

2010

## Board of Selectmen Minutes 2010

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TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 5, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guests, Bill Pearson from the Piscataquis Observer and Carrie Fellows.
  
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Burdin to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
  
3. Balance sheets distributed.
  
4. Letter from Maine Municipal Association was read detailing the outcome of the state's latest proposed budget cuts which will reduce revenue sharing funds paid to the town by over \$26,000.00. The good news just keeps on coming.
  
5. A letter from Sandra Beauregard was read regarding the good work of the Guilford Partnership Food Pantry and requesting that the town consider the purchase of a building in which to house their operation. Lander moved to table the discussion, seconded by Dexter and it was tabled with no action taken.
  
6. Manager reported on the visit from the loss control engineer from our insurance carrier. Only two minor issues surfaced which were immediately taken care of and it was noted that the emergency light at the town garage needed repairs. Dexter stated he had an available replacement and that he would deliver it to the garage.
  
7. Manager noted that Guilford Memorial Library was one of only four libraries in Maine to

receive a four star rating, an accomplishment they achieved last year as well.

8. The tax acquired property on Sebec Shores Road was discussed at length before Burdin moved it be returned to the prior owner upon payment in full of all outstanding taxes, costs, and other expenses. The motion was seconded by Lander and carried by a vote of three to one.

9. An update on the condition and changes contemplated at the Medical Building was given and Martell described his efforts to alleviate the ice back-up issues. A meeting will be scheduled with Mayo Associates in the very near future to clarify any necessary renovations contemplated as well as upgrades needed to existing systems.

10. The Board was asked if they wished to set eligibility requirements to determine the presentation of the Boston Post Gold Headed Cane. Martell moved that residency should be established in town for one year for a person to be considered eligible. Dexter seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote.

11. The Fire Department presented its proposed slate of officers for the upcoming year and the entire slate was accepted and nominated as presented following a motion from Lander with a Burdin second.

12. The Fire Department Budget was presented for review with no action taken as budget committee meets in February.

13. Dexter moved that the fire services contracts for Abbot and Parkman be increased to \$14,000.00 annually as wages and costs have increased and the contracts have not changed in six years. Martell seconded his motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

14. On a motion from Lander with a Martell second, it was voted to go into executive session as per MSRA ss 404 (6)(A)&(D) to discuss employee compensation. The session began at 8:09 and ended at 8:56 following a vote to exit said session as moved by Lander and seconded by Burdin. No action was taken.

15. Manager gave board Second Notice for warrant articles. None presented at this time.

16. There were no topics brought up under "Other Business."

17. Burdin moved that the meeting be adjourned. After a second by Lander, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:57 PM.

## TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

**February 2, 2010**

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:01 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guests, Bill Pearson from the Piscataquis Observer.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Martell to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed.
4. Letter from SAD#4 read advising that the board had voted to turn Guilford Primary School over to the town. This will now require a vote to accept it at the annual town meeting.
5. Selectmen signed deed returning tax acquired property to former owner.
6. It was noted that the medical building committee would be meeting at the town office on February 9th at 6:30 pm.
7. Reminder was given that budget committee would meet February 8th at the high school at 7:00 pm.
8. On a motion from Lander, seconded by Dexter, it was agreed to renew Roland Cookson's junkyard permit.

9. Manager informed the board that the Economic Development Board had engaged Harriman Associates to file a letter of intent with the office of community development as the first step in applying for a Housing Assistance Grant.

10. Discussion on acceptance of a septage contract was tabled until such time as the contract was presented.

11. The delinquent tax rate was set at seven percent and the return rate at three percent for the 2010 tax year.

12. Manager presented the 2010-2011 budget for board review. It was noted that due to anticipated water increases and a decrease in revenue sharing, the budget was up about two and one half percent overall.

13. Final notice given for warrant articles.

14. Under assessor's issues, it was voted to waive interest on one late account for justifiable reasons, an abatement was granted for property that had been removed prior to assessment date, and the manager was directed to gather information for review of an individual residential account for a later meeting.

15. Under other business, the board agreed that the fire department should sell truck 728 after delivery of the new pumper in March.

16. Martell moved that the meeting be adjourned. After a second by Lander, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:07 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

March 2, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guests, Gayle Worden, Dodie Curtis, Allen Drew, Michelle Nichols, and Roberta Thomas from Friends of Community Fitness, and Bill Pearson from the Piscataquis Observer.

2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.

3. Balance sheets distributed.

4. Letter from Town of Oxford read expounding on the value of another gaming institution in their county and outlining the recipients of the revenues anticipated. No action taken.

5. Letter read from Maine Service Centers Coalition asking us to re-join and explaining the benefits of membership. No action taken.

6. Letter read from Valley Grange announcing Guilford Primary School as "citizen of the year," and requesting that the board proclaim April 16th, 2010 as Celebrate Guilford Primary School Day. Burdin moved to declare the proclamation, Martell seconded the motion, and it was so voted, unanimously. This is the same building that will be offered to the town at the March 15th meeting.

7. Presentation given by Gayle Worden, director of Friends of Community Fitness, explaining their ideas for moving the gym to the primary school, should the town accept the property from

the district. She presented a floor plan diagram of the section of the building they are interested in leasing and detailed some of their proposed alterations as well as some of their program offerings and support partners. Burdin asked what date the town would take occupancy and the answer was not available at this meeting. Thompson thanked her for her interest.

8. Manager gave an update on the medical building, explaining that RFP's would go out requesting bids for the renovation work planned for the facility. Burdin noted that if costs required any borrowing, a special town meeting would be required to authorize it.

9. The Census Bureau has been using the meeting room at the fire station to test recruits and applicants for the 2010 census jobs. They still have many positions to fill and hope to get the word out that they will accept applications throughout March.

10. The Economic Development Board informed the selectmen that they would be applying for a grant from Maine Community Foundation to complete the skate park. The location has not been finalized and costs have not been totaled, but the project would be located on town land in the Water and River Streets area.

11. An application for the renewal of the liquor license at Piscataquis Country Club, filed by Eugene and Darlene Dami, was read. Following a motion from Lander with a second from Dexter, it was unanimously voted to grant the license.

12. The Economic Development Board is planning to apply for a Housing Assistance Grant from the CDBG office and asked the selectmen's approval. It was voted that the manager would draft a letter stating said approval, as moved by Burdin and seconded by Martell.

13. Manager presented the 2010-2011 warrant for board review and signatures.

14. Under assessor's issues, manger explained that a two year abatement was necessary and one other request was being studied. Lander moved and Burdin seconded the motion to review and adjust the first case accordingly and investigate the second one to discuss at a later date. Burdin noted that personal property items would be added into the Trio tax program and the

effort would be quite time consuming.

15. There being no Other Business, Burdin moved that the meeting be adjourned. After a second by Lander, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:13 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

March 15, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Kent Burdin at 8:25 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander, and William Thompson. Also Town Clerk, Michelle Nichols attended.
  
2. Kent Burdin Called the first order of business to be election of board chair. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Martell, to appoint Bill Thompson chairman of the Board of selectmen. Unanimous.
  
3. Motion made by Burdin, seconded by Martell, to appoint Barry Goulette to the Planning Board, and W. Louis Sidell as an alternate. Unanimous.
  
4. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Burdin, to appoint Allyn Ward to the Board of appeals. Unanimous.
  
5. Motion made by Burdin, seconded by Lander, to appoint Robert McReavy, Roberta Thomas, and Brian Woodworth to the Economic Development Board for the term of three years, and Dan Hutchins for a two year term. Unanimous.
  
6. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Burdin, to appoint Tom Goulette as Town Manager; Tax Collector; Agent, Overseer of the Poor; Road Commissioner; Deputy Treasurer; Health Officer; Emergency Management Director; Constable; and Deputy Forest Fire Warden. Unanimous.

7. Motion made by Dexter, seconded by Martell, to appoint Michelle Nichols as Town Clerk; Treasurer; Deputy Tax Collector; Registrar of Voters and Deputy Forest Fire Warden. Unanimous.

8. Motion made by Martell, seconded by Lander, to appoint Joyce Burton as Deputy Treasurer; Deputy Town Clerk; Deputy Registrar of Voters; Deputy Tax Collector and Deputy Forest Fire Warden. Unanimous.

9. Motion made by Martell, seconded by Dexter, to appoint the following:

- A. Charles Martell .....Forest Fire Warden
- B. H. Kent Burdin .....Surveyor; wood, bark and logs
- C. Timothy Briggs .....Sealer of weights and measures
- D. Alan Landry .....Sexton
- E. Frank Ruksznis .....Plumbing Inspector
- F. David Cotta.....Constable
- G. David Smiley .....Constable
- H. Allen Emerson .....Constable
- I. Joseph Guyotte.....Animal Control Officer

The vote was unanimous.

10. No Election Officials appointed as no terms expire this year.

11. Motion made by Burdin, seconded by Martell, to appoint Keith Doore as Code Enforcement Officer. Unanimous.

12. Thompson noted that a good job was done in presenting moderator Linwood Flanders with a certificate and tribute at the conclusion of the town meeting in honor of his 50 years of service as town moderator.

13. Motion by Burdin, seconded by Lander to adjourn. Adjourned at 8:33 PM.



TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

April 6, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guests, Fire Chief Allen Emerson and Carrie Fellows.
  
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Martell to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
  
3. Balance sheets distributed.
  
4. Letter from Superintendent Paul Stearns read illustrating draft budget figures for Guilford's share of the school budget. If approved in its present form, the increase to Guilford would be in excess of \$70,800.00.
  
5. Letter read from Maine Department of Labor informing us that the appeal written by the manager for the remaining penalties was quite successful. Of the two remaining issues, one fine was entirely abated and the other was reduced by 45 percent to \$385.00, a substantial difference from the original \$4200.00 in total fines.
  
6. Piscataquis County warrant read indicating Guilford's County tax would be \$168,779.00 this year, an increase of \$10,000.00. Burdin moved to accept and Dexter seconded his motion; unanimously approved.
  
7. Following the reading of a letter of resignation from John P. White as director of HAD#4, Martell moved to accept and Burdin seconded the motion. Unanimous. Manager directed to

thank Mr. White for his service and to determine degree of interest in filling this position.

8. Manager read letter from Guilford Sangerville Water District stating that their proposed rate increase of 20 percent would not go into effect until January of 2011.

9. A proclamation denoting April 16, 2010 as Celebrate Guilford Primary School Day was submitted for signatures as agreed at the last meeting.

10. On a motion from Dexter, with a second by Burdin, it was agreed to renew the septage contract at \$700.00 with Patterson Brothers of Abbot.

11. Manager updated the board on progress with the Primary School Building. Leases were being drafted and it appears that tenants have been secured sufficient to operate the property without taxpayer contributions.

12. Preliminary state valuations have been received and the town values have dropped about three million dollars. The sales ratio study came in at 1.07 indicating that property values are still decreasing.

13. Snow removal contracts were presented with a ten percent increase, the first of three annual anticipated increases. Burdin moved to accept them as written and Dexter seconded the motion; unanimous.

14. Chief Emerson presented a written mutual aid contract between Guilford and Dexter fire departments. He stated that it is the same agreement as our verbal understanding that existed for years. Lander moved to accept and sign the agreement, Burdin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. He also spoke on the upcoming change in radio frequencies to narrow band, a move mandated by the government that will likely cost Guilford \$20,000.00 by the end of 2012. We will plan to make the change, but wait as long as possible to implement it as the world may end that year anyway.

15. Under assessor's issues, a tree growth petition was given to Burdin for review, three veteran's exemption were approved on a Burdin motion with a Martell second, one homestead exemption was granted following a Lander motion that was seconded by Dexter, an abatement request was denied without a motion as the party recently purchased the home and had no standing, and the assessing books were distributed.

16. Under Other Business, manager was directed to determine the procedures to abate old personal property accounts prior to 2008 and to develop a policy for collecting these accounts from 2009 going forward. Burdin moved that the meeting be adjourned. After a second by Lander, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:21 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

May 4, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guest, Bill Pearson of the Piscataquis Observer.
  
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Burdin to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
  
3. Balance sheets distributed.
  
4. Letter from Superintendent Paul Stearns read illustrating budget validation referendum process options that will be on the warrant for referendum this year. Voters in the school district will decide whether or not to continue the practice of voting a second time to ratify what they voted for the first time.
  
5. Flyer describing Piscataquis Chamber of Commerce's Family Fun and Business Showcase presented detailing their plans for the May 22nd event featuring area business booths, craft and food vendors, and family fun including games and contests. More information is available by visiting the town's new site, [www.townofguilford.com](http://www.townofguilford.com) , Community Services, and clicking on the chamber link.
  
6. Request from Abaris Club made for a donation of \$85.00 for a portable toilet at recreation field. Motion made by Burdin, seconded by Martell to approve request. Unanimous
  
7. Manager gave brief update on River Festival scheduled for July 31st, stating that the

customary events would be held, such as the parade, duck race and Lilac Princess, along with the addition of a Doggy Dress-Up contest, a Tug-of-War Challenge and more live music. The theme for this year is Hawaiian Luau and a very special appearance will be made by the renowned United States Army Rock Band.

8. It was announced that the town's new web site has now been launched and can be viewed at [www.townofguilford.com](http://www.townofguilford.com) . There are meeting notes, calendar events, feedback and comment sections and more updates to come as development progresses.

9. An update was also given on Guilford's participation in the Maine Community Heritage Project, a joint venture with the historical society, library, Piscataquis Middle School, economic development board and the town office, showcasing some of Guilford's history on the Maine Memory Network . The project will launch in June, and there will be a public "Kick-Off Party" featuring guest speakers, a preview of the project, and a traditional Maine supper at the Piscataquis Middle School on June 3rd at 5:00 pm.

10. The Abaris Club has raised funds for and is donating the new sign at the Don Osborne Memorial Playground. The foundation is in, the granite uprights are in place and the slate sign will be installed soon. Sheldon Slate Company of Monson provided the slate and French Construction is doing the installation.

11. It was reported that vandalism occurred on Elm Street as some moron broke one of the new trees. The local police arrested the suspect and restitution is anticipated as the damages will be around one thousand dollars.

12. Joe Gallant has once again agreed to direct our summer recreation program and will be sending participation forms home with the students at month end.

13. Manager discussed new bi-monthly meetings being held at the County Courthouse for the benefit of area town managers and selectmen to network and share issues and concerns. Some recent topics of discussion are county-wide assessing and cooperative safety training.

14. Under assessor's issues, a veteran's exemption was approved on a Lander motion with a Dexter second, and the date, May 18th at 7:00 pm was set for the assessors to meet regarding new construction.

15. Under Other Business, manager was requested to install new nets at the basketball court and to revisit the dangerous building at 24 Oak Street with Code Enforcement. Updates were given on preparation of the bid request notice for the Medical Building renovations as well as the lease agreements for the primary school building. After a motion from Burdin, seconded by Martell, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 7:51 pm.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

June 1, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guests Katie Palmer, Brad Sletterink, David Draper, Dustin Lander, and Bill Pearson of the Piscataquis Observer.
  
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Burdin to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
  
3. Balance sheets distributed.
  
4. Thank you note read from Abaris Club for donation to their summer project.
  
5. Letter from Maine Woods Coalition read requesting town officials to join in resolution against the creation of a national park and locking up the North Maine Woods. Burdin moved to draft a resolution supporting this position, Martell seconded it, and the vote was unanimous.
  
6. Request from University of Maine Center for Research on Sustainable Forests read, asking for electronic landowner database. As our program is not currently set up to run this list and since there was a motion approved in 1990 contrary to providing such a list, no action was taken.
  
7. Letter read from SAD#4 Superintendent Stearns advising that, subject to budget validation, the town's share of school costs for the next year would be \$1,012,910.35, 36.27 per cent of the total district budget. It was also noted that a consolidation workshop would be held June 2nd at the middle school.

8. A request to sign a nomination petition from a potential candidate for office at Maine Municipal Association was passed over on a motion from Lander with a Burdin second.

9. Manager reminded those present that the Guilford Historical Society and partners would be hosting a celebration of their web presence on the Maine Memory Network, with a free supper followed by a website presentation and music by Doughty Hill on Thursday, June 3rd at the Middle School.

10. Manager requested that board members bring in names of persons interested in filling the vacancy on the HAD#4 board of directors following the resignation of our prior representative.

11. Manager reported on his trip to Little Rock in conjunction with his service on the Property and Casualty Insurance Board of Maine Municipal Association's Risk Management Program.

12. A reminder was given that the school budget validation referendum would be voted on this Election Day, June 8th, along with an option to discontinue the redundant, wasteful process of voting twice.

13. The July Selectmen's meeting was rescheduled to June 22nd and will be noted on the Town's website calendar.

14. It was reported that in spite of a yearlong effort and countless hours of meetings, that the town's application for a CDBG Housing Assistance grant failed.

15. On a motion from Lander, seconded by Dexter, the liquor license for Katie's Bar and Grill was renewed, by unanimous vote. The same applicant's request to have a beer tent at the River Festival was approved by a 3 to 1 vote following a Lander motion and a Dexter second. It was noted that the festival committee had approved the application subject to insurance, licensing, and hours of operation guidelines.

16. David Draper addressed toe board requesting permission for the ATV Club, Piscataquis Predators, to establish an access trail on town roads, specifically High Street, west of the water tower, and North Main Street. It was conditionally agreed upon, following a motion by Dexter, seconded by Burdin, subject to the manager working out a contract with the club, by a 3-1 vote.

17. Manager stated that a phone poll would be conducted among the board members to determine the final mill rate for property taxes as soon as all expenses were calculated and the range had been determined, as in years past.

18. It was determined that a Peddler Policy was needed to address the issue of itinerant merchants selling their wares on town property. Since they pay no property taxes and compete with businesses that do, a policy will be drafted for future consideration that will address insurance requirements, state licensing, and other concerns.

19. Manager noted that Thomas Kittredge had resigned as director of PCEDC effective June 18th, for a new position with the city of Belfast.

20. Under Other Business, Brad Sletterink discussed his plans for 24 Oak Street and his intentions to construct an attractive, taxpaying property at that location.

21. After a motion from Dexter, seconded by Lander, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:47 pm.

## TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

June 22, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:03 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guests Russ Sylvia and Michelle.
  
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Burdin to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
  
3. Board considered ballot for representatives to the MMA Legislative Policy committee and vote for John Simko and Eugene Conlogue as the two representatives from this district following a Burdin motion, seconded by Martell.
  
4. Manager read letter from SAD#4 regarding the 2010-2011 assessment for school, which was 1,012,910.35 and noted that as the fiscal years did not coincide, the tax years' contribution would be \$981,720.35, an increase of \$74,853.78 from the prior year.
  
5. The proposed contract for use of selected in-town streets was read and signed by the board after approval Burdin and Dexter moved and seconded the item respectively.
  
6. Burdin moved that the July Selectmen's meeting be cancelled as they held two in June. The motion passed unanimously following a Dexter second.
  
7. A Public Hearing was held as advertised concerning a liquor license and a special amusement permit for the Covered Bridge. Dexter inquired as to the plans and Russ Sylvia reported that they would open a lounge in August with live band entertainment and dancing on

weekends and late breakfasts to be served after the bar closed. All this would be pending State Fire Marshall's approval. Dexter moved to approve the request and Lander seconded the motion. Unanimous vote.

8. Manager reported that the deed to the former Guilford Primary School had been received and would soon be recorded.

9. Selectmen authorized manager to set the final mill rate at maximum overlay as has been the customary practice for the soon to be delivered tax bills. The overlay is a cushion that covers those taxes that remain unpaid during the coming year and any necessary abatements.

10. The board unanimously approved a motion from Lander, seconded by Burdin to sign the Library Services contract with SAD#4. This collaboration assists both the town and the school financially by sharing the librarian.

11. Under Other Business, manager presented an after-purchase invoice from Pirate Rec for uniforms and supplies, stating that the normal course of action would be a budget request beforehand. Martell moved to pay the bill, Lander seconded the motion requesting a letter be written to explain the process for coming years. Unanimous.

12. After a motion from Dexter, seconded by Lander, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 7:51 pm.

## TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

August 3, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guests Bill Pearson from the Observer.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Martell to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. Support letter read from candidate for MMA office.
5. On a motion from Burdin, seconded by Dexter, the board unanimously cast their vote for the nominating committees' three directors. Following a motion Martell with a Dexter second, the board also unanimously voted for the committees' candidate.
6. In response to a letter from MMA Legislative Policy Group for issues to consider, Martell stated he would favor an excise tax based on actual cost rather than the sticker price. The manager discussed some of the pros and cons of that action. Lander requested that enforcing existing laws might be more appropriate than creating new ones. The board was given until September 1st to have any ideas brought in to be added to the survey list.
7. A letter from Black Diamond Consulting detailing plans for a cellular tower, addressed to the Town of Guilford was read, but the content was for the Town of Parkman. No action taken.

8. A letter from Superintendent Paul Stearns was read relating to the surplus property policy of SAD#4. There would be some articles available to the district towns in October.

9. A draft Law Enforcement Services Contract was received from the County, but not well received. Manager was directed to write a letter on Guilford's unchanged position on the subject, explaining that in these tight economic times, it was foolish to spend over \$100,000.00 in County money when our regionalization of services was working so efficiently.

10. Manager gave a report on the very successful River Festival. Martell added that the softball tournament was also a success. All comments to date have been extremely favorable with the exception of one letter to the editor in the Bangor Daily News.

11. Manager reported that the Maine Community Foundation had declined to support the proposed skate park with a grant, but added he believed the River festival Duck Race would add over \$800.00 to the account.

12. Manager reported that the lamp post in the Down Town section of Elm Street that had been broken by a vehicle accident, had been repaired the day before the parade and that contact had been initiated with the insurance carrier of the driver that hit it.

13. The Board was given an update by the manager on the progress with the renovations at the medical building. BNF, the contractor performing the work was finishing up today and the project had gone very smoothly. Manager also requested that the board consider naming the building the Charles H. Lightbody (Memorial) Medical Center in honor of Doc Lightbody, his impetus in getting this building erected initially, and his lifelong dedication to Guilford. After discussion, Burdin moved that the Building Committee call a meeting and make that decision. The motion was seconded by Lander and approved by unanimous vote.

14. Manager noted that he would be attending the Maine Town and City Managers Association Institute on August 17th at Northport, Maine as a member of the executive committee.

15. Manager also informed the board that he would be attending the Maine Municipal Convention in October as the moderator of a panel presenting a workshop on improving communications between managers and other groups such as fire department and police departments. The irony was noted.

16. An assessor's meeting followed with several requests for abatements read and acted upon, supplemental bills approved, and errors on property cards corrected.

17. Under Other Business, no issues were raised.

18. After a motion from Burdin, seconded by Lander, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:32 pm.

## TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

September 7, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guest Bill Pearson from the Piscataquis Observer.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Martell to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. Certified letter from Piscataquis County manager and Commissioner's office read notifying that unwritten agreement regarding Guilford's police department activity to be terminated in sixty days.
5. Response to above letter stating that County may terminate anything they wish was read. Manager noted that the latest offer from the County was for the select board to draft a mutual aid agreement for their consideration, so there may be some common ground after all.
6. Leases signed by various tenants at Guilford Primary Building presented for selectmen's signatures; signed accordingly.
7. An update was given on the Adopt-a-pole program initiated by Sherry French which would provide electrical connections for lighted wreaths at up to 28 locations at the cost of \$160.00 per pole. Jeff Moore of Moore Electric had offered to donate the labor for installation of the equipment. To date, funds for seventeen lighted wreaths have been donated. The deadline for

this year's work is October 15th.

8. Minutes from Medical Building Committee read. It was noted that the committee, as charged by the select board, has determined to name the facility the C. H. Lightbody Medical Center, and that an appropriate plaque will be mounted.

9. Manager reported that the former problem property at 23 Oak Street has been taken care of and that the owner has performed as promised. It has become an attractive home with interior work continuing, a tax paying property, and an improvement to the neighborhood.

10. Chairman Thompson requested that motions be made for appropriations to the various non-profit organizations that have requested funding. Martell moved that Pine Tree Hospice, American Red Cross, Eastern Area Agency on Aging, Community Counseling Center and Womancare be funded at the same level as last year, leaving a balance in the fund for later consideration. Dexter seconded the motion and it was unanimously so voted.

11. Manager reported that the Leaf Peepers Tour this year would be a trip to Living History Days at Leonard's Mills in Bradley on October 2nd, observing special demonstrations of old fashioned methods in self sufficiency, and later stopping at a nearby restaurant for lunch. Two buses have been contracted and sign-up sheets posted. It should provide a great time for our senior citizens.

12. Manager reported that we have locked in an agreed price with McKusick Petroleum for this coming years' heating oil for all municipal buildings.

13. The Guilford Historical Society has planned its annual Harvest Fair for October 9th and requests the use of the municipal parking lot and the Braeburn Block land for some of its activities. On a motion from Lander seconded by Martell, it was unanimously voted to approve the request.

14. The State Fire Marshall's Office has visited the former Guilford Primary School building and will be ordering a plan review. It is anticipated two changes will be required; a fire suppression

system over the stove and a separate exit for the pre-kindergarten children. The town will be re-contacted in the near future for the review.

15. It was announced that our fire department has taken delivery of a new, 2011 International crew cab pumper with 1000 gallon capacity and 1250 gallons per minute capability. The invoice has been paid in full.

16. The selectmen were reminded of their invitations to a dinner meeting offered by our insurance carrier, Maine Municipal Association, scheduled for September 20th at 6:00 pm. An overview of their risk management services and programs will be provided as well as dinner and recognition awards to members.

17. On a motion from Lander seconded by Martell, the board went into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Time in: 7:58pm. Following a motion from Lander, seconded by Dexter, the board came out of executive session. Time out: 8:10pm. No action taken.

18. A short assessor's meeting was held in which a veteran's widow exemption and a homestead exemption were granted.

19. Under Other Business, it was noted that the church bells rang from noon to 1:00 PM on September 2nd as part of the remembrance for WWII Commemoration Day. A few calls came in from concerned residents inquiring as to the occasion.

20. After a motion from Dexter, seconded by Lander, the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 8:22 pm.

October 5, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Kent Burdin, and guests Lois Prescott and Diane Deane from the Abaris Club, as well as Bill Pearson from the Piscataquis Observer.
  
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
  
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
  
4. Thank-you notes read from Community Health and Counseling and Pine Tree Hospice for the town's recent contributions.
  
5. A letter from the chair of the Library Trustees and its Director was read requesting that their prior vote be affirmed, allowing them to use funds bequeathed by Dr. Lightbody to purchase two sitting chairs and place the remaining amount in their endowment fund. Lander moved to approve, Burdin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
  
6. Lois Prescott and Diane Deane spoke on behalf of the Abaris Club. They stated that their group would be interested in raising funds for an exterior sign for the C.H. Lightbody Medical Center and inquired as to the town's expectations. Chairman Thompson indicated that the Building Committee had met and was leaning toward a slate and granite sign in keeping with the local theme, although the club could certainly propose any alternatives. Lois asked if any of the donated monies would be available in this effort, and upon receiving an affirmative reply, said she believed the club would move forward with this project. The Chair expressed the board's appreciation.
  
7. Manager informed the board that the Elm Street tree vandal was found guilty in District Court, and went on to grouse that the judge had set restitution for damages at \$400.00, rather than the

\$900.00 estimated by the landscaper who did the initial work.

8. An update on the plans for the October 9th Harvest Fair sponsored by the Guilford Historical Society was given. There will be hay rides, a scarecrow building contest, craft vendors, a bake sale, an antique appraiser, yard sales, pumpkin carving, and a twilight cemetery tour at Elmwood Cemetery.

9. The board was notified that the annual Winter Parking Ban would begin on November 1st, and notice would be published.

10. Manager opened the public hearing to discuss General Assistance Appendices. Burdin moved to accept Appendices A through C as provided by the Department of Health and Human Services for Piscataquis County towns. Lander seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

11. The Maine Municipal Association business meeting is scheduled for October 12th, and a delegate from each town may vote. Burdin moved and Lander seconded that Tom Goulette be the voting delegate for Guilford. Approved by unanimous vote.

12. The Economic Development Board has determined to apply for a Housing Assistance Grant and a Planning Grant for Downtown Revitalization, pending board approval. Lander so moved and Burdin seconded the motion. Unanimous.

13. The Manager discussed a fund raising effort by a yogurt company that would pay a dime for every yogurt container lid returned, to go towards Breast Cancer research, noting that that figure represents twenty percent of the gross sale, rather than a percentage of profits. Permission was given to collect the lids at the town office to assist in this effort.

14. Manager was directed to approach competing providers to solicit costs and service levels of assessment program assistance.

15. Under assessors' issues, a Farmland application was received and rejected for the 2010 tax year. Manager was instructed to advise the applicant that it needed to be filed prior to April 1st of the current tax year and that they would consider it for 2011. A properly executed Tree Growth renewal application was signed and recorded.

16. There being no Other Business, following a motion from Burdin and a Lander second, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

November 2, 2010

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:02 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Kent Burdin> Peter Martell arrived after the opening.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. Invitation to join Central Maine Assessors was read; no action taken.
5. It was reported that the Abaris Club announced that their group had received a pledge from the Haley family to donate the entire materials and labor for the C.H. Lightbody Medical Center sign. The Chair expressed the board's appreciation.
6. Manager informed the board that the proposed state valuation for the town for 2011 was 128,950,000 dollars, down 6 ½ million from this year.
7. Manager provided literature from Central Maine Power Company regarding their soon to start replacement of electric meters with their new so-called smart meters which can transmit the energy usage and will eliminate the need for individual meter readers.
8. Manager directed to prepare a road opening policy for discussion, review and vote for the

next board meeting. This policy will require notice to be given or a permit to be received before any digging below the surface of a town roadway by any entity other than the town public works department.

9. Patti Davis resigned from the economic development board and Burdin moved to accept her resignation. Dexter seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

10. Under assessors' issues, a list of matured tax liens was read. There are five properties that have become town owned and two others that the board voted to accept after deadline payments for as prior arrangements had been discussed and payments made within hours.

11. Under Other Business, Lander requested a report for next board meeting detailing the pros and cons of the town accepting credit cards for payment of taxes and other services. Manager stated that there would be a public hearing at the December meeting regarding a proposed location change for Katie's Bar and Grill, now on Elm Street and moving to the former Red Maple Inn site.

12. There being no further business, following a motion from Burdin and a Lander second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

**□ TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**December 7, 2010**

**1. □ Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Kent Burdin and Peter Martell, and guests, Bill Pearson from the Observer and Katie Palmer of Bar and Grill fame.**

**2. □ Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.**

**3. □ Balance sheets distributed and accepted.**

**4. □ Letter from Stearns to LePage distributed and discussed, no action taken.**

**5. Request from Harris World and the Trio – CoreLogic partnership regarding electronic assessment information read and discussed. Dexter questioned if there were any benefit to the town or would more work be created by signing on to their program. It was decided to wait for more information.**

**6. Inquiry to change the official name of a private road discussed. The Peirce family would like to change Point Road to Peirce Road. Dexter moved and Burdin seconded that if the family could garner 100 per cent support from all residents on the road, and would be willing to replace the sign, then it should be allowed. Unanimous.**

**7. Manager provided progress report on developing costs and issues with credit-card payments for taxes and other possible sales. There is a provision that allows the percentage based costs to be passed directly to the customer rather than the vendor. Many towns report that customers often decide to pay by check when they learn this. It was suggested to wait for further legislation and more study at this time.**

**8. Manager reported that Central Maine Power Company has not energized the apparatus for our Christmas wreaths. Sherry French had been successful in obtaining over 40 sponsors of poles and Jeff Moore had completed the 28 free-labor installations as agreed. The wreaths were purchased, strung with LED lamps, and hung on the new brackets by the town crew; and so we wait. Hopefully, the lights will be on soon.**

**9. Manager read request for funds from Guilford Historical Society. After discussing the balance in the programs account, it was moved by Dexter and seconded by Burdin to donate \$1500.00 to the society.**

**10. Proposed Memorandum of Agreement from Piscataquis County Commissioners' Office read and discussed. It was pointed out that it was largely the same language and points as outlined over a year ago by the manager; that there was an added provision that could cost the town additional funds for overtime hours, and that the agreement was proposed as being between the town and the commissioners rather than the Sheriff's Office. Manager was directed to reply that we would sit down for a meeting after the holidays and the decision on the current Sheriff's salary was made.**

**11. A Public Hearing for Katie's Bar and Grill regarding transfer of liquor license and the issuance of a special amusement permit at their new location on School Street. Katie Palmer stated that the location would be much better for business and parking and allow room for growth. Dexter moved to approve the transfer; Martell seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote. Dexter also moved to approve the Special Amusement permit that would allow live music and dancing subsequent to State Fire Marshall's office approval. Martell seconded this action and it also carried unanimously.**

**12. The recent plan by the Town of Abbot to close the Back Road to through trucks was discussed. They have asked the Town of Guilford to allow them to place signage to warn truckers to prevent unsafe backing up situations. Burdin made the motion to allow sign placement and the motion carried following a Dexter second.**

**13. A brief update was given on the December 4th county-wide Holiday Christmas activities. While some events were under attended, the tree lighting drew a good crowd in spite of less than favorable weather and many guests enjoyed hot chocolate and goodies at the historical Society.**

**14. The date for the Budget Committee meeting was set for February 14th at 7:00 pm at PCHS, with a storm date of the 16th as per Burdin's motion which was seconded by Martell.**

**15. Health care costs and spiraling price increases were discussed. The manager was directed to schedule a meeting with the company representative to review available options with the board of selectmen and employees in early January, following which recommendations will be made for the 2011 budget.**

**16. Under assessors' issues, a list of tax acquired properties was read. It was moved by Dexter and seconded by Burdin to offer Virginia Anderson 30 days to redeem her former property on Elm Street by paying all outstanding property taxes in full within that time. Unanimous. It was further moved by Dexter and seconded by Burdin to offer the same arrangement to Donna Harmon for her Sebec Shore Road property. This motion carried by a three to one vote. These would be conveyed by quitclaim deed if provisions are agreed to and met as outlined. The Fred Davidson property on Morse Avenue is to be advertised for sale by bid per a Dexter motion and a Martell second with a unanimous vote. The former Desmond Variety property on Elm Street is to be sent out to bid for sale following the town attorney's opinion of title and the Walter Mayo Jr. property on Water Street is to be handled in the same manner. Both of these actions were agreed following motions by Dexter, seconded by Martell and unanimous votes. Pursuant to a Burdin**

**motion, seconded by Dexter, it was agreed to abate the 2008 tax on a deleted account for Thomas Freese heirs, as a housekeeping measure.**

**17. Under Other Business, it was noted that Gordon Construction company had replaced the vandalized Elm Street tree as per the \$900.00 estimate and work was ongoing on both the municipal road opening policy and the facilities use policy.**

**18. There being no further business, following a motion from Burdin and a Lander second, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM.**