

**Town of Castleton
Special Select Board Meeting
Minutes of January 27, 2014
Castleton Town Offices**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Thomas Ettori, John Hale, Wenger Rehlen, Ed O'Shea, Christine Smith

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Charles Jacien, Town Manager; see attached list

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M by Chairman T. Ettori with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes for Approval

None

Warrants for Approval

MOTION

C. Smith made a motion to approve warrants #0127 in the amount of \$104,270.45; #0123 in the amount of \$4,489.68; #0116 in the amount of \$5,228.16; #0123P in the amount of \$12,018.85; #116P in the amount of \$12,885.39. J. Hale seconded. All voted in favor. So Voted.

2014-15 Warning for Approval & Signature

C. Jacien stated that the Social Service requests has increased to about \$49,000 this year with Article 44 for the Castleton Community Seniors requesting \$25,000. He continued by saying that the tax exemption is about \$9,000, so the Castleton taxpayers total is about \$34,000 yearly. He continued by saying that Fair Haven has about ½ the number of members that does Castleton and their contribution is only \$3,000 this year. The Highway Dept. anticipated revenue figure is about \$31,000 less than last year.

E. O'Shea asked what the County Tax entailed. C. Jacien responded that it covered the County Courts & Sheriff's Department expenses and is based on the Grand List assessment.

M. Combs asked about Article 40 about reducing the interest rate on taxes. C. Jacien the rate instituted in the 1980 seems to be punitive to the taxpayer and at the time would pay one (1) penny on the tax rate or \$30,000 and since that time it has grown. This change is to bring the rate back down to the penny and will reduce the interest we assess the taxpayer by about \$20,000 and ultimately this would be a relief to the taxpayer.

M. Combs asked if the interest starts from the due date, how does this relate to the 30 day grace period as per the Tax Collection Policy and does this mean that we are doing away with the grace period. C. Jacien responded that the grace period will still be there. The actual penalty will not go into effect until after the grace period.

MOTION

C. Smith made a motion to accept the warning as presented. E. O'Shea seconded. All voted in favor. So voted

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Confirmation of Fire Department Officers for 2014

C. Smith made a motion for Confirmation of Fire Department Officers for 2014. E. O'Shea seconded. All voted in favor. So voted.

Other Business

H. Goyette announced that the fund raiser organized by Lisa Thayer was held on Saturday for the Savage family, whose home was destroyed by fire on December 27. They raised about \$9880.00 so far. He also requested that a note be sent to Lisa Thayer for her efforts.

Adjourn

C. Smith made a motion to Adjourn at 6:17 pm. E. O'Shea seconded. All voted in favor. So voted.

Date of Approval