

Town of Panton
Select board Meeting

September 10 2013/7:00 P.M.
Minutes (approved at 9/24/13 Selectboard meeting)

Attendance:
Select board:
John Viskup, Chair
Beth Tarallo
Wendy Knight

Administration, other Officers and Guests:
Diane Merrill, Treasurer and DRB/Planning Commission Rep
Barbara Fleming, Delinquent Tax Collector
Deeny Marshall, DRB and Planning Commission Rep
Rick Cloutier, Road Foreman
Jean Miller, Town Clerk
Larry Smith, VLCT

7:35 pm Meeting called to order by J. Viskup

7:36 pm Motion by J. Viskup to approve minutes of 8.27.2013. W. Knight seconded, all approved.

7:37 pm Road Foreman report: Paving done. Road bored under Panton Road. Getting Vehicles prepped for winter. The Rented excavator broke down; we will get it back next week. Road Foreman reported will rent a storage space for tractor storage this winter (\$100 for winter), as tractor won't be in use, there is not enough room to keep it in the garage, and it needs to be kept out of the weather.

7:39 pm Delinquent Tax Collector Report: B. Fleming, Delinquent Tax Collector, reviewed all current delinquent tax accounts, totaling \$62, 578.07 (including interest penalties). Reports E. Aunchman property tax sale will be 10/10/13 at 9am. Reviewed additional accounts being sent for legal follow up. Discussion of delinquent taxpayer accounts.

B. Fleming will attend Selectboard meeting on 11/12/13 to provide a progress report on delinquent taxes collected.

7:52 pm: Public Comment: Deeny Marshall noted increase in property taxes. Discussion ensued re: how municipal tax rate set, how 5% increase in school budget and 5% decrease in funding from the state increased school portion. Noted that the Selectboard has additional time for tax related discussion at the 9/24 Selectboard meeting.

7:59 pm: Larry Smith, VLCT provided overview on State Reform Health Benefit Exchange.

Plans Reviewed.

Exchange goes into effect 10/1/13; employer, if choosing to buy into exchange must set up an account at that time, choose funding level and provide roster of employees.

o State has navigators who can walk employers through this process.

Employers 50 or fewer employees can opt out of buying into the exchange, but they will be penalized by the state.

Exchange opens 11/1 for employees; they have until 12/15 to choose a plan.

o Navigators also available to help employees sign up.

L. Smith noted that an HRA will be hard to administer in the plan, but HRAs can be administered under any plan, although VLCT recommends a 3rd party manager.

Affordable Health Care Act defines full time employees as 30 or more hours per week.

Note: if employers choose not to buy into exchange, they can provide employees a stipend to help cover their out of pocket insurance costs. Stipend would be subject to taxes. Discussion around importance of keeping stipend separate from salary.

W. Knight will conduct additional research with VLCT cost calculator and report back 9.24 will recommendations on buying into/not buying into exchange. L. Smith to connect Treasurer and Board with a navigator.

8:45 pm General discussion re: tax related questions coming from taxpayers. Discussion re: 9/24 Board meeting, inviting other representatives to attend to hear and address specific questions/concerns.

9:05 pm Bills reviewed

9:24 pm. Arnold Bay and Jackson Road Bulletin Boards. Discussion around use and placement for Arnold Bay Board: all notices/postings will go on Arnold Bay Board; placement should be in parking area, not down at water. B. Tarallo to follow up with Ben chamberlain who has volunteered to make/replace the bulletin boards.

9:42 pm Junk Ordinance: Draft Reviewed. J. Viskup to follow up with Jim Barlow, lawyer at VLCT re: language and draft review.

9:50 pm J. Viskup motion to adjourn. W. Knight Seconded. All approved

9:50 pm Meeting Adjourned.