



BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF ASSESSORS
Minutes
January 20, 2015 Regular Meeting

- I. **CALL TO ORDER: 6:31 p.m.**
ROLL CALL: Chairman O'Connor, Selectman Crichton, Selectman Ganiere, Selectman Wright
ABSENT: Selectman Pendergast
OTHERS PRESENT: Interim Town Manager Gary Stenhouse, Town Clerk Jo Anne Lepley, Water Operator Chris Weismann and Water Consultant Sandy Bolotsky
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- II. **PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED WATER RATE INCREASE**
The Public Hearing opened at 6:32 p.m. and closed at 7:51 p.m.

A recess was called at 7:51 p.m. And the meeting resumed at 8:00 p.m.

NORMAL SELECTMEN'S AGENDA

Chairman O'Connor welcomed Mr. Stenhouse back to Berwick.

- III. **APPROVAL & SIGNATURE OF MINUTES**
- a. **Regular Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2015**
Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to approve the January 6, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.
The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0.
- b. **Special Meeting January 9, 2015**
Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to approve the January 9, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes as presented.
The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0.

IV. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

- a. **Recreation - None**
- b. **BCTV - None**
- c. **Envision Berwick Committee (EBC)**
Selectman Wright – Selectman Wright gave a short update on the prior EBC meeting. Ms. Iber-Amanti (who presented to the BOS at the January 6th meeting) presented her organization's Work Force Housing ideas and stated that the idea had been generally well received by the EBC. When Ms. Iber-Amanti was asked whether other areas besides the Prime Tanning site could be considered, she said that they like to keep it confined to a particular site. Local businesses will be asked to contribute to the financing of the charrette.

V. **FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE**

VI. **APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/OTHER GUESTS**

a. **Appointments for Gary Stenhouse**

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to appoint Gary Stenhouse as Interim Town Manager until a successor is named.

The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0.

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to appoint Gary Stenhouse as Interim Health Officer.

The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0.

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to appoint Gary Stenhouse as Interim Road Commissioner.

The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0.

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to appoint Gary Stenhouse as Interim Treasurer.

b. **Resolution appointing Interim Town Manager as Signor on LPL Financial Account(s)**

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to sign the document as presented. (a copy is attached)

The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0

VII. **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Stenhouse read a letter (copy attached) that he had received from South Berwick Town Manager Perry Ellsworth regarding the contract to South Berwick to provide dispatch services and his conversation with former Town Manager Patrick Venne regarding this item. Mr. Stenhouse stated that he would meet with the Chief Towne and bring any further information on this item back at their next meeting.

Chairman O'Connor stated that there was a letter regarding an abatement the BOS had denied on Butler Avenue and that the homeowner was appealing to the County. The appeal would be heard January 21, 2015 at 4:30 in the County Commissioner's Meeting Room. Mr. Stenhouse will contact MRI regarding sending the assessor to this hearing.

VIII. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANTS**

A/P WARRANT	1528	\$711,449.26
Water Warrant	TRIO 01082015	\$4,757.98
PAYROLL WARRANT	1529	\$52,705.87
A/P WARRANT	1530	\$109,985.78
Water Warrant	0529	\$4,012.98
PAYROLL WARRANT	1530	\$55,988.24

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to approve the Accounts Payable Warrants as submitted.

The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0.

IX. **QUITCLAIM DEED AND/OR INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS**

a. **One RE: pre-approved 2012 Tax Foreclosure Installment Contract**

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Wright to approve signing the Quitclaim Deed Without Covenant for R001-013-000.

The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0.

At this time Chairman O'Connor addressed the Letter of Non-Action

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to sign the Letter of Non-Action regarding 33 Pine Hill Road.

The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Town Marquee

Mr. Stenhouse read the note that was in a previous packet regarding the cost of a new electronic sign and a non-electronic sign for the Town Hall. The total cost of an electronic sign would be between \$24,000 and \$30,000 and a non-electronic sign would be around \$5,000. The consensus of the BOS was to add \$5,000 to the Town Hall budget.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Town Manager Recruitment and Challenge Statement

Mr. Stenhouse stated that MRI is drafting a challenge statement and he will bring it to them in the next month or two for them to make additional changes to.

The BOS signed the contract for Mr. Stenhouse's services and the contract for the Town Manager Recruitment that were approved at the January 9, 2015 Special Meeting.

XII. ABATEMENTS/SUPPLEMENTALS

a. None Planned

XIII. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT – None

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS/ NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Selectman Wright stated that he wanted \$30,000 placed in the budget for Economic Development.

Eleanor Murphy stated that the proposed budget is over the 1% and this would be something she would recommend be cut.

Selectman Wright also stated that he would like a warrant article dealing with impact fees at the next Town Meeting. Selectman Wright also stated that the Roads and Public Works budget are high due to the Town accepting new roads.

XV. POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. None Planned

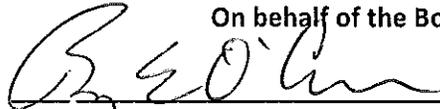
XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: It was moved by Selectman Ganiere and seconded by Selectman Wright to adjourn.

The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

The January 20, 2015 BOS Meeting Minutes
Signed as approved at the Board's February 3, 2015 Meeting
On behalf of the Board



Bryan O'Connor, Chairman, Berwick Board of Selectmen