

2012

Board of Selectmen Minutes 2012

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TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 3, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, Rick Lander, Peter Martell, and guest, 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. Manager gave update on current status of town owned, tax acquired properties. Insurance proceeds have been received on the fire loss involving one of the properties; two are still occupied, by permission, until suitable arrangements have been made; and one is to be inspected for continued suitability as a dwelling.

5. Manager presented renewal contracts for fire protection for the towns of Abbot and Parkman. Moved by Burdin and seconded by Martell to sign and forward for the respective towns review. Unanimous.

6. Motion made by Lander to enter executive session as per MSRA § 404 (6) (A)&(D) to discuss salary and wages; seconded by Burdin; Time in : &:11. Motion by Lander, seconded by Dexter to exit the session; Time out: 7:29. Lander moved to equalize the public works employees' wages and to give all employees a twenty-five cent per hour raise. A unanimous vote followed a Burdin second of the motion. Lander then moved to increase the manager's salary by one thousand dollars annually; motion failed for lack of a second. Burdin moved to increase manager's salary by three percent; Martell seconded the motion and the motion carried by a four to one vote. Lander requested that wage and benefit statements be prepared for each

employee for review at a future date.

7. Second Notice for warrant articles was given to the board. Any additions are requested to be in the office by February 1st.

8. Under assessor's issues, an abatement previously ordered was presented for signatures.

9. Nothing was reported under Other Business.

10. Following a motion from Lander with a Burdin second, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

February 7, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Michael Dexter, and Peter Martell, and guests, Matt Holland and Lou Sidell of the Planning Board.
2. Motion made by Burdin, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. Manager read letter from Town of Sedgwick regarding local ordinances for the control of locally grown farm products. No action taken.
5. Manager presented letter and dues invitation from Maine Service Centers Coalition. No action taken.
6. Advance notice of pending rate increase in local cable rates received as required by statute, from Moosehead Enterprises, Inc., increasing the monthly rate by \$1.45. This will be effective in March.
7. No action on three newly acquired properties; have received an offer on the former Thompson house from the neighbor on whose land the old cellar and debris pile encroaches. Manager recommended accepting the offer of \$2,000.00 on an "as is" basis. Motion by Burdin, seconded by Dexter, to execute quitclaim deed and dispose of this one after ensuring that the right-of-way would be preserved for the neighbor to the west.

8. Reminder: Budget committee to meet February 13th at PCHS.

9. Public Hearing held as advertised regarding the Adult Entertainment Ordinance. The ordinance was presented, Holland and Sidell commented briefly and the hearing was closed in due form at 7:15 PM.

10. Septage contract renewal presented from Patterson Brothers in Abbot on same terms as last year. Motion by Burdin, seconded by Dexter; unanimous.

11. Guilford Fire Department officer appointments presented for approval and signatures. Moved by Burdin to accept the slate as presented, seconded by Dexter; unanimous vote.

12. Delinquent tax rate for 2012 property taxes discussed. State maximum is seven percent again this year. Motion from Burdin, seconded by Martell, to recommend this amount to the town. Unanimous.

13. Wage and benefit comparisons presented for review as requested.

14. Manager's recommended 2012-2013 budget presented for review revealing a little over a two percent increase.

15. Under assessor's issues, an abatement previously ordered was presented for signatures, and two others were approved.

16. Fire Department requested their checking and savings accounts be moved to Camden National bank. So moved by Burdin, seconded by Dexter; unanimous.

17. Nothing was reported under Other Business.

18. Following a motion from Burdin with a Dexter second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

March 6, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Rick Lander and Michael Dexter, and guests, Matt Holland and Robert Elliott of the Planning Board, and Bill Pearson from the Observer.

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

3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.

4. Manager read Thank You Note from family of Margaret Goulette for kindnesses and flowers following her death.

5. Manager read letter from Kathleen Cardin requesting a space to hold a hearing to check interest levels in establishing a community garden along River Street. Board directed that manager discuss plans with her to set a time and place, obtain soil tests and provide a complete start-up and clean-up plan for their review.

6. Manager updated board on progress of Town Report, hoping to print by Friday.

7. Public Hearing held as advertised regarding the Proposed Amendment to the Land Use Ordinance. The changes were detailed and the hearing was closed in due form at 7:09 PM.

8. Liquor license renewal applications for G&D Golf & Grill, and the Red Maple Inn were read and discussed. Motion by Lander to approve both, seconded by Dexter; unanimous.

9. A plan to save on energy costs was brought up, that would shut the heating system down for the summer months and would have the domestic hot water produced by installing either an electric or a propane on-demand heater. More details needed for future meeting.

10. A request from Davis Bros. Furniture to decorate the retaining wall forming part of the Elm Street sidewalk was presented. The board consented to allow the wall to be faced with stone.

11. A proposal for a streetlight at the intersection of Wharff and Sebec Shores Road brought little discussion and was approved. Manager will contact CMP to have this installed.

12. An inquiry into the care of cemeteries precipitated discussion on the bid process. There had been none as the current sexton had served for many years. It was agreed to give a one year notice before soliciting bids as the current contractor had been doing satisfactory work.

13. The warrant for the Annual Town Meeting was presented for review and signatures. All being in order, it was accepted and signed.

14. Under assessor's issues, manager stated that a Trio expert was coming soon to review some of their tax program entries.

15. Nothing was reported under Other Business.

16. Following a motion from Burdin with a Lander second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

April 3, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Kent Burdin, Rick Lander and Peter Martell, and guests, Frank Rollins and Gary Grant regarding Piscataquis Country Club.

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

3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.

Frank Rollins and Gary Grant addressed the board regarding Piscataquis Country Club. They plan to establish a youth program to get younger players interested in the game of golf and would like the town to participate financially as well as through our summer recreation program. During the discussion, it was determined that the current summer recreation program would not be a good fit as it is all set, that Pirate Rec may be a good place to open a dialogue, that perhaps the sport could be brought back as a school activity, and that the town does have some discretionary funds available for recreational programs. These men will return at the May meeting to further develop their plans.

4. Manager read Thank You Note from the Leland family for our years of doing business with NAPA, and an invitation from the new owners to attend an open house.

5. Manager presented spread sheets and letter from Superintendent Stearns regarding the 2012-2013 school budget. Although the figures are preliminary, it now appears that Guilford's contribution will decrease from last year, but still will be over one million dollars.

6. Resignation letter from Yvonne Davis, library assistant was read and accepted following a motion from Lander with a Martell second.

7. Tax acquired properties were discussed and it was agreed to advertise their availability as in past years, provide bid forms as requested, and open the bids on June 5th. There are three homes to dispose of.

8. McKusick Petroleum Co. has reviewed the hot water needs of the municipal building and recommends two small electric heaters with timers to take the place of operating the boiler during the summer months. The final price is being developed pending engaging a plumber.

9. The Declared Ratio was set at 100% although our developed parcel ration came in at 110%. The assessors expect to be making adjustments prior to establishing the next mil rate.

10. Under assessor's issues, a veteran's exemption and a veteran's widow's exemption were granted.

11. Nothing was reported under Other Business.

12. Following a motion from Burdin with a Lander second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

May 1, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Kent Burdin, Rick Lander and Peter Martel, and 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. Manager read Thank You notes addressed to the board of selectmen from the Methodist Church, Guilford Library, and the family of Tom Blake for donations made in his memory.

5. A note addressed to the board from the Guilford Historical Society was read thanking them for past contributions made by the town.

6. A renewal agreement extending the contract for ATV access trails on North Main Street and High Streets was presented for discussion. It was moved by Lander to continue. Following a second from Martell, the motion carried unanimously.

7. The Abaris Club requested that the town contribute one month's rent toward their port-a-potty project at the athletic fields as in the past. This year's cost is \$90.00 per month. It was unanimously agreed to do so following a motion from Burdin seconded by Martell.

8. Manager detailed possible need to borrow money in anticipation of tax collections. The town has paid all bills since February from its undesignated balance, but due to the heavy paving project of last summer, the reserves will not carry us through July. Either a tax anticipation note or general obligation borrowing will be required to make June payments. Burdin moved to authorize the manager to initiate a borrowing plan as best serves the town. It was unanimously approved after a second from Martell.

9. It was further determined to authorize the manager to move funds from designated fund accounts until the end of July in order to lessen the dollar amount of borrowing. Moved by Lander, seconded by Dexter and approved by unanimous vote.

10. Depositing checks electronically is an option open to the town that will speed up the depositing process and eliminate some of the paperwork. The cost of the equipment and charges from the bank exceed \$600.00 annually. The board decided to take no action at this time.

11. The Trustees of the Guilford Memorial Library presented a candidate to fill the position vacated by Yvonne Davis. On a motion from Burdin, which was seconded by Dexter, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session as per MSRA § 404 (6) (A)&(D) for the purpose of discussing the candidate; Time in: 7:38. Motion made by Burdin, seconded by Lander to exit the session; Time out: 7:44. Dexter moved and Burdin seconded that we hire Heidi Dow for the part time library position; unanimously approved.

12. Manager announced that the Summer Recreation program as operated by Joe Gallant will continue as in past summers with a similar schedule of activities and field trips. A final schedule will be printed and delivered before the end of the school year.

13. Manager told the board of his upcoming risk management seminar in St. Louis, Missouri. Maine Municipal Association will absorb the costs of travel and board.

14. Under assessor's issues, there was some discussion regarding qualifications for various exemptions, ongoing issues updating the Trio program internally, and interpreting some of the data on the property cards.

15. Nothing was reported under Other Business.

16. Following a motion from Burdin with a Martell second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

June 5, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Rick Lander and Peter Martel, and guests Rita Tibbetts, Al Hunt, and Robert Juszczak.

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

3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.

4. Annual audit reports distributed.

5. Manager read Thank You note addressed to selectmen from the family of Tom Blake for donations made in his memory to the Methodist Church.

6. Bids were opened on tax acquired properties as advertised. Parcels #1 and #3 were awarded to the respective high bidders and Parcel #2 was not awarded as the bids were rejected and a possible boundary dispute was brought to light. When the matter is settled, the future disposition of this parcel will then be determined.

7. Manager announced that the town would not be seeking a tax anticipation note and expected to do no short term borrowing.

8. Those in attendance were reminded that election day is Tuesday, June 12th and the school budget validation vote will also be on the ballot.

9. The board paused to remember Donald Pushor in gratitude for his past services as a former member of this board, and in sorrow for the loss suffered by this entire community.

10. A resolve was presented to approve of the Piscataquis County Hazard Mitigation Plan to be submitted to F.E.M.A. that would qualify Guilford and other county towns for disaster assistance when so proclaimed. Moved by Dexter to so resolve, seconded by Martell and approved by unanimous vote.

11. A Public Hearing was held as advertised to adopt Appendix A, a new general assistance maximum allotment, and to adopt the changes to the housing limitation law. The overall maximums have been reduced by ten percent and housing assistance is limited to nine months over the next year.

12. Manager announced that the town had received notice of its certification as a Business Friendly Community following its application to the Department of Economic Development. The Department will be sending out press releases following presentations in Augusta on Wednesday, June 6th.

13. The Trustees of the Guilford Memorial Library presented a candidate to fill the position on their board vacated by the resignation of Heidi Dow. On a motion from Martell, seconded by Lander, the board voted unanimously to appoint Erin Bridges as a new Trustee.

14. It was agreed to set the mil rate for 2012 property taxes at the level required to support the March appropriations and maximum overlay.

15. No assessor's issues discussed.

16. Under Other Business, it was reported that a retirement party would be held to honor Jan Ronco, recently retired Abbot Selectperson, on Sunday June 10th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm at the Abbot Town Hall.

17. Following a motion from Dexter with a Martell second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

July 3, 2012

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 Matt Holland, Lou Sidell, Gary Grant, and Bill Pearson from the Piscataquis Observer .
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Burdin to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. A letter from the auditor's, Hollingsworth & Associates, was read recommending a change in the town's bookkeeping system to eliminate the double entry requirements of utilizing two systems. Training has begun to consolidate the two.
5. Manager read letter of resignation from SAD#4 Board member Carrie Fellows. Dexter moved to accept, it was seconded by Burdin and unanimously approved.
6. A resume and letter seeking employment was read to the board and the manager was directed to reply that there is no current opening.
7. A congratulatory card from Terry Young of Hardwood Products Company was read regarding Guilford being declared Business Friendly.
8. A letter from Eugene Conlogue seeking support as a candidate for the Maine Municipal Association's Legislative Policy Committee was read.
9. Chairman Thompson announced that the mil rate had been set at .01290 or \$12.90 per thousand of property valuation, a decrease of .30 from last year. He mentioned that expansion at Hardwood Products Company and at Puritan Medical Supply had contributed to the drop. Burdin stated that improved Business Personal Property assessments and corresponding BETE reimbursements also assisted.
10. Gary Grant addressed the board on behalf of Piscataquis Country Club and their youth golfing program operating in conjunction with Pirate Rec and modeled after the successful "First Tee" program. This offering is a result of an initial fund raising program geared to engage children in the sport, and has attracted fourteen new members. They requested a donation of \$500.00 to provide junior sized sets of clubs and Lander made the accommodating motion which was unanimously approved following a Burdin second, funds to come from recreation budget.
11. Matt Holland then addressed the Board with an idea for a micro-loan business

development program. The plan is to raise and appropriate a certain amount of money to be used as seed or assistance loans to small businesses both starting or in need of a temporary boost. Making the rules and conditions simpler and more responsive than state or federal programs could provide additional economic opportunities. Matt was asked to research other existing programs, work with MMA legal department on laws and liabilities, and provide a written outline at a future meeting.

12. The board cast its ballot for the MMA LPC as mentioned in item 8 above.

13. A new private road has been constructed leading off Water Street just east of Alice and Loren Drive, and its owners requested the town accept the name "Smith Road", which was accordingly done following a motion by Dexter, seconded by Lander.

14. Under Assessor's Issues, one supplemental bill was approved, one abatement was approved, and one abatement request was tabled for more information as the acreage in question has not been surveyed.

15. Under Other Business, chairman Thompson told of his attendance at a Municipal Officer's Workshop and highly recommended it to the other board members as a very informative and worthwhile program.

16. Following a motion from Dexter with a Martell second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

August 7, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 PM. Present were selectmen Michael Dexter, Rick Lander, Kent Burdin, Peter Martell, and guests Matt Holland and Lou Sidell.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Burdin to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. A letter from Eileen Pushor was read, thanking the board for the flowers at Don's service.
5. Manager read a letter from the Town of Brownville thanking us for the assistance we provided when their roads washed away back in June. We provided a loader and operator for four days and it was well appreciated.
6. MMA voting ballot presented; following a motion by Burdin with a Dexter second, board unanimously appointed manager to cast the town's vote on their behalf for the incoming slate of officers.
7. Matt Holland returned to discuss his findings on his plan for a revolving micro-loan program. The plan is to raise and appropriate a certain amount of money to be used as seed or assistance loans to small businesses both starting or in need of a temporary boost. Matt stated that MMA and their legal department could find no regulations against the idea, but he noted every one he spoke with seemed bewildered to think a town would consider such a plan with no federal or state funding! Matt further stated he was waiting on other inquiries and had more research to complete, but noted he hoped this arrangement could provide a faster response than traditional larger loans from standard lenders.
8. Service program appropriations were discussed as follows: following a motion by Burdin seconded by Martell, the board voted to grant \$1514.00 to the American Red Cross, \$1500.00 to WomanCare, \$1500.00 to Guilford Historical Society, \$1500.00 to the Eastern Area Agency on Ageing, \$875.00 to Community Health and Counseling, and \$600.00 to Pine Tree Hospice.
9. Manager gave a brief report on the 2012 Piscataquis River Festival held July 27th and 28th. The weather was great once again for the eighth year in a row and the parade was enjoyed by all. Many of the vendors reported lower than normal sales this year, but Bangor Fair reported a

similar downward trend.

10. It was reported that work has begun on the North Main Street sidewalk; S&G Construction is doing the work and should begin paving on Thursday. The ditch will be eliminated in favor of a paved apron, matching the lower portion of the street. The School Street sidewalk on the north side is scheduled for removal.

11. The board voted to approve the renewal of a liquor license for The Covered Bridge Riverside Restaurant on a motion from Lander, seconded by Dexter. Unanimous.

12. The board certified to the Maine Department of Transportation that all funds received for local roads were used for that purpose. The town received about \$29,000.00 and expended over \$290,000.00 last year so the threshold was easily met.

13. Following a discussion regarding failing entry doors, it was decided to contact BNF to have them replaced as soon as possible.

14. Under Assessor's Issues, two abatement requests were approved, and one was denied.

15. Under Other Business, Burdin discussed ongoing developments with business personal property assessment coding and said a little more work is needed to complete the updates in calculation methods. Dexter noted that a crew from Charleston Correctional was painting the trim at the former primary school building. Lander stated that the ATV club, Piscataquis Predators, was having work done to eliminate some of the wet holes along the trails.

16. Following a motion from Burdin with a Dexter second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

September 4, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 pm. Present were selectmen Mike Dexter, Rick Lander, Kent Burdin, and Peter Martell.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Martell to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. A letter from a non-resident requesting that something be done to mitigate perceived traffic issues at the famous five way intersection known as the triangle was read. Manager directed to send letter of reply.
5. Thank you notes from Pine Tree Hospice and Community Health and Counseling Services were read regarding town donations made to them.
6. MMA voting delegate selection papers presented; following a motion by Burdin with a Dexter second, board unanimously appointed manager to cast the town's votes at the annual business meeting in October.
7. It was reported that the Guilford Center Road should receive the final lift of pavement near the end of the month. This and some shoulder work should complete the multi year project.
8. It was noted that the North Main Street upper sidewalk replacement was completed, including reshaping the entrance to Center Street.
9. A report from the director of the Guilford Summer Recreation program was read. Dexter commented that when Mr. Gallant runs the program, there are no issues to deal with; just full cooperation and no problems.
10. Manager reported that the tax collections were at their usual pace with 90 percent of the year's committed taxes paid to date.
11. Tax Collector updated the board on new Tree Growth assessment laws and added burdens required of the town, including certified mailings and the uncertainty of filing dates. On a motion from Lander, seconded by Burdin, it was unanimously approved to set the town policy as using April 1st of each year as the enrollment date and subsequent anniversaries for those applying to the program.
12. It was reported that Guilford Historical Society would be holding their annual Harvest Fair on September 29th at the society's building, the Braeburn Block, and Elmwood Cemetery as in

the past.

13. Manager reported that the office would be closing early (3:00 pm) on September 18th for training on the new rules and procedures for producing certified death certificates. The notice of closing will be posted on the website, the Post Office and the Town Office.

14. A letter of resignation from Bev Crockett, the assistant librarian, was read; her last day on the job to be September 21st. It was moved by Burdin and seconded by Lander to accept it, and manager directed to write a note to Bev thanking her for past services.

15. Plans to repair or remove the School Street sidewalk north of the fire station were discussed. It is time to replace it or else eliminate it with a wider road and a stripe indicating the walk area. Pros and cons of both approaches were discussed and manager directed to bring the Methodist Church trustees into the discussion.

16. It was announced that the Senior Citizens Leaf Peeper Tour would include a trip to the State Museum in Augusta. Arrangements are being made for an early October excursion and will be posted soon.

17. Under Assessor's Issues, four abatement requests were approved; three of them due to property being BETE eligible and therefore exempt, and three supplements to the BETE program were also approved in conjunction with the prior abatements. Another abatement request was tabled until more information becomes available.

18. Under Other Business, manager thanked Mike Dexter for engaging the assistance of Charleston Correctional in painting the trim at the former Guilford Primary School building.

19. Following a motion from Lander with a Burdin second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

October 2, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 pm. Present were selectmen Mike Dexter, Rick Lander, Kent Burdin, and Peter Martell; and guest Lori Dumont.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Martell to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. A letter from the Municipal Review Committee to Penobscot Valley Refuse Disposal District was read regarding recovery of municipal funds that had been taken from the member towns. The intent was to select directors from each community, revitalize the board of directors, and resolve the "lost" funds issue with the intention of redistributing those monies to the proper, entitled communities. It was voted to name Tom Goulette as Guilford's representative to the board on a motion from Lander, seconded by Dexter.
5. Note from American Red Cross read expressing thanks for the donation recently sent to them.
6. Notice of proposed rate increase and public hearing received from Guilford Sangerville Sanitary District. General increase is twelve percent, but some smaller accounts will see a 645 percent increase.
7. A letter received from the Secretary of State regarding Municipal Clerk training and Registrar of Voters training requirements was read, and it was noted that the office personnel are working on compliance. Many of the fall classes were filled and the time allowed was too short, but training is being scheduled accordingly. A copy of classes attended to date was presented and it was noted that a recent inspection by the State Motor Vehicle Department was passed with flying colors.
8. A letter from Pat Kablitz, Director of MMA Risk Management Services was distributed, and it was noted that Guilford received a dividend check of \$1398.00 from the Property and Casualty Insurance program.
9. Manager reported that he had attended a Trustee's meeting at the Guilford United Methodist Church to discuss the sidewalk running south of their property and that they had voted in favor of its removal, requesting that an additional section also be removed at the same time.
10. It was reported that the north section of Guilford Center Road was now completely paved and shoulder work was ongoing toward completing this project. It was further noted that several

favorable comments had been received, including a thank you note from a resident along the route, as well as some complaints regarding speeding vehicles and driveway drop-offs. Gravel is being added to back up the pavement and this should resolve the issue.

11. The Library Trustees offered the name of Jeanne Cookson to fill the open position on its board. Her appointment was unanimously approved on a motion from Lander, seconded by Dexter.

12. Following the recent resignation of Bev Crockett as library assistant, the Trustees proposed extending current employee Heidi Dow's hours to cover both positions. This would bring her hours to a total of 26 per week and classification would remain permanent part-time. The board directed the manager to hire as needed.

13. Manager presented the newly written Tree Growth Program policy appendix as voted last meeting for review and for signatures. The proposed policy was voted in after a motion and second from Lander and Burdin respectively.

14. The Partnership Food Pantry was recognized for five years of service. What began in founder Al Hunt's driveway has expanded to its current location at the former primary school on High Street with plans to move to a permanent home on Elm Street in the near future. There is also a Greenville location. It was noted that they distribute over 10,000 pounds of food each month to about 250 families between the two towns, plus 75 backpacks of 3500 calories each through the Weekend Backpack Program in collaboration with Dover Kiwanis and the schools.

15. Manager announced that the Town Office was once again collecting lids from Yoplait Yogurt to send in for the benefit of the fight against breast cancer. Other brands are joining in the support and lids that aren't brought to the office can be redeemed online by visiting the website: www.savelidstosavelives.com.

16. An application for the renewal of a junkyard permit for Lyle Cookson was read and approved. It was moved by Lander, seconded by Burdin and unanimously approved.

17. A proposal received from Dirigo Engineering was discussed regarding engineering services for rehabilitating School Street. To complete testing, mapping,, surveying and design, as well as prepare cost estimates for a rebuild would cost \$6,000.00. No action taken.

18. A Public Hearing was held as posted to discuss and adopt the Housing Maximums for General Assistance to expire September 30, 2013 or until replaced. Adopted as proposed on a motion from Burdin with a Martell second.

19. The State Valuation figures for municipalities for 2013 were presented. Guilford's taxable valuation has decreased by one percent. While some of the smallest towns with waterfront properties saw an increase, most towns in Piscataquis County saw decreases in the range of two to nine percent. This will translate to a higher share of the County tax next fall.

20. Under Assessor's Issues, two abatement requests were discussed, one was approved,

the other denied. A Veteran's Exemption was also approved.

21. Under Other Business, Lander noted that pick-up trucks were driving down the ATV and snowmobile trails north of the village and requested permission for the clubs to erect gates to protect these expensive trails. He then made a motion to accomplish this which was seconded Burdin and unanimously accepted.

22. Following a motion from Dexter with a Lander second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

November 6, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 pm. Present were selectmen Mike Dexter, Rick Lander, Kent Burdin, and Peter Martell; and guests Gayle Worden from Community Fitness and Alan Johnson.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. A letter from EMDC was read in response to the Municipal Review Committee's inquiry regarding recovery of municipal funds that had been taken from to Penobscot Valley Refuse Disposal District member towns. The intent was to reach out and resolve the "lost" funds issue and put together a recorded account of how it was accomplished.
5. The MRC (Municipal Review Committee) sent its ballot for directors instructing charter communities to vote for three of the candidates. Martell moved that the manager determine which three to vote for and submit the ballot. Motion seconded by Burdin, unanimous.
6. A copy of a letter from FEMA to Piscataquis EMA Director Tom Capraro was read, detailing that the county hazard mitigation plan had received state and federal approval. This makes the participating members eligible for disaster remediation funds if and when they are available.
7. Manager discussed the public notices placed in local papers regarding cemetery clean-up and the winter parking ban. No significant changes to past versions.
8. Gayle Worden representing Friends of Community Fitness invited the board to attend a Veteran's Tribute Concert at the facility on November 11th from 2-4 pm. She then presented a wish list of improvements they would like to have done, offering to contribute where possible. Most of the requests dealt with replacement flooring. The board agreed to look into alternative treatments and pricing with an implied agreement that at least some of the items would be done.
9. Manager outlined Guilford's participation in the county wide Chamber organized Hometown Holidays celebration December 1st. The Guilford Historical Society would be giving out cocoa and cookies at their building following Santa's visit and the tree lighting ceremony at 6:00pm. The town crew would have a bonfire to warm those waiting for the lights at the Braeburn lot where the tree will be set beginning near 5:00pm. At 7:00pm, the Community Band will provide a free concert at the Community Fitness Center.
10. It was reported that four properties had been foreclosed for non-payment of taxes

following due notice. The next step is to allow the thirty day period to run in which the decisions may be contested, then proceed to disposition of the properties, which will be decided at future meetings.

11. Under Assessor's Issues, two abatement requests were discussed, one was approved, the other denied. A Veteran's Exemption was also approved.
12. No items were brought before the board under Other Business.
13. Following a motion from Dexter with a Lander second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM.

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTMEN'S MEETING

December 4, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Bill Thompson at 7:00 pm. Present were selectmen Mike Dexter, Rick Lander, Kent Burdin, and Peter Martell, and guests Bill Pearson from The Piscataquis Observer and Paul Zimmerman.
2. Motion made by Lander, seconded by Dexter to approve minutes of the prior meeting. Unanimous.
3. Balance sheets distributed and accepted.
4. A Thank You note from Guilford Historical Society for ongoing support was read which mentioned recent renovations at their building.
5. The draft proposal of the Piscataquis County budget was presented. This draft was received two weeks after the last selectmen's meeting and the final budget meeting of the county has already occurred, so the proposal is moot. Overall an increase of 1.63 percent was proposed.
6. Manager discussed the recent meeting of the PVRDD board of directors that he attended. The board elected new officers and directed their attorney to write a demand letter to EMDC requesting return of municipal funds and all reports and documents pertaining to the same.
7. Manager noted that the Hometown Holidays events were well attended with a large crowd at the tree lighting to greet Santa, many visitors at the historical society, and a good turnout to hear the Community Band at the Community Fitness Center. The unfortunate part was that seven of the ten wreaths adorning the bridge in the center of town, which had been placed just that morning, were stolen during the night. A notice has been placed in the Observer offering a \$100.00 reward for the arrest and conviction of the Grinch-like thief.
8. The Guilford Memorial Library has received a gold star rating from the Library Journal, a national publication, for the fourth year in a row. This is a very positive event for our small town and a testament to our fine library. It was one of only six libraries state wide to be so recognized.
9. Snow removal contracts for the 2012-2013 season were presented at the same terms as last season. It was moved by Burdin and seconded by Dexter to accept them. Unanimous.
10. One of the recent foreclosures was initially contested as to proper notice. Following discussion, it was agreed that legal notice was given and a remedy to redeem the property was proposed. After a motion by Dexter, seconded by Burdin, it was unanimously voted to accept the plan to restore title in the prior owner.

11. An unsolicited offer to purchase the property known as “the annex” on North Main Street was received. Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that it was in the best interests of the town to accept the offer and transfer the property as soon as possible to avoid winter damages and to get it back on the tax rolls as a business.
12. The Budget Committee meeting date was set for February 11th at the high school at 7:00 pm. Cards will go out to all committee members and the public is welcomed to attend.
13. First notice for warrant articles given to the board.
14. Under Assessor’s Issues, it was noted that a recent abatement denial had been appealed to the County Commissioner’s for a hearing by the taxpayer. Three other abatement requests were discussed, one was internal housekeeping on a lot that had been combined and should not have been separately taxed, another was rectifying tree growth status, and a third was granted as a valid request.
15. No items were brought before the board under Other Business.
16. Following a motion from Burdin with a Lander second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.