

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES – August 3, 2009**

### **SUNDERLAND TOWN OFFICES**

**Present: Mr. Bergeron, Mr. Fydenkevez and Mr. Wissemann**

**Others: Margaret Nartowicz**

**Behind the Camera: Tom Zimnowski, Cooper**

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- Call to order at 7:09 p.m.
- Mr. Bergeron gave an overview of meeting.
- Budget Reductions:

#### Section

1. SELECTMEN-Motion to reduce additional \$12,025 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  2. ACCOUNTING-Discussion regarding FRCOG Accounting Program efficiency. Motion to reduce \$1,678 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  4. TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER-Motion to reduce additional \$880 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez for discussion. Appreciates that FinCom tried to reduce expense lines to save staff hours, but couldn't come up with amount needed just from expenses. Mr. Fydenkevez-Board receives input from departments to make responsible cuts which may allow departments to perform basic functions. Vote 3-0.
  5. TOWN CLERK-Motion to reduce \$7,041 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  6. ELECTIONS & REGISTRAR-Motion to reduce \$400 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  7. COMMITTEES & BOARDS-Motion to reduce \$3,768 by Mr. Fydenkevez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Wissemann. Vote 3-0.
  8. TOWN BUILDINGS-Mr. Fydenkevez-Concerned with building contingency being reduced. Discussion regarding building contingency and energy contingency. Motion to reduce buildings \$20,717 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  9. POLICE DEPARTMENT-Discussion regarding impact to services; use of assistance from State Police and Mutual Aid. Mr. Fydenkevez-Concerned for safety of our residents and our officers. Police Department protects our public safety to the best of their ability. Motion to reduce additional \$23,590 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  10. FIRE DEPARTMENT-Mr. Bergeron-Overview of reductions. Motion to reduce \$8,457 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  12. OTHER PROTECTION-Motion to reduce additional \$2,850 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  13. HIGHWAY- Motion to reduce additional \$4,937 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  14. HEALTH AND SANITATION-Mr. Bergeron-Discussion regarding incurring trash/recycling expenses for two months. Discussion regarding Franklin County Solid Waste District assessment and uses; district sludge removal contract. Motion to reduce additional \$12,482 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  17. BENEFITS AND INSURANCE-Motion to reduce additional \$1,245 by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  18. MISCELLANEOUS & RESERVE-Motion to reduce \$10,694 by Mr. Wissemann 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
- Revenues- Mr. Bergeron gave an overview of evolution of current revenues. Board of Selectmen proposed budget is balanced. Discussion regarding Local Aid and State Aid to education. Mr. Fydenkevez-Board of Selectmen attended last School Committee meeting. Feels that the committee did the best they could given the cuts they had to make. Another component is regional schools. Cuts fell more heavily on Town and elementary school because of regional agreements. Mr. Bergeron-Reminder-Special Town Meeting (STM)-August 17, 2009, 7:00pm at Sunderland Elementary School.
  - Police Mutual Aid Agreement-Chief Gilbert-Fortunate that Leverett and Shutesbury have approached Sunderland Police Department regarding mutual aid agreement. police department overtime policies agreement. Overview of MAA Internal. Motion to enter in MAA by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.

- STM Warrant-Board of Selectmen voted warrant at its 7:00 a.m. meeting on August 3, 2009.  
Article 1-Read by Clerk, Mr. Wissemann, Motion to recommend by Mr. Fydenkevez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Wissemann. Vote 3-0.  
Article 2- Read by Clerk, Mr. Wissemann. Motion to recommend by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0. Justine Rosewarne-Could lower the reduction and the amount raised and appropriated by putting forth a lower override. Mr. Wissemann-Need to echo sentiment of FinCom member at last meeting regarding voter sentiment. Discussion regarding devastating cuts. Discussion regarding 9C cuts in FY10. Need to be very wary about supplementing budget with one time revenues. Shana Deane-Would like commitment from Board regarding presenting override next year. Discussion regarding future overrides. Mr. Fydenkevez-Certain people have pushed for override over the last few years. Discussion regarding evolution of override number. Mr. Fydenkevez-People need to get involved at the budget development stage in September and during teacher contract negotiations, etc. Discussion regarding involvement in budget process. Discussion regarding Board's stance on presenting override at lower number. Mr. Bergeron-Appling non-recurring revenues to recurring expenses makes situation worse. Mr. Fydenkevez-People have various reasons for the way they voted. Mr. Zinan-Has studied the Frontier's Teachers Agreement and Union #38 Agreement and sees areas for negotiation. Will submit recommendations to the Board. Discussion regarding contract negotiations  
Article 3-Local option restaurant meals tax. Board of Selectmen has public hearing next Monday to discuss impacts of accepting .75% tax. Motion to recommend by Mr. Fydenkevez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Wissemann. Vote 3-0.  
Article 4-Rooms occupancy tax. Motion to recommend by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.  
Article 5-Senior tax work-off abatement program. Discussion regarding effective date. Motion to recommend by Mr. Wissemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
- Brush Pile-Mr. DUBY-Recommend that brush pile be closed. Mr. Bennett-Agree. Mr. Fydenkevez-Suggest brush pile be manned by 2 staff. Fee-for service. Mr. Koblinski-Would like to keep brush pile open. Willing to volunteer there. Brush/Compost Area Guidelines-bring back next week for discussion. Brush pile will remain open during regular highway hours until policy is set.
- July 13, 2009 Minutes-Motion to approve by Mr. Fydenkevez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Wissemann. Vote 3-0.
- July 20, 2009 Minutes-Motion to approve by Mr. Fydenkevez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Wissemann. Vote 3-0.
- Revised Town Office hours - posted.
- General Discussion-Discussion regarding regionalization of schools. Impact of assessments in town budget. Albin Koblinski-Big projects need to be done. How can town afford them? Discussion regarding economic development. Mr. Fydenkevez-Decent chance of getting through year one of cuts with volunteerism-need to work hard on next year's budget. Vigorous dialogue needed well before town meeting. Discussion regarding cuts to elementary school, need for participation and involvement in budget process.
- Warrant by signature.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Fydenkevez, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Wissemann. Vote 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Z. Nartowicz  
Town Administrator