Windham Select Board Meeting

Windham Town Office

8/21/17

**Present:**

**Frank Seawright Chair**

**Kord Scott Selectman**

**Maureen Bell Selectwoman**

**Kate Wright Select Board Clerk - temp**

**Vance Bell Conservation Commission**

**Peter Chamberlain Town Treasurer**

**Michael Simonds Energy Committee**

**Bill Dunkel Planning Commission**

**Ernie Friedli**

**Tom Johnson**

**Louise Johnson**

**John Hoover**

**Sally Hoover**

**Drew Hazelton**

**Dawn Bower**

Called to order at 6:30

Public comments at meetings reviewed by Frank. Frank read a communication from Sarah Jarvis from VLCT. Frank proposes that the Select Board consider rewriting the rules of procedure to include such recommendations.

Maureen presented VLTC model rules of procedure for municipal boards. Vance will share electronic copy with the select board for consideration.

Regarding town rescue. Drew Hazelton of Rescue Inc. spoke. Each town they contract with pays a fee annually. Rescue Inc determines the level of need and fee structure at annual meetings. Average of 1% increase annually. There is a per person fee based on the census.

Frank – can half of a town contract since So Windham could be reached sooner than Londonderry could by Rescue Inc in Townshend. Drew – never refuse treatment regardless of the line of

Second home owners are served as well despite whether they are beyond the census count.

$60 per household payable to Dartmouth per year provides 3 calls per year plus one transport to another hospital.

Rescue Inc suggests important things to consider re health care today: everything is based on the clock. Rescue Inc can take patients to definitive care, not only the closest hospital, The crew stays with the patient until the patient gets to where they should be.

There is a crew on duty always. There are nine ambulances. Response can be faster as a result.

3,600 calls responded to this year.

32,000 people served. 20 – 30 percent repeat patients.

If Windham signs up, dialing 911 takes patients directly to Rescue Inc.

If Windham dials 911 without Rescue Inc, Londonderry Rescue is first contacted, if they do not respond within 14 minutes Stratton Rescue is contacted.

Question from public regarding what would happen if Rescue Inc was called without Windham signing up. They must respond, but patient’s health insurance will be charged.

If Rescue goes to a house, $500 is charged. If that can’t be afforded there is a complicated process to demonstrate that a patient can’t pay. If patient is a subscriber for $60 there is no additional fee.

Public comment: How much is it worth paying instead of depending on volunteer rescue.

Ambulances are well equipped, can treat en route, and have a relationship with Grace Cottage so can bypass some incoming process.

Frank – If the whole town is covered it would be around $10,000. Can certain families sign on?

Drew – No – it has to be by region, not by individual households.

Bill Dunkel: How can the town pay for half of residents but not all?

Drew: Some towns pay for Rescue Inc for part of town and pay donation to Londonderry Rescue for remainder of town.

Next steps: Town needs to decide if Windham or part of Windham wants to sign up. Windham select board would need to appoint a person as representative to Rescue Inc.

Drew recommends having as much public input as possible.

Sally Hoover took first responders training and has served the town.

Sally is concerned that Rescue Inc crew has only one driver and one in the back. They do not pull out of driveway until they have all the medical situation and insurance info. Rescue squad has more people responding.

Vance – should we invest in a repeater to get calls through more consistently from callers?

Kord and Frank – set up committee to study the issues. Maureen and Kord will ask for people who are interested in joining a committee.

Need to sign a conflict of interest policy. Maureen presented it for signature.

Need to review and sign …. (road crew policies?)

Kord’s suggestion is to modify section 15. Kord will bring his recommendation to nest meeting.

Maureen presented information regarding local census update. She recommends that Windham participates. It needs Frank’s signature, but she will be contact person.

Frank – Green Lantern wanted town to sign letter of intent to use Windham land for a solar array.

Agency of Natural Resources deadline for environment studies is first freeze (Oct) for this year. If Windham waits until next spring, there is a 6 – 9 month period for …

See letter from Green Lantern regarding option to lease and later possible second thoughts by town.

$5,000 per year would come back to the town.

Discussion: Bill – if there is not agreement among the select board he recommends not signing.

Dawn – was there a stipulation that the property proposed for the solar array be used for the cemetery? Doesn’t seem so.

Peter – would not want the select board to decide on their own to sign on to the project without opportunity for public awareness and discussion.

Bill – If select board signed to agree to the project, that indicates good faith agreement if everything works out (environmental studies, town approval). Discussion regarding if there would then have to be town approval.

Kord – suggests getting Ralph and Bob and board together for a public meeting to discuss moving forward.

Vance – referred to lease agreement – lease option versus lease.

Maureen recommends setting a public information meeting.

Frank – set date for understanding the legalities with lawyers and then public info meeting.

Anytime before Aug 30th will work for the board. Frank will contact Fisher to set up meeting. Bill will attend as well as energy committee representative.

Illegal trash dump: Frank will circulate with members model ordinance for solid waste.

Treasurer’s report - $389,166.30 in general fund.

Kord – video surveillance system put in at town office. Question about whether to post that there is surveillance. Agreement not to post.

Correspondence was signed.

Discussion regarding attendance at VLTC Annual Business meeting. Will review at next meeting.

Date for next meeting: Labor Day, September 4, 2017.

Approval of last meeting minutes postponed until next meeting.

**Frank moved to adjourn at 8:20, all approved.**

Date Approved:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Select Board Clerk:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_