

**TOWN OF WILLISTON
SELECTBOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 2, 2018**

DRAFT

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Macaig (Chair); Jeff Fehrs, Joy Limoge, Theresa Zittritsch (Ted Kenney was absent.)

ADMINISTRATION: Rick McGuire, Town Manager; Erik Wells, Assistant to the Town Manager; Jennifer Kennelly, Finance Director; Marti Fiske, Library Director; Ken Morton, Fire Chief.

OTHERS PRESENT: Joan Stoddart, Patti Delphia, Scott Sorrell, Josef Harrewyn, Melinda Petter, Brynne Martin, Brian Forrest, Marcy Kass, Jim Fuller, Sandri Hall, Barbara Mieder, Karla Karstens, Stephen Plynine, Chapin Kaynor, Tony Lamb, Paul Eyer, Jason Starr (Williston Observer), Scott Moody (Channel 17).

[Note: Minutes reflect the order of the published agenda.]

1. Call to Order

Chairman Terry Macaig called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

2. Minutes

December 12, 2017

Postponed due to lack of a quorum present at the December 12, 2017 meeting.

December 19, 2017

Not available.

3. Public Comment – General Issues

None.

4. Sewer Allocation Ordinance Amendment

Erik Wells reported the staff recommendation is no change to the ordinance which requires payment of sewer capacity at the time of the zoning permit. Sewer capacity is purchased by the owner of the building who can then pass the cost onto tenants in the building.

There was discussion of the request from Chef's Corners to allow payment of the sewer allocation over time. Staff will draft language for consideration by the Selectboard to assist long standing businesses in town that are an asset to the community with the cost of sewer allocation.

5. Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Budget Review*Library*

Library Director, Marti Fiske, reported the proposed FY 2019 library budget is essentially level funded (increase of 1.6%). Line item increases and decreases were reviewed. Staffing levels are not changing. The capital budget for the library includes payment toward replacement of the bookmobile vehicle in nine years, and new shelving for the library.

6. Public Hearing: FY 2019 Budget

The public hearing on the FY 2019 budget was opened at 8 PM and the warning was read. Request was made from the Williston Federated Church for \$25,000 toward the renovation of the historic steeple that houses the clock owned and maintained by the town. Comment was made in support of funding for a senior center and more senior programs.

MOTION by Joy Limoge, SECOND by Theresa Zittritsch, to close the public hearing. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

The public hearing was closed at 8:47 PM.

7. Town Meeting 2018 Article Petition

Marcy Kass, Brian Forrest, and Melinda Petter presented a petition and statement of reasons to include an article at town meeting for discussion and/or vote on renewable energy at the state and local level.

The Selectboard stated signatures from 5% of the voters in the town are necessary to accept the petition and then a decision will be made on whether to include the item on the warning for town meeting. There will be further discussion of the request when the town meeting warning is discussed.

8. FY 2019 Budget Review (continued)*General Administration*

Jennifer Kennelly reviewed changes in the General Administration Budget which shows a slight increase of 2%. Ms. Kennelly also reviewed budgets for the following:

- Outside Services (county tax is the largest increase)
- Social Service Organizations
- Transportation Services (decreasing due to decrease in American with Disabilities service)
- VNA (level funded)
- Capital expenses (debt service, ambulance lease, new fire engine)
- Open Space Fund for purchase of the Catamount property
- Seed money for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund
- Building Contingency Fund (toward an accrued balance of \$30,000 for maintenance of town buildings)

The budget increase takes the tax rate from \$0.265 to \$0.2747. Interest on taxes due is budgeted slightly higher. The proposed sales tax revenue budget is level. Rooms and meals taxes are budgeted at a 5% increase.

9. Town Manager's Report

Rick McGuire reported:

- Next Selectboard meeting is January 9, 2018 for budget review of Buildings & Grounds, Highway, Sewer, Water, and Storm Water.
- Discussion of the Keeping of Chickens ordinance is scheduled on January 16, 2018. A public health expert will speak.
- Legislative breakfast is January 29, 2018.
- Act 250 permit for the prime agricultural soil transfer to the Mahan property was approved.

10. Other Business

None.

11. Adjournment

With no further business and without objection the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 PM.

RScty: M.E.Riordan