



# Warner Board of Selectmen

## Meeting Minutes Tuesday, October 31, 2017 APPROVED

Chairman Dabuliewicz opened the meeting at 3:00 pm

Attendance: Selectman John Dabuliewicz – Chairman, Selectman Kimberley Edelman, Selectman Clyde Carson and Town Administrator – Jim Bingham

Others present: Martha Mical, Judy Newman-Rogers, Marianne Howlett

### 1. Tax Rate Setting

- A. Jim explained the review of revenues is important because there are times the revenue actually received in this year has already been accounted for tax purposes last year. He said we have to make sure we don't count any revenue twice. Actual revenue is what the Bookkeeper reports. For example a check was received early this year for Exit 9 for a portion of the construction costs and reimbursement on design, but that revenue was booked in 2016 because it was appropriated at Town Meeting for tax purposes. In addition the town received \$111K from the HB38, the Department of Revenue recommended not to count that as part of revenue, they said to leave it alone and let it go to surplus because the town will need it next year; this money was not part of the voted appropriation. The \$111K will be included as revenue, but DRA is not using this revenue to set the tax rate. All towns that received the HB38 money will receive the same recommendation from DRA.
- B. Jim said the proposed tax rate is \$9.61 which is .74¢ over last year. The Board discussed how much to apply from the unassigned fund balance to reduce the rate.

### **Board Action**

Selectman Edelman moved to apply \$90K from the unassigned fund balance towards the 2017 tax rate. Chairman Dabuliewicz seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously. Chairman Dabuliewicz rescinded the previous vote. Selectman Edelman moved to apply \$100K from the unassigned fund balance towards the 2017 tax rate. Selectman Carson seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously. The total tax rate will be \$27.96, out of the total the town tax rate is \$9.25.

### 2. Roundabout

- A. Clyde said he was given the expectation that the town should see signs by the end of the week. He said once we have signs we can close out the project. Jim said there are repairs needed on the apron. Clyde said if we closed out the project in May we would still get the warranty work done. Jim said the State will not close the project until a decision is made about the apron, there is still about \$68K that is owed to the contractor. **Jim will contact McFarland Engineering.** It was determined that the money the State owes the town cannot be counted this year.

### 3. Compensation Study

- A. John said the Board won't be able to digest and respond to everything the Board has been given, but, he does feel the Board needs to do something. The question is what do we do. Kimberley has suggested the last time the Board had a discussion that the Board needs to be aware about the lowest paid employees. John was thinking more along the lines of how the Board uses what is proposed and the information received in the Compensation Study, those who are below the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile. John is not looking for answers, he wants the Board to think about it and the Board will have to talk soon. Kimberley wants to

know what the Department Heads think about their employees wages as well. John said the Board needs to think a lot about this and the approach the Board is going to take.

#### **4. Adjournment**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 4:30 pm.

Board of Selectmen

John Dabuliewicz – Chairman

Clyde Carson

Kimberley Edelmann

Recorder of the minutes: Mary Whalen