

[Draft]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED FY 18 BUDGET

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

4:30 PM

Tracy Hall, Norwich, VT

Board members present:

Ben Bradley (Thetford)
Neil Fulton (Norwich)
Stephen Willbanks (Strafford)
Phil Swanson (Woodstock)
Bob Stacey (Hartland)
Vern Clifford (Pomfret)
Mary Gavin (Sharon)
Nancy Robinson (Bridgewater) - Phone

Staff present: Tom Kennedy (GUV District Manager); Ham Gillett (GUV Program Coordinator)

PUBLIC HEARING on Proposed FY18 Budget

Stephen Willbanks made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion carried. Chair, Neil Fulton, opened the Public Hearing at 4:35 PM

Tom Kennedy gave a summary review of the budget, pointing out three significant changes from the previous year: 1) All personnel expenses have been removed due to GUV employees becoming employees of the S. Windsor County Regional Planning Commission; 2) A \$4,000 property tax increase due to previous miscalculations by the Town of Hartland. This increase will be grieved. 3) Adjustment to the Bond P&I reflects a savings of over \$180,000.00 over the life of the note.

Ben Bradley inquired about the life of the bonds. Tom K. referred to p. 22 of the Audit, stating the years 2028 and 2031.

Vern Clifford made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion carried. Meeting closed at 5:05 PM.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Chair, Neil Fulton, opened the meeting of the Board of Supervisors at 5:05 PM

1. **Changes to Agenda:** None
2. **Adoption of Proposed FY18 Budget:** Stephen Willbanks made a motion to adopt the proposed budget. Vern Clifford seconded. Motion carried. Neil Fulton thanked Tom Kennedy and staff for their work.

3. **Approval of November 16, 2016 Minutes**

Mary Gavin made a motion to approve the minutes. Bob Stacey seconded. Motion carried.

4. **Acceptance of the November 30, 2016 Financials**

Stephen Willbanks made a motion to accept the financials. Bob Stacey seconded. Motion carried.

5. **Presentation by Grow Compost of Vermont**

Tom Kennedy introduced Lisa Ransom and Scott Baughman, owners of Grow Compost, who then presented their proposal to construct a small composting operation on 3 acres of land owned by GUV in North Hartland. Copies of the proposal were distributed to all board members. Neil Fulton noted that the title, "*Hartford* Annex Business Plan 2017" should be changed to "*Hartland* Annex Business Plan 2017." The following points were made:

- Tom Kennedy noted that the land is already permitted; the topography is well suited; the proposed operation would be small, moveable, flexible; and the initial investment minimal.
- Neil Fulton asked for a dollar figure attached to "Additional Needs" under "Expenditures". Lisa and Scott said they hesitated to include a dollar amount based on the number of unknowns, such as road improvement costs, etc.
- Ben Bradley asked who would be tipping and what the traffic load would be.
- Neil Fulton inquired about Act 250 limitations. Tom Kennedy will research.
- Lisa noted that Cathy Jamieson, Solid Waste Program Manager for VT ANR/Dept. of Environmental Conservation, has been contacted and is supportive of the project.
- Stephen Willbanks (?) inquired about odor issues. Lisa and Scott assured the board that this will not be an issue.
- Mary Gavin asked if this project would negate the possibility of other future projects on the property. The consensus was that this would not be an issue.
- Tom Kennedy mentioned that there is currently no power on the proposed site.
- Stephen Willbanks suggested that Twin State Gravel might be interested in making some of their abutting land available.

(5:35 PM – Nancy Robinson had to exit her phone connection.)

Following the departure of Lisa and Scott, board members voiced no objection to having the Administrative Committee pursue further detailed discussion with Grow Compost.

5. **Discussion of Interest in GUV Land**

- Solar Facility – Tom Kennedy suggested that the existing acreage is not large enough to make a solar facility economically feasible at this time.
- Transfer Station – A local hauler is interested in creating a 10 acre C & D site.
- Compost Facility – See discussion above.
- Anaerobic Digester – Local developer has decided not to pursue plans at this time.

6. **Discussion of Truck Purchase**

Tom Kennedy thanked Phil Swanson for his support and assistance with the truck research. Following discussion, Phil Swanson made a motion to authorize the Administrative Committee to enter into negotiation with a bank (to be determined) for a 5 year loan at a rate not to exceed 2.75%, to purchase a Ford F10 550 pickup truck. Mary Gavin seconded. Motion carried.

Phil Swanson made a motion to authorize the Administrative Committee to enter into a contract with John C. Stewart & Son, Inc. for the purchase of a Ford F10 550 pickup truck for an amount not to exceed \$27,000.00 Mary Gavin seconded. Motion carried.

Phil will contact Lake Sunapee Bank to see if he can get a lower interest rate on the truck loan.

7. **Sale of the House**

Tom Kennedy reported that Tom Campbell/Country Real Estate has asked to renew his contract through May 2017. Ben Bradley and Phil Swanson offered two suggestions:

- It should be stated by whatever legal means necessary that GUV will always have Right of First Refusal whenever the property might be sold in the future.
- The deed in the Town of Hartland records should include a statement that any buyer of the property understands that the property abuts a potential landfill.

8. **Old Business**

Bob Stacey made a motion to receive the FY2017 audit. Stephen Willbanks seconded. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be in February, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. at the Norwich Town Hall. Date to be determined by Tom Kennedy.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ham Gillett