

Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting – December 2, 2014

Present: Phil Keenan, Bob Maclean – Board (John Sears, absent)  
Virginia Gabert – Administrative Assistant  
Pam Shrimpton, Tim Niejadlik, Rick Kean, Trina Sternstein, Connie Emmett,  
Suzy Groden, Hussain Hamdan, Lisa Turner, Tedd White, Kristen Kelley

The meeting was called to order at 7:28pm.

1. Review and signing of treasury warrants – warrants 22 and 23 were approved unanimously.
2. Review of prior meeting minutes – minutes of November 18 were approved unanimously.

(item 5 was discussed here – minutes appear below)

3. Tax rate classification hearing (7:45pm) – The hearing needed to be rescheduled due to a clerical error in the legal notice. The Board agreed to meet next Tuesday, December 9 at 7:00pm to hold the classification hearing.

(new business – Chapter 90 paperwork and the COA grant contract were reviewed and signed)

4. GIS Maps presentation (Kristen Kelley – Tighe & Bond) – Kristen Kelley did a presentation on GIS. Tighe & Bond were able to use grant funding to assist a number of towns to bring their tax mapping up to GIS compatible format. Hawley now has level 3 data format, and has agreed to keep the data in level 3 format. She also explained that the hosting fee for having this information online, should the town opt to do that, would be \$3500 per year. She delivered updated Assessors maps, and a digital copy of the updated maps. Tedd asked what their contract price was for Hawley. Kristen explained that it was grant funded. Hussain asked if they were paid by the town or by the State. Kristen explained that it was by the State.
5. Vote on withdrawal from Central Franklin County Veterans District and joining Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans Service District – Tim Niejadlik explained that there are options available to the Town, but the most economical and efficient option is to go along with the merger and join the Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans Service District. The Town can always withdraw from the District as long as they notify the District in writing at least 90 days prior to the end of the fiscal year. All Franklin County towns (except for Orange) have signed on, and he will be meeting with Orange tomorrow. Phil made a motion to withdraw from the Central Franklin County Veterans District and to become a member of the Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans Service District. Bob seconded. Vote was unanimous.
6. Any other business not reasonably anticipated prior to posting agenda
  - a. Sign Chapter 90 paperwork – done earlier in the meeting
  - b. Sign COA grant contract – done earlier in the meeting

c. Rick approached the Board on behalf of the Communications Committee. They often get requests for links from civic organizations, so the Communications Committee drafted a policy on whom to include. They would like the Board to review it and comment or vote on it at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Virginia Gabert, Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted by Board of Selectmen:

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Philip Keenan

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John Sears

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Robert MacLean