

TOWN OF BELFAST
Regular Town Board Minutes
September 21, 2015

Present: Randy Ellison, Sandra Taber, Michael Hillman, David Cox, Annette Kish

Also present: Sharon Collins, David Jennings, William Nichols, Patricia Oliver

Community members present: Robert Kish, Rick Smith, Margaret Thompson, Michelle Gerow

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Kish and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of the bills:	Street Lighting	#09	\$604.14
	Highway	#143-155	\$61,201.38
	General	#173-191	\$9,799.76
	Water	#118-130	\$4,777.04

Roll Call: Kish-Aye, Taber-Aye, Cox-Aye, Hillman-Aye, Ellison-Aye Approved

Highway Superintendent Nichols reported that on Monday, September 14th, the bids were opened for the new snow plow truck. There were two bids for the body and chassis: Buffalo Hunter Peterbilt - \$131,290 and Buffalo Kenworth - \$128,750. Buffalo Kenworth did not meet the specs in that it was not the specified engine size (425 vs. 450 as specified) and was not an all aluminum cab. Buffalo Hunter Peterbilt met the specifications and a motion was made by Councilman Ellison and a second by Councilwoman Taber to award the bid to them. All in favor. Carried

Valley Fab was the only company to bid on equipment for the snow plow truck and presented a bid of \$93,772. Councilman Hillman moved and Councilman Ellison seconded to award the bid to them. All in favor. Carried

Mr. Nichols informed the board that he had met with reps from the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery and the Highway Department should be receiving around \$10,000 to help with the June 23, 2013 storm damage.

Mr. Nichols was asked about the Fire District's request for using town machinery to fix a ditch on E. Hughes Street. Mr. Nichols said he received an unsigned copy of the Fire District contract and has been in touch with legal council for the Association of Towns and is waiting to hear back from them.

Water Superintendent Jennings stated that the tank and filter material is here and as soon as they have a block of time and opportunity, they will begin work. They have to coordinate with the Houghton water department, but the project will be complete before snow flies.

The Library has received a grant for new storm windows and \$4,125 is the Town's share. Normally \$3500 is budgeted for the Town Library account.

HA5's, a by product of chlorination, was found in the last water testing. Flushing has taken place since then, but will flush again next week to see if the problem can be resolved.

Sharon Collins, Tax Assessor, has been busy with assessments on new buildings and exemptions.

RESOLUTION:

Councilwoman Taber moved and Councilman Cox seconded to introduce Local Law for the purpose of enabling the Town Board to adopt a budget the 2016 that exceeds the 2015 real property tax levy by more than 0.73%. All in favor. Carried

Supervisor Kish appointed Councilman Taber and herself to conduct the annual audit of the Town Justice books.

Supervisor Kish has been in touch with the District Attorney's office regarding the \$40,000 in missing Community Development checks. She has had communication with Accord, who took over to help with paperwork and has now reneged, and the next stop will be the State Comptroller. Some contractors have not been paid and in some cases, work has not been completed.

Supervisor Kish was busy with meetings with the Code Enforcement officers Beeman and Margerum, Russ Heslin, and Shari Collins. Councilman Hillman made the motion and Councilwoman Taber seconded to continue with the consolidated Code Enforcement/Building Inspection consortium for another year. All in favor. Carried

Russ Heslin proposed by letter that he would be interested in becoming the Belfast Town Assessor and would do a revaluation for the Town at a rate of \$8.00 per parcel. There was a misunderstanding of the timeline for Shari's resignation. Shari's resignation letter stated she would be done in September of 2016 and Russ thought she'd be done this year. Shari will take some time to consider whether or not she wants to finish at the end of the year or continue on until September of 2016. She will have a decision at the next board meeting.

Councilman Ellison moved and Councilwoman Taber seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:17.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Oliver
Town Clerk