

Bethlehem Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

Bethlehem Town Building Meeting Room

January 14, 2013

Present: Chairman Jerry Blanchard, Selectman Culver, Selectman Sandy Laleme, Selectman Mark Fiorentino, Selectman Martin Glavac

At 6:30 Chairman Blanchard opened the meeting and budget hearing. Chairman Blanchard read the budget hearing notice.

Chairman Blanchard went through the budget. Julian Czarny asked if the volunteer firemen should be changed to "call" firemen. Jack Anderson said yes technically it should.

It was noted that the dispatch amount is based on # of calls.

It was asked if the street lighting is per unit or usage. April will check on this.

Selectman Laleme said she would like to move some changes in the County Club budget. She said the bottom line will not change.

Alan Jackson asked what the point is of running the golf club without running a profit. Selectman Glavac asked how taxpayers benefit from the Country Club. Selectman Laleme said it brings people into town. Dick Robie said he doesn't see who benefits from having it town owned.

The Board reviewed the Warrant Articles. There was discussion about the wording of the articles and how they are confusing. There was a question as to why Article #15 was asking to raise and appropriate 1.6 million dollars that the library already has. Frank Claffey said the town can't spend any money without the ok from the townspeople. Selectman Culver said it is the legal way that it has to be done. Dave Wiley said it is misleading and asked if the Board can look into changing it. Selectman Culver said they will look into it. Chairman Blanchard said they will check with DRA.

The Board discussed the warrant article to raise money for the library building operation for the last 4 months of 2013. Doug Harman said they do not know for sure when the building will be finished. Dave Wiley thought that warrant article was too wordy.

Chairman Blanchard said the tax impact if all warrant articles passed would be \$1.30 per thousand (estimate).

Jeanne Robillard asked how many residents from Bethlehem the Bridge House serves. Selectman Culver read the material from the Bridge House and said 10 are from Bethlehem and that one still lives there. The estimate cost is 15.00 a day per person.

Selectman Laleme moved to close the budget hearing. Chairman Blanchard seconded. Carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

April Hibberd

Administrative Assistant