

## Minutes of the Roxbury Selectmen's meeting March 27, 2017

In attendance: Selectmen Gerry Davis, Tim O'Brien and Jim Rousmaniere; Road Agent Ken Buffum.

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. Minutes from the meeting of March 20 were approved.

The selectmen discussed a proposal by a town resident that credit cards be an allowable method of paying property taxes. No decision was made, but it was generally agreed that the addition of such a taxpaying method could add costs and complications to town governance.

The selectmen briefly discussed post-Town Meeting filing requirements with the Department of Revenue Administration. It was agreed that Town Clerk Robin Buffum and Town Treasurer David Jewett appear to have all tasks in hand.

The selectmen discussed a recent communication from Reagan Bissionnette of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests as to whether the selectmen had revised their thinking about the status of Wheeler Brook Road on Taves Preserve property that is owned by the Society. The selectmen agreed to respond to Ms. Bissionnette that they continue to regard the road as a town road.

The selectmen reviewed a communication from Avitar, the town's property appraiser, regarding a request by Eversource that the town's valuation of the utility's property in town be reduced. On the advice of Avitar, the selectmen agreed that the current valuation of the property is appropriate; they drafted a letter to that effect to be sent to Eversource.

Selectman O'Brien presented a model for future presentations of spending articles in the annual town warrant. The model displays appropriations over several years; all selectmen agreed that the model provides useful context for budget-crafting and that it should be included in next year's Town Report because it enhances public understanding of trends in municipal finance.

The selectmen generally discussed methods and procedures related to the drafting of budgets and the sharing of financial management responsibilities by the selectmen and the town treasurer. It was agreed that some aspects of such sharing could be better defined. The selectmen agreed to engage Town Treasurer David Jewett in a discussion on the matter.

The selectmen reviewed an invitation to attend a county legislative delegation meeting on April 4 during which officials involved with county and city government operations, in addition to officials from non-profit organizations that serve the city of Keene and environs, will make presentations. Selectman Rousmaniere reported that he will attend the event.

The selectmen briefly discussed the programming of a spotlight on the west side of town hall. They had temporarily disabled the light the prior week after receiving complaints about its casting a hard light at late hours that disturbed a nearby resident. It was agreed that the light will be reprogrammed to shine only at appropriate hours.

The selectmen discussed with Road Agent Buffum a pothole situation on the Davis Road. The discussion led to conversation about whether private individuals who might be contributors to impairments to public roads should contribute financially to repairs. It was agreed that the Local Government Center would be approached for its perspective on the general concept.

Selectman Davis prepared the manifest of bills to be paid; the manifest was signed by the selectmen.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Minutes approved by the selectmen