

Selectboard Memo
January 12, 2015 SB Meeting

Discussion on Appeal of 2015 Common Level of Appraisal

- This morning Bill Tobin, state Property Valuation & Review interim agent for our district, met with the listers and me to explain the methodology for Common Level of Appraisal development; after the discussion it was clear that the only hope for a successful appeal of the 94.10% CLA would be if the listers could isolate specific property sales included in the PVR study, preferably ones that sold for more than the town assessment, that could be shown to be not valid for some reason such as not reflective of the actual property assessment (such as adding a garage after April 1st but prior to the property sale so that the garage was not part of the town assessment) or not an arms-length transaction; the listers do not believe there is such a property sale that would change the basic result and no longer believe an appeal is justifiable

Consideration of Policy Letter for Town Sand Pile Usage

- See proposed statement of use

Development of Selectboard Report for 2014 Annual Report

- Table until January 19th meeting

East Montpelier Signpost 2015 Town Meeting Article

- The Signpost is requesting \$8,400, down from \$9,000 last year

Discussion on FY2016 Budget Development

- See the revised draft FY16 budget worksheet (numbers through 01/05/2015)
- The Capital Reserve Fund line is currently set at \$278,000 – the figure necessary to hit the 2 cents tax rate increase ceiling agreed to at the January 5th meeting
- All line items have solid figures, including updated numbers for Washington County dues, the state police contract, and the Signpost & Four Corners Schoolhouse funding articles
- Remaining issues:
 - A final decision on paying off existing Mack & excavator loans with capital reserve funds; the current budget worksheet presumes that we will not do that
 - Treasurer Welch is looking into bringing payroll in-house; he intended to speak on that issue tonight, but is unavailable due to illness; our NEMRC contact sees no reason why we couldn't/shouldn't take over that duty
 - Appointed Town Treasurer salary: the hope was that there would be some clarity on that issue for this meeting, but Treasurer Welch's illness precludes a resolution

Discussion on 2015 Town Meeting Warning

- See the draft version of the 2015 Warning; no fundamental changes to Warning since January 5th meeting; some minor changes: VLCT recommends using general in the framing of the Capital Reserve Fund (language still needs refinement); the Signpost article has the new \$8,400 figure
- Still no sign yet of any petitioned articles for the 2015 Warning

