budgets: Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve Article #6 raising \$696,633 by property taxation for the General Fund, Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion. Mr. Fuller said this is higher than last year and we

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WEATHERSFIELD, VT TOWN CLERK have surplus money that we can use to reduce this. He said he thinks there should be an Article on the Warning allowing us to keep a 10% reserve fund if we are going to keep a surplus fund. Mr. Boyer said we are using a good chunk of the surplus fund this year (like we did last year) and the surplus fund will dry up over the next couple of years.

Mr. Todd said he agrees with Mr. Fuller and he also wanted to see employees pay a share of their health care within this budget season. Mr. Clattenburg said he agrees we should keep a certain amount of surplus money but he isn't sure what that amount should be.

There was discussion about what kind of surplus we would have if the Articles on the Warning all pass and what can be done with the surplus funds. **Motion failed 0 - 5.** 

Mr. Fuller made the motion to revise Article #6 and raise \$677,929 by property taxation for the General Fund, which is the same amount as this last year, Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion. Mr. Mullen said by using more money from the surplus funds there will be a tax rate increase next year. Motion carried 4 - 1 with Mr. Todd being the dissenting vote.

Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve Article #7 and raise \$780,421 by property taxation for the Highway Fund, Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion. Mr. Todd said he doesn't support this budget, we should be able to remove about \$33,000 to economize for the future. Motion carried 4 - 1 with Mr. Todd being the dissenting vote.

- 3. Approve Warning for 2013 Town Meeting: Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve the Warning with the change to Article #6. Mr. Fuller seconded the motion which passed without dissent.
- 5. Adjourn: Mr. Clattenburg made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Fuller seconded the motion which passed without dissent. The Weathersfield Select Board meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by, Lisa Slade

Approved by the Weathersfield Select Board on February 19, 2013

Michael Todd

Norman John Arrison

Dave Fuller

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