

TOWN OF EXETER- ANNUAL MEETING

Town Hall, Tuesday, April 10, 2012; 7:30 PM

Board members attending- Chair Fahey, Supervisors Gundlach and Zweifel and Clerk Christen.

Citizen attendance: Jay Christen, Fred and Sue Bonacker, Alton Sherman, Randy Montgomery, Tara Bast, Ruth Anderson, Betty Grotophost, LaVerne Dohm, Jay and Gina Wills.

Chairman Fahey opened the meeting. 2011 Annual meeting minutes had been distributed. MOTION to approve, R. Anderson/J. Wills. Approved.

Tara Bast, Johnson Block (Town accountants) was present to review the annual report. She noted that the town had the capacity to borrow \$1.8 million at the current valuation. Currently the town has \$48,000 general obligation debt. She asked if there were any questions of the annual report. There being none MOTION to approve the 2011 annual report, A. Sherman/ F. Bonacker. Approved.

Committee reports-

Park- Ruth Anderson, Chair, reported on the improvements made at the park in 2011; 6 hole disc golf added, park benches (multiple donations by Dean and Sandy Luchsinger in memory of their son Zach), canoe landing and the annual fundraiser/open house. Items schedule for 2012; water, basketball court, butterfly garden, additional shelter outlets and privacy fencing around the bathrooms. The Annual Open House is scheduled for September 9, 2012 following Labor Day. All improvements have been made through generous donations.

Recycling- Mark Gundlach, Recycling Comm., the committee is in the process of getting bids to compare with Waste Management updated fees. B. Grotophost asked why the Recycling expense cannot be a line item on your tax bill. In reply the expense is budgeted, you can only do a single fee on tax bills when you have curbside and the contract is per household. S. Bonacker asked if the abuse of the center continues. In reply it has decreased with the implementation of the stickers and large item fees.

Other questions/concerns-

L. Dohm asked what the Clerk, Treasurer and Road Patrolman salaries were. The information is itemized in the Annual report. He was comparing Exeter to Town of Montrose and Brooklyn. Chair Fahey informed him that there is a large difference in populations, valuations and full time versus part time. Exeter has a population of 2,029 just behind the Village of Belleville, which has a number of fulltime staff. The 3 Towns are not an even comparison. Chair Fahey informed L. Dohm that only the salary paid to the board is decided on by the residents at the annual meeting. The wage for the employees is set by the board. Chair Fahey invited L. Dohm to make a motion to change the compensation of the board but he did not present a motion.

B. Grotophost questioned why we do not go to a 5 man board. She felt that there would be more discussion on board decisions such as the salt shed if there was a 5 man board. Upon review of the minutes from the special meeting for the salt shed the clerk noted that B. Grotophost was present and was able to discuss and indeed voted on the salt shed construction. Her feelings are that she would like to have more impact on the board decisions. In reply, the board is elected to do a job and have meeting where the citizens have time for input on the items up for discussion.

G. Wills asked if there were any large expenses being planned in the near future. Chair Fahey stated that the board had begun discussions of purchasing a new snow plow truck to replace the 1962 Oshkosh and 1993 GMC. A special meeting had been set for May 2, 2012 to discuss the purchase; estimate at this time appears to be a minimum of \$200,000 for a new truck.

Chair Fahey presented the for discussion the need to move the Annual Meeting to the third Tuesday of April due to the recent law changes necessitating the change of terms of office for the board. MOTION to set the next Annual Meeting for April 16 at 7:30 pm, J. Wills/F. Bonacher, all approved.

Chair Fahey asked if there was anything else the electors present wanted to discuss. There being nothing A. Sherman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. J. Wills second the motion, all approved, meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Candee J. Christen, Clerk