

**Town of Edgecomb**  
**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**January 30, 2017**

**Present:** Ted Hugger, Mike Smith (Selectmen), Jessica Hicks (Secretary)

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Review minutes from previous meetings:** Minutes from 01/03/17 and 01/17/17 were voted on at the meeting. Mike made a motion to accept the minutes and Ted seconded the motion. Vote 2-0 in favor.

**Preliminary Year End Financial Statement:** Preliminary Year End Statement briefed by William Brewer and Claudia Coffin. Initial figures show a \$335,863.40 surplus as of June 30<sup>th</sup> of which \$180,000 is already committed for snowplowing. This was voted on and decided during the town meeting. The additional \$155,863.40 surplus potentially will be used for reduction of the tax burden. Finalized Year End Statement expected later this month.

**Abatements/Supplements:** Three properties have undergone adjustments to their taxes. John & Misty Cray had an abatement of \$1221.92 for a building adjustment, referencing current grade of their property as assessed. Mike made a motion to accept the abatement and Ted seconded it, vote 2-0. Erincredible LLC also had an abatement of \$198.60 for a land correction, changing the property size to 8 acres. Mike made a motion to accept the abatement and Ted seconded it, vote 2-0. John Conley and Darleen McKennen had a supplemental for \$827.50 due to improper assessment. Billing for additional commitment with certification of assessment will be sent. Mike made a motion to accept the supplemental and Ted seconded it, vote 2-0.

**Freedom of Access Requests:** There was a request to the town to make copies of all bills charged against accounts for a pending lawsuit. Town recommended someone come to the town hall during normal business hours with their own equipment and supplies to make the copies requested. Man-hours involved would be too great to honor the request without monetary compensation, and such is law declaring over burdening of town employees. This was agreeable to all parties.

**Spirit of America Award:** Town is looking for 3 nominees for the Spirit of America Award. By end of month notice will be given of who is chosen.

**Warrants:**

General Warrant #16 Total	\$136,594.58
General Expenses	\$52,446.22
School Payroll	\$31,452.51
School Payables	\$52,695.85

Mike made a motion to sign the above warrants and Ted seconded the motion. Vote: 2-0 in favor.

**New Business:** Bruce Hartford who has been the interim postmaster was given a full time position. This is great news! Bruce has been doing a fantastic job and is an excellent asset to the community. Letter of Congratulation was sent to Bruce thanking him for his efforts and commitment to the town.

**Budget Committee on Target:** The Budget Committee is ahead of schedule this year and has already completed meetings with The Schmidt Preserve and the Dump. Budget for the Schmidt Preserve has gone down and the dump has gone up. This is due in part to no longer receiving payouts for recyclables and a rise in health insurance costs. Next meeting scheduled with the Fire Department / Roads / EMA on 02/01/17. Town is looking for a 5% reduction across the board and is sending out letters to all departments requesting help with budget cuts.

**Public Comment:** Voters are starting to voice concern about tax increases. They want to know why the Fiscal Budget takes 7 months to finalize. Question was raised if Selectmen are willing to take a 5% cut to their salaries to help keep uniformity across the board? Preliminary Budget Audit findings are in early this year. School costs continue to be a concern.

**Adjourn:** Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10PM and Ted seconded the motion. Vote: 2-0 in favor.