TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Steketee, Anne Duncan Cooley, John Adams

OTHERS PRESENT: Paul Goundrey, Tim Cole, Ann Green, Sheri Clifford (Town Administrator)

**Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

The Board reviewed a draft of potential warrant articles and discussed further additional articles.

Warrant articles 1 through 3 are standard election and budget articles and will be complete once the budget is completed by the Board.

Warrant article 4 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand three hundred and twenty dollars ($10,320) to conduct field data collection on 25% of town parcels toward a 100% property reassessment in 2015 and authorize the withdrawal of ten thousand three hundred and twenty dollars ($10,320) from the Reappraisal Capital Reserve Fund.

The Board agreed to include this on the warrant.

Warrant Article 5 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy five thousand dollars ($75,000) to pave from the intersection of Indian Pond Road on Archertown Road west towards Town Road #100.

 The Board agreed to include this on the warrant with the addition of *other projects as agreed upon by the Board* and also will request that the Road Agent establish a paving schedule.

Warrant Article 6 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand, five hundred dollars ($1,500) to be deposited into the 250th Celebration Expendable Trust established in 2012 Article 6.

The Board agreed to include this on the warrant.

Warrant Article 7 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand dollars ($2,000) to participate in the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission household hazardous waste collection.

The Board agreed to include this on the warrant

Warrant Article 8 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand, eight hundred dollars ($2,800) to be deposited into the Tree Care and Replenishment Expendable Trust Fund.

The Board agreed to include this on the warrant.

Warrant Article 9 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500) from interest in the Lenore Niles Trust Fund for the purpose of improving community facilities and sponsoring organizations or individuals of Orford with financial aid for opportunities that otherwise might be unattainable.

Green requested that the amount be increased to offer more funds for community projects. Following a discussion, the Board agreed to increase the amount to $3,500.

The Board reviewed potential warrant articles drafted by town attorney Waugh with regards to the Board appointing the fire chief. They agreed that the fire chief should be responsible for hiring volunteers and chose the following warrant article.

Warrant Article 10 To see if the Town will vote to amend and clarify the form of organization of the Orford Fire Department, as voted by the 1995 Annual Town Meeting, by adopting RSA 154:1, paragraph I (a), so that, commencing one year following this vote, the fire chief shall be appointed by the Selectboard, with remaining firefighters appointed by the fire chief in accord with such personnel policies as may be adopted by the Selectboard. The transition to the altered form of organization shall be governed by RSA 669:17-b “Discontinuing Optional Elected Office.”

 The Board agreed to include this on the warrant.

Adams stated that the Board couldn’t put a warrant article for the purchase of a new fire engine, as the fire department has not submitted a proposal with specifications and cost to the Board.

Cooley suggested that a committee be formed to assist the fire department with formulating specifications for a new fire truck. The committee should be both fire department and community members. Adams agreed that this would create the information for a warrant article the following year, and then the purchasing policy would come into effect.

Warrant Article 11 To see if the Town will approve the ordinance as follows to prevent snow from being put or placed on Town roads.

SNOW OBSTRUCTION: In accordance with RSA 236:20, any person who shall put or place or cause to be put or placed any snow or ice upon the surface of the traveled portion of any class V road (town maintained road) for any purpose, except to provide a place necessary for crossing, re-crossing and traveling upon said roads by sleds, logging or farm equipment, shall be guilty of a violation. The provision of this section shall not apply where snow or ice is pushed across the traveled surface of said highways for the purpose of snow removal from land adjoining said highways.

The Board agreed to include this on the warrant.

The Board discussed a warrant article to give the Board authority make emergency procurements for the town. The following wording was taken from the Purchasing Policy.

To authorize the Selectboard to make emergency procurements.

* Emergency Procurements Definition: Emergency procurements may be made when there exists a threat to public health, welfare or safety, provided that such emergency procurement shall be made with such competition as is practical under the circumstances.
* In case of an emergency requiring immediate purchase of materials, supplies, equipment or services, the Selectboard shall approve such emergency purchase if the situation permits.

The Board agreed there should be a warrant article to allocate money for a capital improvement plan, but it requires an estimate from the Upper Valley Regional Planning Commission. The UVRPC will be at the January 22nd meeting to address the cost and the plan.

The Board discussed a warrant article to allow the town to have property cards available electronically and to repeal the 2010 warrant article #10. The NH Department of Revenue was contacted and stated that the warrant article was advisory only and did not require a warrant article to repeal.

Cooley suggested a warrant article giving the Board permission to enter into a lease of town-owned property for agriculture use. She will speak with the Conservation Commission and Steketee will contact the Local Government Center for advice.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,