

Selectmen's Meeting
February 16, 2016
Tuesday, 5:00 P.M.

The meeting opened at 5:00 p.m. Present were Selectmen Glenn Dochtermann, George Donovan and John Sylvester. Also present was Joyce Wood, Administrative Assistant.

David Shorette, CPA from Purdy Powers Auditors met with the Board of Selectmen and shared the 2015 Town of Alfred audit which was just completed by his staff. Fred Holt, Town Treasurer was also present. Mr. Shorette reviewed two letters, the Governance Letter and the Management Letter. The first letter gave a report on the overall government financial activities as a whole. He stated that the Town of Alfred is in good financial standing with clear and quality accounting practices being followed. The Management letter, he said, had no changes from last year's audit findings and the recommendations given, due to the size of the Town and the Staff could most likely not be improved upon. Mr. Shorette then reviewed several of the balance sheets to include Governmental Funds Assets/Liabilities spreadsheet and information and the Fund Balance Budget and Actual spreadsheet in detail giving explanations of each of the items. Questions were asked and discussed by the group. The Board thanked Mr. Shorette for his services.

Fred Holt asked the Board about a statement made in the February 2nd minutes by Mr. Sylvester about some members of the Budget Committee saying that they felt they should determine the funding sources for articles of the warrant. Mr. Holt said that this was not correct and that it was a questioning of the processes of the warrant and how things are done and that he answered the question by stating that the Board of Selectmen have authority to do this not the Budget Committee. This conversation continued.

Darcy Hobgood, Tax Collector, gave her end of month report for January on tax collection, excise taxes which have increased from last year and on the Inland Fisheries.

The minutes of February 9, 2016 were read. It was moved by George Donovan and seconded by John Sylvester to approve them as submitted. All voted in favor.

Joyce Wood gave an update on a conversation with Time Warner on the pending franchise renewal agreement. Present for the conference call were two representative from Time Warner, Tony Vigue, Alfred Consultant, David Lowe, Alfred's IT Employee, Fred Holt, Treasurer and George Donovan, Selectmen. She reported that the equipment list was the main topic of discussion and that Time Warner is not agreeing to give a grant for the approximately \$40,000 worth of equipment. The next step is a new proposal by Time Warner for the Board to review and discuss. It is unsure whether or not the renewal agreement will be ready for this year's Town Meeting due to this hold up

The Board discussed as a follow up to last week's meeting with the Attorney on concerns with staff, etc. John Sylvester said that he has made an effort to meet with some of the employees and plans to meet with the rest tomorrow, Wednesday. Much discussion followed with Mr. Dochtermann asking Mr. Sylvester if he would consider coming off of the Comprehensive Plan Committee or at least taking some time off as well as not attending every Budget Committee Meeting. This was discussed further.

After reading a letter to the Library Board of Trustee regarding an employee's work schedule last week, John Sylvester said that he would like to think about this before signing the letter. The Board then agreed to bring it back to next week's meeting.

Three new employee hiring forms were reviewed. It was moved and seconded to approve and sign hiring forms for Patricia Couture, Tomi-Lynn Gilman and Matthew Orzechowski as fire fighters. All

voted in favor and the forms were signed.

The warrants were reviewed. John Sylvester made a motion to approve and sign them as submitted. George Donovan seconded, all voted in favor and they were signed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 to attend the Public Hearings at the Conant Chapel.