

Emergency Meeting of the Dorset Select Board

January 20, 2010

Minutes

Present: Marge Freed (Vice-Chairperson), Mike Connors, Brad Tyler
Absent: Chris Brooks (Chairman), Michael Oltedal
Also, present: R. Gaiotti (Town Manager), Marilyn Kinney, Bill Mahlmann

Marge Freed, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

Town Budget:

M. Freed questioned the Select Board/Tax Sale Expense line item wanting to know if the money will be recouped and noted that this should not be an expense to the Town. R. Gaiotti responded that the tax sale line legal expense line item was dedicated for situations in which the town begins the tax sale process, incurring legal costs, but the taxpayer pays the delinquent taxes prior to being sold at tax sale. R. Gaiotti noted that town council informed him that the legal fees for a parcel that is not sold at tax sale cannot be recouped from the delinquent taxpayer; legal council mentioned that the 8% penalty is meant to cover these situations. R. Gaiotti also noted that TM fund line item had been lowered to accommodate this.

M. Connors moved and B. Tyler seconded to approve the FY2011 budget for the Town Report, motion passed (3-0).

Town Meeting Warning:

Article 9 ~ it was discussed that the article to increase the Disabled Veterans Tax exemption (of appraised property value) from \$10,000 to \$40,000 was not included on the warning as of January 19 Selectboard meeting. Bill Mahlmann asked why this was left off the 2010 Town Meeting warning. M. Freed responded that the issue deals with a State Property Tax, and that it should be addressed at the state level. M. Connors mentioned that he felt the same way, but did not want it to look like the board didn't support disabled veterans. M. Freed and B. Tyler both agreed, that they very much are supportive of disabled veterans and didn't want residents to feel that by not including the article, that the board had slighted the veterans. M. Connors asked what the monetary results would be. R. Gaiotti responded that by increasing the exemption, it would result in a \$.90 cent increase on a property tax bill for a property valued at 300k. Marilyn Kinney noted that the number was nominal, and if the article wasn't presented, it would appear that the town doesn't support disabled veterans.

It was the consensus of the Selectboard to include article 9, and approve the 2010 Town Meeting Warning. Article 9 shall read: "Shall the voters approve an increase from \$10,000 to \$40,000 of appraised property value in the property tax exemption for disabled veterans as authorized by 32 VSA 3802, to be voted on by Australian ballot"

There being no more business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 12:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager